



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

March 17, 2020

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Garrett Toy, Town Manager

SUBJECT: Discuss/consider the adoption of a Resolution Ratifying the Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) and direct staff as appropriate

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the resolution.

DISCUSSION

The COVID-19 virus is currently spreading in California and the United States. There are currently 10 known cases in Marin County. On March 16, the public health officers of seven Bay Area jurisdictions, including Marin, issued a legal order directing residents to shelter at home for three weeks beginning March 17. The order limits activity, travel and business functions to only the most essential needs. The Public Health Order is in effect until April 7, 2020 until 11:59PM.

Scientific evidence shows social distancing is one of the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable disease. The shelter-at-home order follows new data of increasing local transmission of COVID-19, including 258 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 4 deaths shared by the seven jurisdictions (as of March 15). This does not account for the rapidly increasing number of assumed cases of community transmission.

As a result, the Town Manager, as the Director of Emergency Services, has proclaimed a local emergency, subject to ratification by the Town Council per Town Code Section 2.52.070.

FISCAL IMPACT

The proclamation of emergency will not incur any costs for the Town, and may help the Town receive disaster funding in the event that the Town has to expend funds on dealing with COVID-19 and related issues.

ATTACHMENT

Resolution

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION 20-04

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX
RATIFYING THE TOWN MANAGER/DIRECTOR'S PROCLAMATION OF
THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO
THE SPREAD OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Fairfax Municipal Code Section 2.52.060, the Town Manager shall be the Director of Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Fairfax Municipal Code Section 2.52.070, the Director of Emergency Services ("Director") is empowered to issue a proclamation of the existence or threatened existence of a "local emergency" when the Town Council is not in session, which must be ratified by the Town Council within seven days to be effective; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, the Town Manager, as the Director of Emergency Services, proclaimed a local emergency due to the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on March 16, the public health officers of seven Bay Area jurisdictions, including Marin, issued a legal order directing residents to shelter at home for three weeks beginning March 17, and the order limits activity, travel and business functions to only the most essential need; and

WHEREAS, scientific evidence shows social distancing is one of the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable disease, and the shelter-at-home order follows new data of increasing local transmission of COVID-19, including 258 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 4 deaths shared by the seven jurisdictions of the Bay Area as of March 15. This does not account for the rapidly increasing number of assumed cases of community transmission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax as follows:

The Town Council hereby ratifies the Town Manager/Director's Proclamation of the existence a local emergency in the Town of Fairfax.

The foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted at a special meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax held in said Town on the 17th day of March 2020 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

RENEE GODDARD, Mayor

Attest: _____
Michele Gardner, Town Clerk