

**A PROCLAMATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE CITY
OF EL PASO DE ROBLES DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL
EMERGENCY**

City of El Paso de Robles
March 17, 2020

WHEREAS, the Paso Robles Municipal Code Chapter 2.24 empowers the City Manager, acting as the Director of Emergency Services, to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when the City is exposed to an actual or threatened existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the City and the City Council is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager, as Emergency Services Director of the City of El Paso de Robles, does hereby find that:

1. Threatened existence of conditions of extreme peril to the health and safety of persons in the City are present as a result of the increasing spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) across the state.
2. The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause illnesses ranging from the common cold to more severe respiratory diseases. Coronavirus 19 is a new strain that has not been previously identified in humans, and has caused the current COVID-19 outbreak.
3. Since the discovery of the COVID-19 outbreak in December 2019, mainland Chinese authorities have identified thousands of human infections, resulting in thousands of deaths associated with this novel coronavirus which began in Wuhan City, Hubei Province. Since December, the virus has spread to every continent (except, perhaps, Antarctica).
4. On or about March 4, 2020, as part of the State of California's response to address the global COVID-19 outbreak, Governor Gavin Newsom 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 following one official COVID-19 death.
5. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization made the assessment that COVID-19 may be characterized as a pandemic.
6. Additionally, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has determined that the virus presents a serious public health threat, requiring coordination among state and local health departments to ensure readiness for potential health threats associated with the virus. On March 11, 2020, the CDC issued recommendations for 30-day mitigation strategies based on the current situation with COVID-19 transmission and affected health care facilities including the recommendation to cancel large gatherings e.g., greater than 250 people or move to smaller groupings.

7. On March 11, 2020, the Governor of the State of California announced that California public health officials have determined that gatherings of more than 250 people should be postponed or canceled across the state until at least the end of March.
8. On March 13, 2020, San Luis Obispo County declared a Local Health Emergency due to the spread of COVID-19 cases.
9. On March 13, 2020, the President of United States declared a national emergency to address COVID-19.
10. On March 14, the first case of COVID-19 was confirmed in San Luis Obispo County. Several other cases have been confirmed since then.
11. The efforts required to prepare for, respond to, mitigate, and recover from the increasing spread of COVID-19 have imposed, and will continue to impose, extraordinary requirements and expenses on the City, requiring diversion of resources from day-to-day operations.
12. As contemplated in the Emergency Service Act contained in Government Code Section 8550 et seq., including Section 8558(c), a local emergency exists because of the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the City caused by the aforesaid conditions which are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel and facilities of the City and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat.
13. At the time of this proclamation, the City Council was not in session.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED, effective 10:00 a.m. on March 17, 2020, that a local emergency now exists throughout the City; 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, ordinances, and resolutions of the City of El Paso de Robles, as well as by the Emergency Operations Plan and the Pandemic Continuity of Operations Plan, notwithstanding all otherwise applicable procedures, timelines, and methods of action, and the Emergency Services Director is expressly authorized to take any and all actions in furtherance of emergency powers to address the emergency.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency, the Emergency Services Director is expressly authorized to make any and all modifications to City purchasing and contracting policies, City paid and unpaid leave policies, as well as other related operational policies, as are deemed necessary to support the continuity of services.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a copy of this order and regulation shall be posted in and outside City Hall and shall be made available to the news media and the general public.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that the City Manager shall request that the City Council ratify this order and regulation by resolution as soon as practicable.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that said local emergency shall continue to exist until terminated pursuant to a resolution approved by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles.

March 17, 2020



Thomas Frutchey
Director of Emergency Services