WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on January 30, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak on January 31, 2020, and the World Health Organization officially declared a pandemic due to COVID-19 on March 11, 2020, and the Governor of Arizona declared an emergency due to COVID-19 and issued Executive Order 2020-07 providing Proactive Measures to Protect Against COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Governor Doug Ducey and Superintendent Kathy Hoffman on March 15, 2020 announced a statewide closure of Arizona schools from Monday, March 16, 2020 through Friday, March 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020 the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in accordance with its guidance for large events and mass gatherings, recommends that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 poses a serious public health threat for infectious disease spread to City of Somerton residents and visitors if proper precautions recommended by public health are not followed; and

WHEREAS, throughout the nation and State of Arizona, public health and health care systems have identified precautions and interventions that can mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to take action to ensure the spread of COVID-19 is controlled and that the residents of the City of Somerton remain safe and healthy; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Somerton is authorized by the Somerton City Code § 2-2-4 POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE MAYOR and by A.R.S. § 26-311 to declare an emergency; and

WHEREAS, during the emergency, the Mayor shall govern by proclamation and have the authority to preserve the peace and order of the City of Somerton, including but not limited to:

- Imposing curfews;
- Ordering the closing of any business;
- Closing to public access any public building, street, or other public place; and
- Call upon regular or auxiliary law enforcement agencies and organizations within or without the city for assistance.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Gerardo Anaya, Mayor of the City of Somerton, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State and the Somerton City Code, do hereby determine that the COVID-19 outbreak presents conditions in the City of Somerton which may be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the City of Somerton, and thus justifies a declaration of emergency; accordingly, pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 26-311 and Somerton City Code § 2-2-4, I do hereby:
1. Declare that an emergency now exists in the City of Somerton;

2. Declare that the Mayor of the City of Somerton shall, during such emergency, govern by proclamation and shall have the authority to impose all necessary regulations to preserve the peace and order of the City of Somerton; and

3. Declare that during this emergency, political subdivisions have full power to provide mutual aid to any affected area in accordance with local ordinances, resolutions, emergency plans or agreements therefor.

Proclaimed this _______ day of March, 2020.

Gerardo Anaya, Mayor
City of Somerton

ATTEST:

Ian McGaughey
City Manager / City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND DETERMINED TO BE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF PERFORMANCE OF DUTY OF THE CITY OF SOMERTON MAYOR AND COUNCIL.

Jorge Lozano, City Attorney