

**CITY OF
SNOQUALMIE, WASHINGTON**

PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the Secretary of the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services, Alex Azar, declared a public emergency effective January 27, 2020 for the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee signed a Proclamation declaring that a State of Emergency exists in all counties in the State of Washington due to the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State, and directed that the plans and procedures of the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan be implemented; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, King County Executive Dow Constantine signed a Proclamation of Emergency due the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in King County, thereby enabling the government of King County to take extraordinary measures in response to the presence of COVID-19 in King County; and

WHEREAS, Snoqualmie Fire Chief and Director of Emergency Management Mark Correia has reported to the Mayor that the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in King County continues to increase; and

WHEREAS, while there have been no COVID-19 cases confirmed for individuals residing or working in the Snoqualmie Valley, the spread of COVID-19 continues on the Eastside with more people being affected; and

WHEREAS, the King County Department of Public Health has emphasized the need for organizations and individuals to consider the cancellation or postponement of meetings or gatherings of more than 10 individuals, and to take other steps to practice “social distancing; and

WHEREAS, a number of school districts and major employers in the region, including Facebook, Amazon, Google, Microsoft and the Northshore School District, have announced closures and/or requests that their employees work from home to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus;

WHEREAS, while it is believed that currently, the risk of the spread of COVID-19 in the Snoqualmie Valley remains low, the documented presence and impact of the virus within King County and its potential to spread rapidly in the region if steps are not taken to contain or slow the spread constitutes an emergency as defined by the Snoqualmie Emergency Services and Management Plan, and warrants the invocation and potential utilization of emergency powers granted pursuant to Snoqualmie Municipal Code Chapter 2.48, RCW 35.33.081 and RCW 38.52.070; and

THEREFORE, be it proclaimed by the Mayor of the CITY OF SNOQUALMIE that an emergency exists in SNOQUALMIE, and in order to respond to said emergency protect the public health, safety, order and welfare within the City of Snoqualmie, the following actions are authorized:

The Mayor, City Administrator and each City of Snoqualmie department or office is authorized to exercise the powers vested under this PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY in the light of the evolving exigencies of the COVID-19 situation, without regard to time consuming procedure and the formalities prescribed by law (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements), including, but not limited to budget law limitations, requirements of competitive bidding and publication of notices, provisions pertaining to the performance of public work, entering into contracts, the incurring of obligations, the employment of temporary workers, the rental of equipment, the purchase of supplies and materials, the levying of taxes, the appropriation and expenditures of public funds, and/or provisions relating to personnel policies or collective bargaining.

It is the policy of City of Snoqualmie that no guarantee is implied by actions authorized above, and that there is no perfect emergency response system. In any given set of circumstances, the City of Snoqualmie and its assets and systems may be overwhelmed, and the City can only endeavor to make every reasonable effort to respond based on the situation, and information and resources available at this time.

The emergency declared herein shall be in place immediately upon the date of adoption and continue and shall remain in place until terminated, extended or amended by further Proclamation of the Mayor and/or action of the City Council.

A copy of this declaration, the extent practicable, shall be posted at the City's regular locations for official notices and shall be made available to members of the local news media and the general public and appropriate federal, state, regional and local agencies.

Dated this 6th day of March, 2020




Mayor Matthew R. Larson

Attest:

Jodi Warren, CMC, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:



Bob C. Sterbank, City Attorney