



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Local Jurisdictions Collaborate to Pass a Resolution and Proclamation for COVID-19
March 27, 2020 3:00 pm

The Taney County Commission, surrounding jurisdictions and partnering entities have collaboratively passed a resolution guiding the community to slow the spread of COVID-19. The Resolution urges Taney County residents to stay home unless going out for essential items, recommends nonessential businesses close public-facing services or take immediate actions to protect employees and guests per the CDC guidelines. The Resolution identified COVID-19 as a health and safety emergency and acts proactively to urge residents to reduce movements and continue practicing precautionary measures such as staying at home and social distancing.

“The health and safety of the residents of Taney County is at the forefront of the minds of those who came together to pass this resolution. I want to thank the businesses and residents for doing their part to keep us all safe. We will get through this together and as quick as possible,” said Presiding Commissioner Mike Scofield. “Jointly, it was determined a state of emergency exists and requires a response by Taney County Commission to protect human life.”

Jurisdictions signing on to this resolution: City of Forsyth, City of Hollister, Village of Kirbyville, City of Rockaway Beach, City of Merriam Woods, Taney County Central Fire Department, Western Taney County Fire Protection District, Taney County, Taney County Office of Emergency Management, and Taney County Health Department have committed through their organization to protect the health and safety of community members. This proclamation will take effect immediately.

“Collectively, we encourage and urge residents of all jurisdictions to stay home to help prevent the spread of COVID-19,” stated Lisa Marshall, Director of the Taney County Health Department. “If you are not an essential business, please close your public-facing services for the next 30 days to slow the spread of this disease or take immediate actions to protect employees and guests by implementing social distancing procedures including preventing gatherings of 10 or more.”

Please refer to Exhibit A for a list of non-essential/essential businesses.

All residents are encouraged to follow these guidelines to protect themselves and their loved ones. For additional information, please the Taney County Health Department at 417-334-4544, or the Taney County Commission at 417-546-7204. For business assistance, call the Branson Chamber of Commerce at 417-334-4084.

Contact:
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JOINT RESOLUTION AND PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, in December 2019, medical professionals detected a novel coronavirus, now designated as "SARS-CoV-2," which causes a disease known as "coronavirus disease 2019" abbreviated as "COVID-19"; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared an outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, advising countries to prepare for containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the President of the United States declared the COVID-19 outbreak a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the Governor of Missouri declared a state of emergency exists in the State of Missouri to address the COVID-19 to prevent a substantial risk to the public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, upon information and belief, COVID-19 is spread person to person through direct or close proximate contact, is highly contagious, and presents an imminent threat of widespread illness and a threat to public health; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, after consultation with local jurisdictions, Taney County Office of Emergency Management and the Taney County Health Department, it was determined a state of emergency exists which required a response by the Taney County Commission to protect human life; and

WHEREAS, as of March 24, 2020, one person has tested positive for COVID-19 in Taney County; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to spread throughout the United States with more than 54,000 cases reported in the United States, and with all evidence suggesting that the number will continue to increase in the near future; and

WHEREAS, after consultation with local jurisdictions, including City of Forsyth, City of Hollister, Village of Kirbyville, City of Rockaway Beach, City of Merriam Woods, Taney County Central Fire Department, Western Taney County Fire Protection District, Taney County, Taney County Office of Emergency Management and the Taney County Health Department, the Taney County Commission has adjudged that there continues to reasonably appear to exist a state of emergency which requires a response by the Taney County Commission to protect human life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE TANEY COUNTY COMMISSION OF TANEY COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. This Resolution and Proclamation of Emergency, is made pursuant to § 49.650, RSMo. and enacted as described herein.

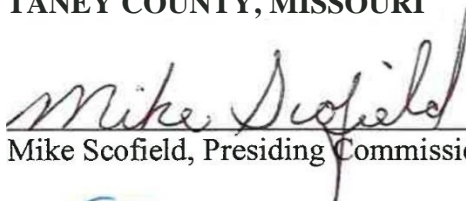
Section 2. The exercise of certain powers granted to the Taney County Commission in § 49.650, RSMo. appears reasonably necessary due to the local state of emergency, and the Taney County Commission strongly encourages and recommends to the citizens and businesses of Taney County, Missouri, the guidelines described in Exhibit A, which are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

Section 3. Pursuant their respective statutory authority, City of Forsyth, City of Hollister, Village of Kirbyville, City of Rockaway Beach, City of Merriam Woods, Taney County Central Fire Department, Western Taney County Fire Protection District, Taney County Office of Emergency Management and the Taney County Health Department join Taney County in strongly encouraging and recommending to the respective citizens and businesses the guidelines described in Exhibit A.

