



## CITY OF TWENTYNINE PALMS

### PROCLAMATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.20.030 of the Twentynine Palms Municipal Code designates the City Manager as the City's Director of Emergency Services.

**WHEREAS**, 2.20.060 of the Twentynine Palms Municipal Code empowers the Director of Emergency Services, to request the City Council to proclaim the existence of a Local Emergency if the Council is in session, or to issue such proclamation if the Council is not in session.

**WHEREAS**, conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons has arisen both internationally and within the United States as a result of the introduction of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), a novel communicable disease, which was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December 2019;

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has spread globally to over 70 countries, infecting more than 169,000 persons and killing more than 6,500 individuals worldwide;

**WHEREAS**, due to the expanding list of countries with widespread transmission of COVID-19, and increasing travel alerts and warning for countries experiencing sustained or uncontrolled community transmission issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), COVID-19 has created conditions that are more likely to be beyond the control of local resources and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat;

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

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020 the Governor of the State of California issued Executive Order N-25-20 in order to address the threats and challenges posed by COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, since issuing Executive Order N-25-20 the Governor of the State of California has taken additional actions to address COVID-19 to include having released statewide guidance, urging the highest risk population (individuals who are 65 years or older, or have a compromised immune system) to self-isolate at home;

**WHEREAS**, the City'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 responding to COVID-19;

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

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Director of Emergency Services of the City of Twentynine Palms declares as follows:

**Section 1:** Pursuant to 2.20.060 of the Twentynine Palms Municipal Code and California Government Code Section 8630, it is hereby proclaimed that a local emergency now exists in the City of Twentynine Palms and for this emergency assistance and aid is requested from Federal, State and County governance to the City, individuals and businesses affected thereby.

**Section 2:** Effective immediately, during the duration of this emergency, City Hall will be closed to the public. The City leadership team and key staff will remain on-site to the degree feasible, but various members of the City staff will be working from home to practice responsible social distancing. Essential City services will continue, but in-person services at City Hall will be suspended through March 31, or until further notice. City Hall will transition to online services; residents and businesses needing to contact the City are encouraged to call the City Hall main line at (760)367-6799 or send an e-mail to [info@29palms.org](mailto:info@29palms.org), and any inquiries so received will be directed to the appropriate staff person.

**Section 3:** Effective immediately, pursuant to Twentynine Palms Municipal Code Sections 2.20.060 (a) (b) and (c), and until further notice, meetings of the City Council, Planning Commission, and TBID shall not be open to the public. The Director specifically finds this action is necessary to protect essential City staff, the City Council and members of the public as a result of developments occurring

since the issuance of Executive Order N-25-20, including the President of the United States recommendation on March 16, 2020 that gatherings be limited to groups of 10 persons or less. Members of the public are encouraged to participate in Council meetings by alternative means including by submitting any comments to the Council on matters either on, or not part of, the Council's Agenda by email to [info@29palms.org](mailto:info@29palms.org), audio will be available thereafter the meeting. Comments may be submitted by email during Council meetings and the Mayor will pause during the Agenda to determine if comments have been received by the public. All comments provided by the public as comments will be included in the record of the Council meeting.

**Section 4:** Pursuant to Twentynine Palms Municipal Code Sections 2.20.060 and 2.20.200 the Director of Emergency Services is empowered to adopt rules, policies and regulations to protect the Public, to protect life and property, and to ensure the availability of essential City services. As of this time, pursuant to that authority, the following operational changes are to be implemented immediately:

(1) City Services:

- All services requiring in-person visits or public service counter assistance (including building permits and business licenses) will be suspended or made available via phone, online or through email.
- Building inspection services will continue.
- All Public Works, including street sweeping, services will remain in place with the exception of in-person communications.
- Refuse collection will continue per the usual schedule.

(2) Twentynine Palms Police Services: While the lobby of City Hall is closed, the Joshua Tree Sheriff's Station is open. The public is advised to call 760-366-3781 (I was given this number for non-emergency number by the PIO for Sheriff's Department(760)956-5001)for non-emergency police assistance and 911 for emergency assistance.

(3) Community Center and Recreation Programs: City Parks will remain accessible to the public and their maintenance and upkeep will continue with additional cleaning services however, all programs and rentals exceeding 50 person gatherings have been cancelled.

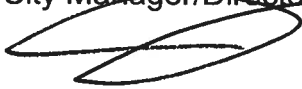
(4) Animal Care Services:

The Palms-N-Paws Animal Shelter will be limiting their in-person services, beginning today. The shelter's office will be closed to the public but sheltering services will be available.

- Adoption services will continue and appointments to schedule interactions with adoptable pets can be arranged by phone at (760) 367-6799 et.1018.
- Animal Control Officers will continue to accommodate the most emergent health and public safety issues in the community, call the number above for seized animals.
- Pet licensing will remain available at the shelter by mail by sending payment to: 6136 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms, CA 92277; over the phone by calling (760) 367-6799 et.1018; or submitted into our drop box located at the finance office.

**Section 5:** Additional or different emergency measures may be implemented by the Director of Emergency Services pursuant to Section 2.20 of the Twentynine Palms Municipal Code as deemed reasonable or necessary to address the quickly changing, very fluid emergency situation.

City Manager/Director of Emergency Services:



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Frank J. Luckino

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3/17/20