

CITY OF ILWACO
EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020, the Washington State Department of Health confirmed the first case of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States in Snohomish County, Washington; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as “high”, and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States; and

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

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee of the State of Washington declared a State of Emergency (Proclamation 20-05) for all counties in Washington State due to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-11 placing statewide limits on gatherings of 250 people or more; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-14 further reducing limits on gatherings of 50 people or more; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-20 furthering waiving or suspending specific statutes that prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with impacts to taxpayers and prohibiting certain activities impacting taxpayers to help preserve and maintain life, health, property, or public space; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-23 strongly urging all utilities in Washington State to take reasonable actions to mitigate the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on their utility customers caused by this crisis, including but not limited to: acting to prevent disconnection of services due to non-payment during the term of the statewide emergency declaration; waiving late payments and fees; using payment plans to fulfill customer outstanding balances; employing internal processes and procedures to facilitate social distancing and proper hygiene practices; and closing facilities to the public; and

WHEREAS, measures must be taken to protect public health, safety, and welfare of City residents, visitors, and staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary Forner, Mayor of the City of Ilwaco, do hereby proclaim that a local emergency now exists due to COVID-19 and that emergency operations are in effect under the powers invested by the Washington State Constitution, Article XI, Section 11.

FURTHERMORE, invoking RCW 38.52.070 providing the City of Ilwaco with the power to enter into contracts and incur obligations to combat emergency, protect health and safety of persons and property, and provide emergency assistance to victims. These powers may be exercised without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (excepting Constitutional requirements).

FURTHERMORE, invoking RCW 38.52.100 authorizing the mayor to accept services, equipment, supplies, materials or funds by the way of gift, grant or loan for the purpose of emergency management from private individuals, corporations, and the federal government via the State of Washington.

The City of Ilwaco is authorized to exercise the powers vested under this proclamation. This Emergency Proclamation shall expire unless confirmed and adopted by the Ilwaco City Council at the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

Gary Forner, Mayor

Attest, City Clerk/Treasurer