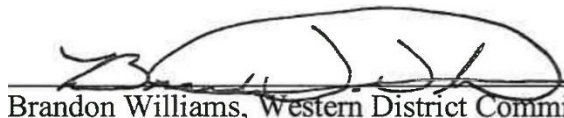
Section 4. This Resolution and Proclamation of Emergency is effective at 12:01 a.m. on March 27, 2020, and shall continue for a period of 30 days unless renewed or withdrawn.

ADOPTED AND RESOLVED, THIS 27 DAY OF MARCH, 2020.

TANEY COUNTY, MISSOURI


Mike Scofield, Presiding Commissioner


Sheila Wyatt, Eastern District Commissioner


Brandon Williams, Western District Commissioner



ATTEST:

County Clerk Certification

I certify that I am the County Clerk of Taney County, Missouri; that the foregoing document is a true, complete, and correct Resolution and Proclamation of Emergency adopted by the Taney County Commission, Missouri on March '2.1~~3~~12020, as the same appears in the official records of the County, and the Resolution and Proclamation of Emergency has not been modified, amended, or repealed, and is in full force and effect on the date hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed the Certificate and affixed the seal of the County of Taney, Missouri this 21th day of March 2020.

TANEY COUNTY CLERK:



Donna Neeley, County Clerk

EXHIBIT A

EMERGENCY GUIDELINES

I. Section One: Stay at Home Recommendation

- A. It is strongly recommended that individuals leave their residences or place of rest only to perform “Essential Activities,” as defined herein or to provide any services or perform any work necessary to the operations and maintenance of Essential Business, Minimum Basic Operations, or other exempted categories. Individuals at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 are strongly urged to stay in their residence or place of rest except as necessary to seek medical care and to obtain provision of essential life items. All individuals should exercise physical distancing at all times.
- B. Exemptions. All persons working for or to support Essential Businesses are exempt from these Guidelines. Further, nothing in these Guidelines shall prohibit any individual from performing or accessing “Essential Governmental Functions.” Essential Governmental Functions means all services needed to ensure the continuing operation of any government agencies, including schools, and provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public. All Essential Governmental Functions should be performed in compliance with Physical Distancing Requirements as defined this Section, to the extent possible.

II. Section Two: Non-Essential Business and Other Non-Essential Operations are Recommended to Cease

- A. All businesses and other operations in the City, except as defined herein as an Essential Business or exempted by force of law or Order, are recommended to cease all in-person operations. Non-essential businesses and other operations may continue operations consisting exclusively of employees, contractors, or other agents of businesses performing activities at their own residences or places of rest. All essential business activities shall carry out to the greatest degree possible Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) recommended social distancing guidelines. Essential businesses should perform only those activities defined as an essential business and should not perform non-essential business activities. These Guidelines shall not apply to government agencies.

III. Section Three: Definitions and Exemptions

- A. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms will have the meaning ascribed to them:
 - 1. “Essential Activities,” shall mean:
 - a. To engage in activities or perform tasks essential to their health and safety, or to the health and safety of their family or household members (including, but not limited to, pets), or close personal acquaintances, such as, by way of example only and without limitation, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies they need to work from home;

- b. To obtain necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or close personal acquaintances, or to deliver those services or supplies to others, such as, by way of example only and without limitation, groceries and essential household goods and products, such as cleaning and personal care products and other products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences;
 - c. To engage in outdoor activity, provided the individuals comply with Physical Distancing Requirements as defined herein, such as, by way of example and without limitation, biking, walking, hiking, or running;
 - d. To perform work providing essential products and services at an Essential Business or to otherwise carry out activities specifically permitted in this Order, including Minimum Basic Operations, as defined herein, at Non-Essential Businesses;
 - e. To care for a family member, close personal acquaintance, or pet in another household; and
 - f. Any activity protected by the Constitutions of the United States or the State of Missouri.
2. “Essential Businesses” means any for-profit, non-profit, or educational entity, regardless its corporate or entity structure, to the extent that a substantial element of its daily operations is included in the following activities:
- a. Construction, including critical home and building repairs;
 - b. Healthcare and public health services and supply manufacturing and distribution, including mental health and home health services, blood and plasma donation and related activities, and pharmacies but not including gyms and fitness centers. This should be construed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare;
 - c. Veterinary care and other healthcare services for animals, including boarding;
 - d. Food, shelter, and social services and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals, such as those residing at shelters;
 - e. Mortuary services, including funeral homes, crematoriums, and cemetery workers, except that not more than 10 persons at a time shall be allowed into a funeral, visitation, or wake;
 - f. Home-based care for seniors, adults, or children;
 - g. Law enforcement, emergency management, public safety, first responder, emergency dispatch, and security;
 - h. Hazardous materials handling and cleanup;

