



Staff Report

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Honorable Mayor and Members of the Hermosa Beach City Council
Regular Meeting of April 28, 2020

**CONFIRMATION OF CITY MANAGER/DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY
SERVICES EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2020-01 IN RESPONSE TO
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

(Interim Emergency Management Coordinator Michael Edwards)

Recommended Action:

The City Manager/Director of Emergency Services issued Executive Order No. 2020-01 on April 22, 2020 (**Attachment 1**), memorializing several previous actions taken in response to the novel (new) coronavirus (COVID-10). Pursuant to HBMC section 2.56.060.A, staff recommends that the City Council confirm Executive Order No. 2020-01.

Background:

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that is caused by the novel coronavirus. It spreads through droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Some people with COVID-19 virus do not have symptoms or have mild symptoms, which means that they can spread it to others without knowing that they are infected. It may also spread when a person touches a surface or object that has the virus from the infected person on it and then touches their mouth, nose, or eyes before washing their hands.

People who are infected with COVID-19 can have mild to severe respiratory illness, with fever and cough that can develop into difficulty breathing. It can lead to serious illness and has caused over 600 deaths in Los Angeles County. Everyone is at risk for becoming ill with COVID-19, but some people are more vulnerable to serious illness due to their age, physical state, and/or health status.

Antibody testing suggests that the number of persons infected or previously infected with COVID-19 may be 28 to 55 times the reported infection numbers in Los Angeles County.

On March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a statewide Proclamation of a State of Emergency. Section 8 of that Proclamation provides that:

“8. The 60-day time period in Government Code Section 8630, within which local government authorities must renew a local emergency is hereby waived for the duration of this statewide emergency. Any local emergency proclaimed will remain in effect until

each local governing authority terminates its respective local emergency.”

On March 15, 2020, Mayor Mary Campbell declared a local emergency in Hermosa Beach. At a special meeting on March 16, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 20-7230 (**Attachment 2**), approving and ratifying the declaration of emergency and ordering the following:

1. Closure of bars and onsite dining-in restaurants.
2. Closure of gyms and fitness facilities.
3. Prohibition of formal and informal group activities, sports and games.
4. Closure of outdoor play structures and exercise equipment.
5. Placement of signs in specified public places notifying the public of closures and social distancing requirements.

On March 24, 2020, the Council waived restaurant outdoor encroachment permit fees from March 17 to April 30, 2020. Also, on March 24, 2020, the Council adopted Urgency Ordinance No. 20-1406U, establishing a temporary moratorium on residential and commercial evictions and foreclosures. On April 14, 2020, the Council adopted Urgency Ordinance No. 20-1407U making certain modifications to the temporary moratorium.

The City Manager has issued the following emergency orders, as memorialized in Executive Order No. 2020-01:

1. Cancellation of non-essential large public events, senior and community programs, and limitations on public access to some City facilities (effective March 12, 2020).
2. Cancellation of P.A.R.K. After School Program (effective March 13, 2020).
3. Closure of City Hall (effective March 16, 2020).
4. Cancellation of Wednesday Farmers Market (effective March 18, 2020) and Friday Farmers Market (effective March 20, 2020).
5. Business License renewal dates extended to May 31, 2020 (effective March 25, 2020).
6. Parking Permit renewal dates extended to May 31, 2020 (effective March 25, 2020).
7. Parking citation unbilled late fees delayed until May 31, 2020 (effective March 25, 2020).
8. Parking citation DMV holds delayed until May 31, 2020 (effective March 25, 2020).
9. Temporary banner permit requirements waived through May 31, 2020 (effective March 25, 2020).
10. Closure of beach and Strand (effective March 27, 2020).
11. Closure of City parks on Easter Sunday (effective April 9, 2020).

The Los Angeles County Health Officer issued a “Safer at Home” Order to slow the spread of COVID-19 so that the healthcare delivery system would not be overwhelmed by extremely ill people who need high levels of care in our hospitals. The Safer at Home Order is currently in effect through May 15, 2020 and applies to everyone in Los Angeles County, except the cities of Long Beach and

Pasadena. On March 27, 2020, the County Health Officer closed all beaches in Los Angeles County.

The Governor has also issued a shelter-in-place order. All County residents must comply with the stricter of the Governor's Orders, the County Health Officer's Orders, and City orders and ordinances, violations of which are subject to fines, imprisonment, or both.

Analysis:

In light of the foregoing and the continuing need to slow the spread of the disease caused by the novel (new) coronavirus (COVID-19) and provide relief to residents and businesses who find themselves unable to meet their obligations due to loss of income and revenue resulting therefrom, the Director of Emergency Services has issued Executive Order No. 2020-01.

Staff recommends that the City Council confirm Executive Order No. 2020-01. Future orders promulgated by the Director of Emergency Services required to protect the public, preserve municipal government, assure disaster aid, and provide relief to residents and businesses will be similarly brought to the Council for confirmation.

Fiscal Implications:

The City of Hermosa Beach initially incurs all costs incurred related to the City's response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, but will submit requests for cost recovery to the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), either directly, or through the Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management, (LACoOEM), the local reporting agent.

Attachments:

1. Executive Order No. 2020-01
2. Resolution 20-7230 Confirming Existence of Local Emergency

Respectfully Submitted by: Michael Edwards, Interim Emergency Management Coordinator

Noted for Fiscal Impact: Viki Copeland, Finance Director

Legal Review: Mike Jenkins, City Attorney

Approved: Suja Lowenthal, City Manager