

CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION #18-20

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHOWCHILLA
PROCLAIMING THE EXISTENCE OR THREATENED EXISTENCE
OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY (COVID-19)**

WHEREAS, California Government Code section 8630 and Chowchilla Municipal Code sections 2.28, et seq. empowers the City Council to proclaim a local emergency when the City of Chowchilla is affected or likely to be affected by the actual or threatened existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme conditions to the safety of persons within the City; and

WHEREAS, as empowered by Chowchilla Municipal Code sections 2.28, et seq., the City's Director of Emergency Services has requested that the City Council proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has reviewed and considered the request from the Director of Emergency Services, dated March 16, 2020, and the findings stated therein, which request is incorporated herein by reference as though set forth in full; and

WHEREAS, conditions of disaster or of extreme conditions to the safety of persons within the City have arisen within the City of Chowchilla caused by the threatened spread of COVID-19, and the conditions warrant and necessitate proclaiming the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Chowchilla hereby resolves and orders as follows:

1. Proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout the City.
2. During the existence of this local emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the Emergency Organization of the City shall be those prescribed by state law, ordinances and resolutions of the City, and by the City of Chowchilla/County of Madera Emergency Operations Plan.
3. The need for continuing this local emergency shall be reviewed as required by Government Code section 8630, and the City Council shall proclaim the termination of this local emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

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PASSED AND ADOPTED at a Special Meeting by the City Council of the City of Chowchilla this 16th day of March, 2020 by the following vote to wit:


AYES: 5 – Palmer, Barragan, Chavez, Haworth, Ahmed

NOES: 0

ABSENT: 0

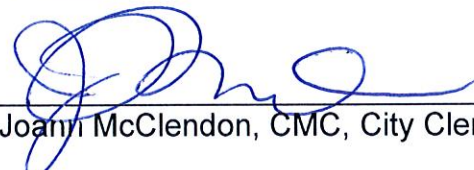
ABSTAIN: 0

APPROVED:



Waseem Ahmed, Mayor

ATTEST:



Joann McClendon, CMC, City Clerk

**A REQUEST FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR
THE CITY OF CHOWCHILLA THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF CHOWCHILLA PROCLAIM THE EXISTENCE OR THREATENED
EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY (COVID-19)**

WHEREAS, Sections 2.28, et seq. of the City of Chowchilla Municipal Code empowers the Director of Emergency Services for the City of Chowchilla to request the City Council to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when the City of Chowchilla is affected or likely to be affected by the actual or threatened existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme conditions to the safety of persons within the City; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services of the City of Chowchilla does hereby find as follows:

1. That international, national, state, and local health and governmental authorities are responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus named "SARSCoV-2," and the disease it causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019," abbreviated COVID-19, ("COVID-19"); and
2. That while the complete clinical picture with regard to COVID-19 is not yet fully understood, reported symptoms and illnesses from COVID-19 range from mild to severe, including fever, coughing, shortness of breath, and illnesses resulting in death; and
3. That the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has stated that certain populations face elevated risk and widespread transmission of COVID-19 would translate into large numbers of people needing medical care at the same time and other critical infrastructure may also be affected; and
4. That, on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern"; and
5. That, on January 31, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to COVID-19; and
6. That, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California declared a state of emergency to make additional resources available, formalize emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments, and help the state prepare for broader spread of COVID-19; and
7. That the City of Chowchilla (the "City") has a population of over 18,000 residents and large school district within its jurisdiction, is located along Highway 99 which is a major highway for business travel, and is adjacent to the City of Madera and the City of Merced, resulting in high volumes of residents and visitors traveling within and across the City's borders; and
8. That, on or before March 4, 2020, the City actively began planning and implementing measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to prepare for any and all emergency actions in response to the spread of COVID-19; and

9. That, on March 10, 2020, the City activated its Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) to support ongoing emergency actions while maintaining essential services in response to the spread of COVID-19; and
10. That, on March 11, 2020, the Director-General of the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and
11. That, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States of America declared a national emergency and that the federal government would make \$50 billion in emergency funding to assist state and local governments in preventing the spread of and addressing the effects of COVID-19; and
12. That, on March 13, 2020, the Chowchilla Unified School District ordered all district schools closed to students through April 13, 2020; and
13. That, as of March 2020, the Madera County Department of Public Health had reported one confirmed case of COVID-19 (travel-related) within Madera County; and
14. That the City intends to continue to take bold and aggressive actions to protect the public health and safety, and to aid the regional healthcare and government community in responding to COVID-19 during this local, state, and national public health emergency; and
15. That the above described events are creating conditions of extreme conditions and such conditions are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the City, requiring the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby requested that the City Council of the City of Chowchilla proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency as a result of COVID-19, and authorize the Director of Emergency Services for the City to issue rules and regulations following such proclamation as empowered by Chowchilla Municipal Code sections 2.28, et seq. and in compliance with state and federal law.

Dated: March 16, 2020.



Rod Pruett, City Administrator and Director of
Emergency Service for the City of Chowchilla