

PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY

BY THE AUTHORITY VESTED in me, I, Douglas J. Nicholls, as Mayor of the City of Yuma, do hereby proclaim a state of local emergency as follows:

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 2(e) of the Yuma City Charter and the City of Yuma Emergency Operations Plan adopted by City Council Resolution R2019-034, empower the Mayor to declare an emergency by proclamation when an extraordinary local emergency threatens to cause or jeopardizes loss of life or property; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) §26-311, the undersigned Mayor of the City of Yuma has the authority to determine that a local emergency exists within the City limits of the City of Yuma due to natural or man-made calamity or disaster or by reason of threats or occurrences of riots, routs, affrays or other acts of civil disobedience which endanger life or property within the City of Yuma; and,

WHEREAS, the undersigned Mayor of the City of Yuma has determined that in December 2019, a novel coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2 was first detected in Wuhan, Hubei Province, People's Republic of China, causing outbreaks of the coronavirus disease COVID-19 that has spread globally; and,

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a Public Health Emergency followed by a declaration of pandemic due to COVID-19 on March 11, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Honorable Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, declared a state of emergency due to COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, citing 1,645 people from 47 states having become infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, declared the COVID-19 outbreak a state of national emergency that began March 1, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Honorable Marco A. "Tony" Reyes, Chairman of the Yuma County Board of Supervisors, proclaimed a state of emergency in the unincorporated areas of Yuma County in order to preserve the peace and order and undertake precautions and interventions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the Honorable Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, announced the temporary closure of all schools in Arizona due to COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, to date there are no known cases of COVID-19 within the City or County of Yuma, but as Mayor of this City, I find it necessary and prudent to prepare for that eventual first and possibly second and third case scenario, to take every lawful precaution available in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of Yuma Citizens, to activate the City of Yuma Emergency Operations Plan, to work constructively and cooperatively with Yuma County, MCAS, YPG, the surrounding cities of Somerton, San Luis, Wellton, the Cocopah Indian Tribe, the Quechan Indian Tribe, the State of Arizona, the United States of America, and all branches of government, as we prepare diligently for the worst in order to prevent the worst from ever happening; and,

WHEREAS, the undersigned Mayor has determined the crisis and threat of injury, damage and suffering to persons or property constitutes an emergency within the meaning of Article VII, Section 2(e) of the Yuma City Charter and a local emergency within the meaning of A.R.S. §26-311; and,

WHEREAS, emergency management measures are required to reduce the severity of the local emergency, receive available aid, and to protect the health, safety and welfare of people and property located in the City of Yuma; and,


WHEREAS, the local emergency exceeds control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of the City of Yuma and requires the combined efforts, cooperation, and resources of the Yuma community including local and national non-profit agencies such as the Yuma Regional Medical Center, the Red Cross, Salvation Army, Yuma Community Food Bank, churches, the County of Yuma, the State of Arizona, and the United States of America.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Douglas J. Nicholls, Mayor of the City of Yuma, acting under the power vested in me pursuant to the Yuma City Charter, Article VII, Section 2(e); Resolution No. R2019-034; and A.R.S. § 26-311, do hereby declare an emergency exists due to the threat of a COVID-19 outbreak into the City of Yuma community; that the City of Yuma is, or will be, entitled to aid, relief, and assistance; and to the extent necessary for emergency functions pursuant to A.R.S. §26-307(A), A.R.S. § 26-311 and the Yuma City Charter, to make, amend and temporarily rescind City of Yuma rules, regulations and ordinances upon the filing with the City Clerk of such signed orders, rules and regulations as are necessary and consistent with law; and do hereby direct the implementation of the City Emergency Operations Plan.

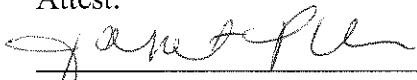
FURTHER, I direct the City of Yuma City Administrator, or his designees, to coordinate activities of the City Emergency Operations Plan, to take all appropriate action needed to alleviate and mitigate the effects of a possible COVID-19 outbreak within the City of Yuma, and to take any and all action, including such lawful actions necessary to respond to this emergency.

THIS PROCLAMATION SHALL BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL A WITHDRAWAL OF THE PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY IS FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK.


DATED this 15TH day of March, 2020 at 8:39, o'clock, a.m./p.m.


Douglas J. Nicholls
Mayor

Attest:


Janet Pierson
Deputy City Clerk

Approved as to form:


Richard W. Files
City Attorney