



**CITY OF SONORA**  
**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

**DATE:** MARCH 16, 2020  
**TO:** CITY COUNCIL  
**FROM:** MARY ROSE RUTIKANGA, CITY ADMINISTRATOR  
**SUBJECT:** LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt Resolution 03-16-2020-A Ratifying a Proclamation of a Local State of Emergency in the City of Sonora due to the serious public health threat of COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

**DISCUSSION:**

On March 13, 2020 in accordance with Chapter 8.30.050 of the Sonora Municipal Code, the Mayor issued a proclamation of a local state of emergency due to the very serious public health threat of COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

This proclamation was issued in an effort to prepare for, respond to, mitigate, and recover from the increasing spread of COVID-19 has imposed, and will continue to impose, extraordinary requirements and expenses on the City. The health, safety, and welfare of Sonora residents, businesses, visitors, and staff is of utmost importance to the City, and additional future measures may be needed to protect the community.

The proclamation has been forwarded to the State Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), as will the resolution once ratified.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no impact to the General Fund by ratifying the Proclamation of a Local State of Emergency.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Resolution 03-16-2020-A
- Proclamation of a Local State of Emergency signed by Mayor Garaventa

## RESOLUTION 03-16-2020-A

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### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SONORA RATIFYING A PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE CITY OF SONORA DUE TO THE SERIOUS PUBLIC HEALTH THREAT OF COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS)**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Chapter 8.30.050 of the Sonora Municipal Code, which empowers the Mayor of the City of Sonora to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when Sonora is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the City Council is not in session; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor in his role as Emergency Services Director, proclaimed a local State of Emergency to exist on March 13, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, California Government Code section 8630(b) requires the Council to ratify said declaration within seven days; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 14 section 8630(c) requires the governing body to review the need for continuing the local emergency at least once every 30 days until the governing body terminates the local emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is easily transmissible from person to person and has spread globally to over 118 countries, infected more than 125,000, and killed more than 4,000 individuals as of March 11, 2020 per the World Health Organization; and

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

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in the State of California due to the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization made the assessment that COVID-19 can be characterized as a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, 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; and

**WHEREAS**, the health, safety, and welfare of Sonora residents, businesses, visitors, and staff is of utmost importance to the City, and additional future measures may be needed to protect the community; and

**WHEREAS,** the City Council of the City of Sonora does hereby find:

- 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;
- In addition to the above facts, conditions or threatened conditions caused by COVID-19, including, but not limited to, potential isolation and quarantines of residents, employees, businesses, and public safety workers, give rise to conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within said City;
- These conditions are, or are likely to be, beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the City of Sonora; and
- The City Council of the City of Sonora is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council does hereby ratify the Emergency Services Director's proclamation attached hereto as Exhibit A and find that the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the proclamation of a local emergency in the City of Sonora and imminent threat of disaster as the result of existing and anticipated damages from flooding due to severe weather.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City of Sonora also request the Governor of the State of California Proclaim a State of Emergency and authorize financial assistance under the California Disaster Assistance Act or any other State funding and waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts. Furthermore, our Council requests assistance via the State of California to expedite access to federal resources and any other appropriate federal disaster relief programs (e.g. USDA Funding, etc.).

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** as a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Sonora at a regular meeting held on the 16th day of March 2020, by the following vote:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:**

**Signed and Dated:**

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James M. Garaventa  
Mayor of the City of Sonora

**ATTEST:**

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Colette Such  
Sonora City Clerk Pro Tempore



## **Proclamation of Local State of Emergency**

- WHEREAS,** in accordance with Chapter 8.30.050 of the Sonora Municipal Code, which empowers the Mayor of the City of Sonora to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when Sonora is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the City Council is not in session; and
- WHEREAS,** the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) considers the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) to be a very serious public health threat with outcomes ranging from mild sickness to severe illness and death; and
- WHEREAS,** COVID-19 is easily transmissible from person to person and has spread globally to over 118 countries, infected more than 125,000, and killed more than 4,000 individuals as of March 11, 2020 per the World Health Organization; and
- WHEREAS,** on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public emergency for COVID-19 beginning on January 27, 2020; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 4, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency in the State of California due to the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization made the assessment that COVID-19 can be characterized as a pandemic; and
- WHEREAS,** 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; and
- WHEREAS,** the health, safety, and welfare of Sonora residents, businesses, visitors, and staff is of utmost importance to the City, and additional future measures may be needed to protect the community; and

**WHEREAS,** the Mayor of the City of Sonora does hereby find:

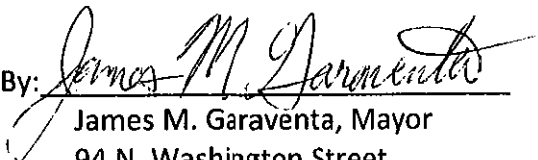
- The efforts required to prepare for, respond to, mitigate, and recover from the increasing spread of COVID-19 have imposed, and will continue to impose, extraordinary requirements and expenses on the City, requiring diversion of resources from day-to-day operations;
- In addition to the above facts, conditions or threatened conditions caused by COVID-19, including, but not limited to, potential isolation and quarantines of residents, employees, businesses, and public safety workers, give rise to conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within said City;
- These conditions are, or are likely to be, beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the City of Sonora; and
- The City Council of the City of Sonora is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED** that a local emergency now exists throughout the City of Sonora; 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 the City shall be those prescribed by State law, by ordinances, and resolutions of this City and that this emergency proclamation shall expire 7 days after issuance unless confirmed and ratified by the City Council of the City of Sonora; and

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that said local emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist until its termination is proclaimed by the City Council of the City of Sonora, State of California; and

Dated: March 13, 2020

By:   
James M. Garaventa, Mayor  
94 N. Washington Street  
Sonora, CA 95370