A PROCLAMATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE TOWN OF MORAGA DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY IN THE TOWN OF MORAGA

WHEREAS, California Government Code Sections 8558 and 8630 authorize the proclamation of a local emergency when conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a city exist; and

WHEREAS, Moraga Municipal Code 2.48.060 of the Town of Moraga empowers the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence, or threatened existence, of a local emergency when said Town is affected, or likely to be affected by, a public calamity and the Town Council is not in session;

WHEREAS, Moraga Municipal Code 2.48.030 designates the Town Manager as the Director of Emergency Services;

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services of the Town of Moraga does hereby find;

1. The United States of America has confirmed cases of individuals who have a severe acute respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) corona virus (COVID-19) first detected in Wuhan, Hubei Province, People’s Republic of China (China) on December 31, 2019. As of March 2, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported more than 3,000 deaths stemming from over 100,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and the virus is present in 100 countries. The number of confirmed cases has continued to escalate dramatically over a short period of time; and

2. WHO officials now report that sustained human-to-human transmission of the virus is occurring and transmission from asymptomatic individuals has been documented. Suspected community transmission of the virus is occurring in the United States. Although the majority of individuals infected with COVID-19 recover without special treatment, there is significant potential for serious infection and death, especially in person over 65 years of age, who represent approximately 17% of Moraga’s population; and

3. On January 30, 2020, WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global health emergency of international concern and on January 31, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency; and

4. The United States Center 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; and
5. On March 4, 2020, the Governor of California proclaimed a state of emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

6. On March 10, 2020, due to the introduction of COVID-19, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors proclaimed the existence of a local emergency throughout Contra Costa County (County Resolution No. 2020/92) and requested that the Governor proclaim Contra Costa County to be in a state of emergency (County Resolution No. 2020/91); and

7. On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared that the outbreak of COVID-19 constituted a national emergency; and

8. On March 16, 2020, the Health Officer of Contra Costa County ordered “All individuals living in the County to shelter at their place of residence except that they may leave to provide or receive certain essential services or engage in certain essential activities and work for essential businesses and governmental services; exempting individuals experiencing homelessness from the shelter in place order but urging them to find shelter and government agencies to provide it; directing all businesses and governmental agencies to cease non-essential operations at physical locations in the County; prohibiting all non-essential gatherings of any number of individuals; and ordering cessation of all non-essential travel; and

9. The Town of Moraga is located in Contra Costa County in the State of California; and

10. Actual or threatened conditions of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the Town of Moraga that are being caused by the introduction of COVID-19, as to which there is no known natural immunity and for which there is currently no vaccine, which has become a pandemic, and which is contributing to a shortage of essential health care supplies; and

11. These actual or threatened conditions will impact Town and community operations, including critical public infrastructure and services, and which will require the provision of additional public safety and emergency services; and

12. The locally available resources are inadequate to cope with the actual or threatened conditions of disaster or extreme peril because, by reason of its magnitude, it is or is likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the Town of Moraga, and will require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to combat; and
13. These actual or threatened conditions of disaster or extreme peril necessitate the proclamation of a local emergency to enable the Town of Moraga and other government entities to adequately plan, prepare and pre-position resources to be able to effectively respond to the threat posed by COVID-19, and to warn Town of Moraga residents and visitors of the threat posed by COVID-19 and to enable them sufficient time to plan and prepare; and

14. At the time of this “Director of Emergency Services Proclamation of Local Emergency,” the Town Council is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED THAT:

A. A local emergency now exists throughout the Town of Moraga, and;

B. During the existence of said local emergency, the powers, functions and duties of the emergency organization of this Town shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and resolutions of this Town, including those listed in Moraga Municipal Code 2.48.070 and;

C. Until further notice, all non-essential Town facilities are closed or significantly limited to the public, and all non-essential Town sponsored meetings and events are cancelled or postponed to a future date; and

D. This emergency proclamation shall become effective immediately and will expire in seven (7) days after issuance unless confirmed and ratified by the governing body of the Town of Moraga.

DATED: March 17, 2020 BY: Cynthia Battenberg

Director of Emergency Services

Print Name: Cynthia Battenberg, Town Manager
Address: 329 Rheem Boulevard, Moraga, CA 94556