- i. Agriculture and food cultivation, including farming, livestock, and fishing;
- j. Grocery stores, food banks, convenience stores and other establishments engaged in the retail sale of canned food, dry goods, fresh fruits and vegetables, pet supply, fresh meats, fish, and poultry, and any other household products (such as cleaning and personal care products), provided that farmers' markets and produce stands may provide drive-thru or carry out services only. This includes stores that sell groceries and also sell other non-grocery products, and products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences and persons, and includes the retail sale and distribution of alcohol;
- k. Restaurant and concessions carry-out, drive-thru, and delivery services; drive-thru and delivery services provided they are food services; pick-up or take-away food services provided by a school, provided that no more than 10 people shall be within the establishment and physical distancing of a minimum of 6 ft is maintained;
- l. Energy, electricity, petroleum, natural and propane gas acquisition, production, generation, processing, storage, distribution, and retail distribution;
- m. Waste and wastewater maintenance and operation of infrastructure, including processing, treatment, conveyance, and distribution;
- n. Logistics and transportation of goods and people, including taxis, rental services, rideshare, and private transportation providers and businesses that ship or deliver foods, goods, or services directly to residences;
- o. Freight transportation services including trucking, railroads and rail systems
- p. Gas stations and convenience stores;
- q. Vehicle repair and maintenance facilities, including vehicle parts manufacturers and suppliers;
- r. Public and private works and construction, including support, inspection, and maintenance, including workers such as plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers whose services are necessary to maintain safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, businesses and buildings, Essential Activities, and Essential Businesses;
- s. Public infrastructure support and maintenance;
- t. Communications infrastructure support and maintenance, including storefronts that sell or repair communication devices and media services, including radio, television, and print;
- u. Information technology development, management, support, and security, including client service centers;

- v. Inspection services for construction functions of new facilities and/or maintenance of existing buildings;
- w. Hotels, motels, and bed and breakfasts, provided that they may not offer dining-in services and no more than 10 people shall be congregated in any one area including the lobby area;
- x. Critical manufacturing of materials and products needed for medical supply chains, transportation, energy, communications, food and agriculture to include; food and beverage processing, wholesaling, storage, warehousing, and distribution, chemical manufacturing, water and wastewater treatment, emergency services, and the defense industrial base;
- y. Legal and critical financial services, including banks, and property services, including supportive activities such as appraisals, title searches, and inspections;
- z. Lawn and landscaping services and grass, weed, and vegetation removal necessary to protect the health, safety, and sanitation of the community;
- aa. Building supply stores;
- bb. Laundromats, dry cleaners and laundry service providers;
- cc. Residential care facilities, including nursing homes and group homes;
- dd. Mailing and shipping services, including post office boxes;
- ee. Educational activities to support distance learning activities;
- ff. Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in this Order to work as permitted. To the extent possible, childcare should be carried out in stable groups, preferably with 10 or fewer (“stable” means that the same 10 or fewer children are in the same group each day); children should not change from one group to another; if more than one group of children is cared for at one facility, each group should be in a separate room. Groups should not mix with each other; and childcare providers should remain solely with one group of children;
- gg. Religious activity to support distance and/or virtual services provided fewer than 10 persons are in;
- hh. Any business involving the possession, transfer, sale, transportation, storage, display or use of firearms or ammunition;
- ii. “Minimum Basic Operations” of otherwise non-essential businesses, provided that employees comply with Physical Distancing Requirements as defined herein to the extent possible while carrying out such operations and which shall be limited to the following:
 - i. The minimum necessary activities to maintain the value of the business’s inventory and facilities, ensure security, process payroll and employee benefits, or for related functions; and

- ii. The minimum necessary activities to facilitate employees of the business being able to continue to work remotely from their residences, place of rest, or elsewhere;
 - jj. Direct support services necessary to ensure an essential business activity will not have to cease operation; and
 - kk. To the extent not otherwise described herein, any Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce sectors.
- 3. “Physical Distancing Requirements” includes maintaining at least a six-foot physical distance from other individuals, washing hands with soap and water for at least twenty seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer, regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces, and not shaking hands.