

## DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

**WHEREAS,** The COVID-19 Virus is presenting an actual or imminent threat, posed to the public health, welfare, and safety of the population of the City of Hollister; and

**WHEREAS,** as a result of the above-described emergency I have determined that there is an imminent threat of, or existing conditions have caused or will cause, a widespread or significant public health emergency, resulting in highly communicable disease transmission, or loss of life; and

**WHEREAS,** declaring a State of Emergency and imposing the restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein is necessary to maintain order and protect public health, safety, and welfare.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the City of Hollister under Chapters 44 and 79 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri and Article I, Section 105 and Chapter 235 of the Code of the City of Hollister:

**Section 1.** A State of Emergency is hereby declared within the jurisdiction of the City of Hollister.

**Section 2.** The emergency area covered by this State of Emergency shall be the incorporated City limits and the surrounding area served by the City's central services.

**Section 3.** Due to COVID-19 an emergency exists within the City of Hollister, Missouri. This emergency has an increased impact on our community, small to large businesses, and City services and the response to this emergency will require the use of all City resources and the need to access State and Federal resources and financial mechanisms which is hereby supported by the City Council;

**Section 4.** I find extraordinary proactive measures by the City Administration are necessary to prevent death or injury of persons and to protect the public peace, safety and welfare, and alleviate damage, loss, hardship or suffering;

**Section 5.** I express my support and call upon the City Administration to enforce temporary emergency regulations deemed advisable or necessary to minimize exposure risk to COVID-19 and protect the health and safety of persons in the City, including but not limited to:

A. **Assemblies / Gatherings:** Prohibiting social congregation or gathering of more than 10 people;

- Prohibiting all gatherings of more than 10 people, for individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness, such as seniors (including gatherings at retirement and assisted living facilities);
- Encouraging the cancellation of any event or gathering in excess of 25 people, regardless of whether such event is public or private;
- Strongly encouraging any small event or gathering which continues to be held by the organizer to adopt additional social distancing modifications for participants;

**B. Restricted Access:** Closing or restricting public access to municipal facilities;

**C. Business Operations:** Limiting all non-critical infrastructure businesses and places of public accommodation to a maximum of 10 people (including staff located on the premises), whichever is less. This includes, but is not limited to, all bars, restaurants, indoor and outdoor venues, places of worship, etc.;

- All critical infrastructure businesses have a special responsibility to maintain normal work schedules with all employees following Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance to protect your health at work. This includes, but is not limited to, healthcare services, pharmaceutical providers, food suppliers, fuel suppliers, essential material and product suppliers and lodging facilities. These businesses must be diligent in the maintenance of social distancing and limiting person-to-person contact.

**D. Other:** Relaxing all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat;

- Reviewing administrative and budgetary requirements that impede delivery of essential City services;
- Modifying or suspend local ordinances and regulations to ensure unintended effects on residents and businesses do not exacerbate the impact of this emergency;
- Modifying personnel rules and regulations to ensure City employees have adequate resources and protections, including the reassignment of personnel from their ordinary duties to work deemed necessary for the emergency without regard to job classifications;
- Taking all necessary steps to enforce any enacted regulations or orders of the City;
- Taking action to enforce any health recommendations from Federal and State authorities;

**Section 6.** I hereby order all City of Hollister law enforcement officers, employees, and all other emergency management personnel subject to our control to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this Declaration, all applicable local ordinances, state and federal laws, and the City of Hollister's Emergency Operations Plan.

**Section 7.** I hereby order this Declaration: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with the City Clerk of the City of Hollister and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

**Section 8.** This declaration shall take effect on March 20, 2020 at 12:00 a.m. CDT and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded.

**DECLARED**



**CITY OF HOLLISTER**

*David G. Tate*

David G. Tate  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

*Bridget Epps*

Bridget Epps  
City Clerk