

RESOLUTION NO. 9767

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASADENA,
CALIFORNIA RATIFYING THE HEALTH OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF
A LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY – NOVEL CORONAVIRUS
ISSUED MARCH 4, 2020

WHEREAS, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) has confirmed multiple cases of individuals who have severe respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus, called COVID-19, as well as deaths caused by this illness; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, there is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), and no specific antiviral treatment recommended for COVID-19 at this time; and

WHEREAS, there is an imminent and proximate threat of the introduction of COVID-19 in the City of Pasadena and a threat to the public health of City residents; and

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code Section 101080 authorizes a local health officer to declare a local health emergency in the health officer's jurisdiction or any part thereof, whenever the health officer reasonably determines that there is an imminent and proximate threat of the introduction of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease; and

WHEREAS, the City's Health Officer issued a Declaration of Local Health Emergency – Novel Coronavirus on March 4, 2020, pursuant to the authority cited above; and

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code Section 101080 requires the City Council to ratify a local health emergency if it is to remain in effect longer than seven days, and to review the need for continuing the local health emergency at least every 30 days until the local health emergency is terminated; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the Declaration of Local Health Emergency issued on March 4, 2020, is attached to this resolution and the City Council has received a report on the conditions described therein.

N OW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Pasadena hereby resolves that the Declaration of Local Health Emergency issued by the Health Officer on March 4, 2020, is hereby ratified and confirmed by the City Council; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that said local health emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist until its termination is proclaimed by the City Council of the City of Pasadena.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Pasadena on the 9th day of March, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Gordo, Kennedy, Madison, Masuda, McAustin, Wilson, Vice Mayor Hampton, Mayor Tornek

NOES: None

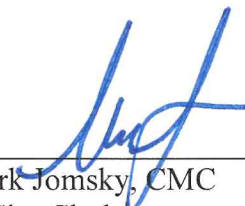
ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Lisa Hosey
Assistant City Attorney



Mark Jomsky, CMC
City Clerk

DECLARATION OF LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY – COVID-19

WHEREAS, the United States has confirmed cases of individuals who have severe respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus, called COVID-19, as well as deaths caused by this illness; and

WHEREAS, On January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a “public health emergency of international concern,” and on January 31, 2020, the US Department of Health and Human Services declared a “public health emergency” for the United States; and

WHEREAS, The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued guidance to local health departments, including the City of Pasadena Public Health Department (“PPHD”), that requires PPHD to make extraordinary efforts to monitor and manage ongoing COVID-19 risk including monitoring individuals who may have been exposed to COVID-19; and

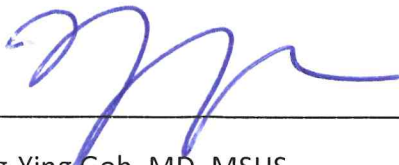
WHEREAS, the CDC has confirmed possible community spread of COVID-19 in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, there is an imminent and proximate threat of the introduction of COVID-19 in the City of Pasadena and a threat to the public health of City residents; and

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code Section 101080 authorizes a local health officer to declare a local health emergency in the health officer’s jurisdiction or any part thereof, whenever the health officer reasonably determines that there is an imminent and proximate threat of the introduction of any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease, chemical agent, non-communicable biological agent, toxin, or radioactive agent.

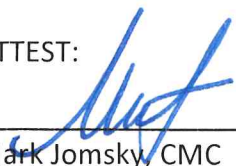
NOW, THEREFORE, the City of Pasadena Health Officer hereby declares the existence of a local health emergency within the City of Pasadena.

Dated: March 4, 2020, at Pasadena, California.

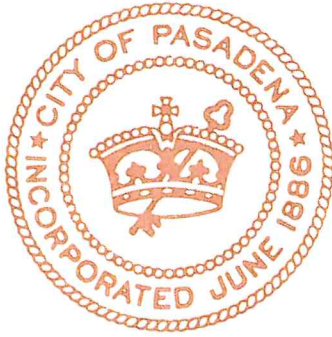


Ying-Ying Goh, MD, MSHS
Health Officer

ATTEST:



Mark Jomsky, CMC
City Clerk



R-9767

Agenda Report

March 9, 2020

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Public Health Department

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE HEALTH OFFICER'S DECLARATION OF LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to state CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) (Common Sense Exemption); and
2. Adopt a resolution ratifying the March 4, 2020, Health Officer declaration of a local health emergency in response to COVID-19.

BACKGROUND:

An outbreak of pneumonia in Wuhan, China was reported to the World Health Organization (WHO) on December 31, 2019, and an illness caused by a novel coronavirus called COVID-19 was soon identified as the cause. During the week of February 23, 2020 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported evidence of community spread of the virus in cases located in California, Oregon, and Washington. There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19.

CDC response guidance to local health departments, including the City of Pasadena Public Health Department ("PPHD"), requires extraordinary efforts to monitor and manage ongoing COVID-19 risk including monitoring individuals who may have been exposed to COVID-19. As of March 4, 2020, there were 100 cases in the United States including ten deaths. There are currently no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Pasadena.

On March 4, 2020, Pasadena Public Health Director and Health Officer Dr. Ying-Ying Goh declared a local health emergency pursuant to California State Health and Safety

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Code recognizing COVID-19 as an imminent and proximate threat in the City of Pasadena. On the same day, the State of California and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health declared health emergencies.

Declaration of a local health emergency empowers the City to more effectively respond to COVID-19, coordinate with partner agencies including Los Angeles County and City of Long Beach Health Departments, seek and utilize mutual aid, and pursue potential federal and state reimbursement for costs related to response efforts. If the local health emergency is to remain in effect longer than seven days, City Council ratification of the local health emergency is required.

The PPHD recommends City Council adopt a resolution ratifying the Health Officer declaration of a local health emergency in response to COVID-19 and review the need for continuing the local health emergency at least every 30 days until the local health emergency is terminated.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The proposed action is consistent with the City Council's strategic planning goal to ensure public safety by sustaining and enhancing the City's ongoing response to COVID-19 to protect the health and safety of Pasadena residents.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The actions proposed herein have been determined to be exempt from the CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the common sense exemption (formerly the "general rule") that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. The proposed resolution ratification does not involve any direct physical changes in the environment. Therefore, the actions proposed herein are exempt from CEQA per Section 15061(b)(3) (common sense exemption).

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FISCAL IMPACT:

The future costs of responding to COVID-19 are unknown at this time due to evolving conditions. With the California state declaration of a health emergency, local COVID-19 response efforts may be eligible for state or federal reimbursement. Until there is a final determination on potential reimbursement, all expenditures will be recorded and tracked in the Health Fund and/or General Fund using existing appropriations. To date, less than \$10,000 has been expended in response to COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted,



YING-YING GOH, MD, MSHS
Director of Public Health and
Health Officer
Department of Public Health

Prepared by:



Manuel Carmona
Deputy Director
Department of Public Health

Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL
City Manager