

**PROCLAMATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY
BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA NIGUEL**

WHEREAS, Section 11-15-5 (A) of the Laguna Niguel Municipal Code designates the City Manager as the City's Director of Emergency Services;

WHEREAS, Section 11-15-6 (A)(1) of the Laguna Niguel Municipal Code authorizes the Director of Emergency Services, if the City Council is not in session, to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency;

WHEREAS, threatening conditions to the safety, health, and well-being of persons have arisen both internationally and within the United States as a result of the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus);

WHEREAS, the President of the United States, the Governor of the State of California, and the County of Orange have already declared that National, State, and local health emergencies exist;

WHEREAS, the California Department of Public Health has released a recommendation to postpone or cancel all events involving 250 people or more;

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of California has released statewide guidance and recommendations, urging the self-isolation of individuals 65 years of age or older and individuals with chronic medical conditions;

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of California has released statewide guidance and recommendations, urging bars, breweries, nightclubs, wineries, and wine bars to temporarily close, and urging restaurants to limit occupancy by fifty percent and to base dine-in seating on the 6-foot separation guidelines for social distancing;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released a recommendation that gatherings of more than 50 people be canceled or postponed for the next eight weeks;

WHEREAS, the Capistrano Unified School District has closed all schools effective March 16, 2020 through April 3, 2020;

WHEREAS, the City of Laguna Niguel has postponed or cancelled all events, gatherings, and engagements involving 250 people or more, and in many cases, involving less than 250 people;

WHEREAS, the City of Laguna Niguel has temporarily closed Sea Country Senior and Community Center effective March 13, 2020 until further notice;

WHEREAS, the City of Laguna Niguel's ability to mobilize local resources, coordinate interagency response, accelerate procurement of vital supplies, use mutual aid, and seek future reimbursement by the State and Federal governments will be critical to successfully respond to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the safety, health, and well-being of persons within the territorial limits of the City of Laguna Niguel is of the highest priority;

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services believes and has concluded that the current conditions of extreme peril warrant a proclamation of local emergency; and

NOW, THEREFORE pursuant to Section 11-15-6 (A)(1) of the Laguna Niguel Municipal Code, it is hereby proclaimed that a local emergency now exists in the City of Laguna Niguel on account of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of this local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of the City of Laguna Niguel, as defined in Laguna Niguel Municipal Code Section 11-15-7, shall be those prescribed by state law, the Laguna Niguel Municipal Code, including Chapter 11-15, by other applicable ordinances, resolutions and approved emergency plans of the City of Laguna Niguel. The City Council shall take action to ratify this proclamation within seven days, or the local emergency shall not remain in effect; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that all City Departments shall track costs for staffing, supplies, and equipment related to COVID-19 preparation and prevention and forward that information to the City's Director of Emergency Services; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that a copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the State Office of Emergency Services and to such other government agencies and officials as the City's Director of Emergency Services deems prudent or necessary.

Dated: 3/14/20



Tamara S. Letourneau,
City Manager/Director of Emergency Services