



**PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY**  
**BY THE CITY MANAGER / DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**  
**CITY OF WALNUT, CALIFORNIA**  
**REGARDING COVID-19**

**WHEREAS**, California Government Code 8630, et seq. and Walnut Municipal Code Section 3.12.060 empower the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence of a Local Emergency when the City Council is not in session; and

**WHEREAS**, the novel Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease easily transmittable from person to person and considered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to be a very serious public health threat with outcomes ranging from mild sickness to severe illness and death; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has spread globally to over 117 countries, infecting more than 126,000 persons and killing more than 4,600 individuals worldwide; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency for COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 26, 2020, the CDC confirmed the first possible case of community transmission of COVID-19 in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020 the California Department of Health Services reported its first death related to COVID-19 and 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 4, 2020, the Health Officer of Los Angeles County determined that there is an imminent and proximate threat to the public health from the introduction of COVID-19 in Los Angeles County and declared a Local Health Emergency and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors concurrently proclaimed the existence of a local emergency for the County of Los Angeles; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization (WHO) publicly characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic; and,

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020 Governor Newsom of the State of California issued Executive Order N-25-20 in a further effort to confront and contain COVID-19 that among other things suspended certain provision of the Ralph M. Brown Act providing local agencies with greater flexibility to hold meetings via teleconferencing; and,

**WHEREAS**, as of March 16, 2020, there were 94 cases, including fifteen by community transmission, in Los Angeles County and one death related to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United declared a National Emergency due to the continue spread and the effects of COVID-19; and,

**WHEREAS**, the State of California and numerous other public and provide organizations have announced the cancellation or postponement of all events where social distancing cannot be reasonably achieved; and,

**WHEREAS**, due to the expanding list of countries with widespread transmission of COVID-19, increasing travel alerts and warnings for countries experiencing sustained or uncontrolled community transmission issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), the escalation of United States domestic cases of and deaths from COVID-19, and the identification of COVID-19 cases in California, including Los Angeles County, COVID-19 has created conditions that are likely to be beyond the control of local resources and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat; and

**WHEREAS**, the health, safety and welfare of Walnut residents, businesses, visitors and staff is of utmost importance to the City and extraordinary measures to protect the public health, safety and welfare that are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of the City of Walnut may be needed to protect the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's ability to mobilize local resources, coordinate interagency response, accelerate procurement of vital supplies, use mutual aid, and seek future reimbursement by the State and Federal governments will be critical to successfully responding to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Manager of the City of Walnut acting in his capacity as Director of Emergency Services finds and determines that:

- 1) the above Recitals are true and correct and based thereon, the spread and potential further spread of COVID-19 severely threatens the public health and safety within the City of Walnut and constitutes conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the City of Walnut that warrant and necessitate the Proclamation of a Local Emergency; and
- 2) at the time of this Proclamation the City Council is not in session; and,
- 3) the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of the City of Walnut and the efforts required to prepare for, respond to, mitigate and recover from the increasing spread of COVID-19 impose extraordinary demands which require the resources and coordinated and collaborative effort among the County of Los Angeles and the incorporated cities together with guidance and assistance on statewide, nationwide and worldwide levels.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED** that, as authorized in Government Code Sections 8630 and Chapter 3.12 of Title 3 of the Walnut Municipal Code, a local emergency now exists throughout the City of Walnut.

**IT IS HEREBY FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that during the threatened existence and actual existence of the local emergency, the powers, functions and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the Disaster Council of the City shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances and resolutions of the City and approved by the City Council.

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that this Proclamation shall be effective immediately and shall expire in seven (7) days unless confirmed and ratified by the City Council of the City of Walnut and thereafter periodically reviewed by the City Council in accordance with applicable law, until its termination is proclaimed by the City Council of the City of Walnut.



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Rob Wishner, City Manager/Director of Emergency Services  
City of Walnut

Dated: March 17, 2020