City of Placerville
PRESS RELEASE

March 19, 2020

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an emerging and evolving issue for many California communities, the nation, and the world. The health, wellbeing, and safety of our community is our highest priority. While this is considered a serious public health threat, the risk to the Public in Placerville and El Dorado County at this time remains low.

With federal and state agencies, El Dorado County Health and Human Services Department is the lead agency managing response to local novel coronavirus testing, investigations, coordination with health providers, and public information.

The City of Placerville is in regular communication with Public health experts. We will continue to inform and educate our community about appropriate preventive measures.

The City of Placerville officially proclaimed a local state of emergency today, March 19, 2020, in response to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) public health crisis. The local emergency is now in effect.

Proclaiming a local emergency allows the City of Placerville to align with county and state emergency management and to leverage local, state, and federal resources to contain the spread of COVID-19. The declaration of a local emergency comes as local, state, and federal governments are working to control the spread of COVID-19 across the country and reduce the impact on hospital systems. Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a statewide emergency on March 4, El Dorado County proclaimed a public health emergency and a Local Emergency on March 12th, and President Trump declared a national emergency on March 13th.

The proclamation of a local emergency does not signify an increased risk to the residents of Placerville. A proclamation of a local emergency allows the City to provide or receive mutual aid from other jurisdictions and assists in securing available resources, mutual aid, funding, and staffing.

Beginning March 19, 2020, all City offices will be closed to the public. Most, if not all services can still be obtained online or through calling the City. Following is a link to City phone numbers to obtain services. https://www.cityofplacerville.org/contact-us-8. Essential city services, including Police, water and wastewater will continue as usual. Other services such as planning, building inspections, and permitting, parks and recreation, engineering, business

license, utility billing, and administration services will be offered through telephone and online services.

Public Meetings

Placerville City Council meetings are currently scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm. Please check the City's Website at https://www.cityofplacerville.org/city-council-agenda to make sure the meeting is being held. In addition, future meetings may be held via teleconference. Follow the City's website noted above for directions on how to participate in those meetings. All meetings will be conducted following social distancing guidelines. City Council meetings are live-streamed on the city's website at https://www.cityofplacerville.org/video-archive.

Events

Most organized games, classes, programs, rentals, rental group activities, youth and adult sports leagues, and events have been canceled or postponed. During this period, refunds for canceled classes, programs, and events will be available. For information about refunds, call the Placerville Community Services Department at 530-642-5232 or email us at pvparksrec@gmail.com.

In collaboration with federal and state agencies, the El Dorado County Health and Human Services Department is the lead agency managing response to local novel coronavirus testing, investigations, coordination with health providers, and public information. For information specific to the City of Placerville visit our website at https://www.cityofplacerville.org/news/post/8180/. For more general information and to learn more and stay informed, visit https://edcgov.us/government/HHSA.

PROCLAMATION OF EXISTANCE OF CITYWIDE LOCAL EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF PLACERVILLE

WHEREAS, the California Emergency Services Act, including but not limited to Government Code section 8630, empowers the City Council of the City of Placerville to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when said City is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Placerville City Code Section 1-23-3, the City Manager may Request the City Council to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of an "emergency" if the City Council is in session, or to issue such proclamation if the city council is not in session; and

WHEREAS, whenever a local emergency is proclaimed by the City Manager, the City Council shall take action to ratify the proclamation within seven (7) days thereafter or the proclamation shall have no further force or effect;

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV2, which causes Coronavirus Disease 2019, COVID-19 resulting in symptoms of fever, coughing and shortness of breath with outcomes ranging from mild to severe illness and in some cases death, has arisen in China and spread to numerous other countries including the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has determined the virus to be a very serious public health threat, yet the method and efficacy of transmission of the virus is not yet fully understood and no vaccine currently exists and no antiviral is approved to treat COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued a proclamation of a state of Emergency for the State of California due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, there are currently no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in El Dorado County, however, based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention statements, there is an ongoing risk and likelihood of COVID19 positive patients being identified in El Dorado County and the City of Placerville; and

WHEREAS, there is an ongoing risk and likelihood of COVID-19 positive patients being identified in the County of El Dorado and the Health Officer has determined that the County is preparing for an imminent and proximate threat to public health from the virus; and

WHEREAS, communities within the geographic boundaries of El Dorado County have and will continue to prepare and, as necessary, take significant response actions to any developing contagion and to any other risks that may arise from introduction and possible spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, local resources within the City of Placerville are faced with a disaster that exceeds their functional capabilities because of potential for widespread community transmission of the disease; and

WHEREAS, the above described events are creating a condition of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of the City of Placerville; and conditions are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of the City of Placerville, and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat; and

WHEREAS, the continued threat of COVID-19 and the associated economic uncertainty have created a sense of unease among many residents, warranting heightened efforts to control the spread of the virus and reduce and minimize the risk of infection in El Dorado County.

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the El Dorado County Public Health Officer issued a Declaration of a Local Public Health Emergency and the El Dorado County Sheriff and Director of the Office of Emergency Services issued a Proclamation of the Existence of a Countywide Emergency due to the threat of the COVID-19 virus.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a local emergency exists in the City of Placerville, pursuant to Government Code Section 8630 and is defined by Government Code Section 8558, and shall be deemed to continue to exist subject to review and termination by the City Council pursuant to Government Code section 8630; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of this City shall be those prescribed by State law including but not limited to Government Code section 8634, City ordinances and resolutions and the current Emergency Operations Plan.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a copy of this proclamation be forwarded to the Governor of California with the request that he proclaim the City of Placerville to be in a State of Emergency and further that the Governor request a Presidential Declaration.

By: M. Cleve Morris Date 3/19/2020

M. Cleve Morris, City Manager

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the seal of the City of Placerville To be affixed this 19th day of March, 2020.

ATTEST:

Erin H. Strawn, Deputy City Clerk