

**PROCLAMATION OF EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY
BY THE CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE**

WHEREAS, Section 16.2.4 of the Torrance Municipal Code declares that the City Manager of the City of Torrance is the Director of Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, Section 16.2.5 of the Torrance Municipal Code empowers the City Manager of the City of Torrance as Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when the City is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the City Council is not in session; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager finds that Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), a new communicable disease, was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. COVID-19 has since spread globally to over 70 countries, infecting more than 127,000 people and killing more than 4,700 people. Symptoms of the virus include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Infected individuals have experienced a range of outcomes from mild sickness to severe illness and death; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager finds that according to the Centers for Disease Control, there is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19 and there is no specific antiviral treatment recommended for COVID-19 at this time; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager finds that on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. On January 31, 2020, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services, Alex M. Azar II, declared a Public Health Emergency to aid the nation in responding to COVID-19. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, there are confirmed COVID-19 cases in County of Los Angeles, the County of Orange, and the County of Riverside; and

WHEREAS, to combat the spread of COVID-19, the counties of Orange, Los Angeles, Santa Clara, San Diego, Sonoma, and the City and County of San Francisco have each declared local health emergencies and proclaimed local emergencies. Additionally, the cities of Pasadena, Los Angeles, and Long Beach have each declared local health emergencies and proclaimed local emergencies; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-20 regarding COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the facts stated above raise the potential for widespread community transmission of COVID-19 occurring among the general public in the United States and

the need for the City of Torrance and the public to work cooperatively and proactively to slow the spread of COVID-19 and address any challenges that may arise due to any outbreak of this disease in the City of Torrance; and

WHEREAS, these conditions, if fully manifested, are, or are likely to be, beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the City of Torrance; and

WHEREAS, the mobilization of local resources, the ability to coordinate interagency response, accelerate procurement of vital supplies, use mutual aid, and allow for future reimbursement by the state and federal governments will be critical to responding to COVID-19 and therefore, these conditions warrant and necessitate that the City of Torrance proclaim the existence of a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED by the City Manager of the City of Torrance that a local emergency exists throughout the City of Torrance, and shall be deemed to continue to exist for a period of 7 days or until the City Council takes action to ratify or terminate the proclamation of local emergency; and


IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that during the existence of this local emergency that the powers, functions, and duties of the City of Torrance will be those prescribed by state law, state executive orders, the City Charter, ordinances, and resolutions of the City of Torrance; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Proclamation be forwarded to the Governor of California with the request that the Governor proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency throughout the City of Torrance; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this Proclamation be forwarded to the State Director of the Office of Emergency Services.

Date:

12 March 2020



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager and
Director of Emergency Services