



Mayoral Proclamation of Civil Emergency City of Mount Vernon, WA

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease than can result in serious illness or death, is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as “high”, and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Health has confirmed an increasing localized person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in Washington State, significantly increasing the risk of exposure and infection to Washington State’s general public creating a public health risk that may spread rapidly; and

WHEREAS, the outbreak of COVID-19 and the potential for rapid transmission throughout Washington State, including the City of Mount Vernon and Skagit County in general, presents significant and imminent threats to the life and health of Mount Vernon residents, as well as the local economy of the City; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning January 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency in response to the continued and growing threat presented by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, a declaration of emergency authorized the City of Mount Vernon to activate certain emergency response plans and procedures, which facilitate coordination, communication and resource requests among state and local partners; and

WHEREAS, I have reviewed the situation, consulted with the necessary officials and verified the existence of the emergency cited herein, and the necessity for me to take immediate, extraordinary action as outlined in the proclamation.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, JILL BOUDREAU, AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, WA DO



PROCLAIM THAT:

I. CIVIL EMERGENCY POWERS

A. A CIVIL EMERGENCY EXISTS REQUIRING ME TO EXERCISE THE EMERGENCY POWERS VESTED IN ME AS MAYOR BY RCW CHAPTER 38.52 and MOUNT VERNON MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2.40 et. seq. AS DESCRIBED IN THIS PROCLAMATION;

B. EFFECTIVE UPON MY SIGNING THIS PROCLAMATION, I WILL BE EXERCISING THAT AUTHORITY THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND THROUGH THE USE AND DIRECTION OF SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT; AND

C. IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR ANYONE TO FAIL OR REFUSE TO OBEY A LAWFUL ORDER PROCLAIMED BY ME.

II. DETERMINATION OF EMERGENCY

Consistent with the general police powers vested in the City of Mount Vernon, WA and its Mayor through applicable law, including but not limited to Chapter 38.52 RCW and Chapter 2.40 MVMC and based on my review of the present circumstances, the reports received by Mount Vernon Emergency Management officials, other public safety officials, and my consultations with City Department Heads, I have determined that these circumstances threaten to result in death or injury to people, or the destruction of property, or the disruption of local government to such an extent as to require me to exercise the authority assumed in Section I and to take the extraordinary measures in Section III in order to prevent death or injury of persons and to protect the public peace, safety and welfare, and alleviate damage, loss, hardship or suffering.

III. CONTRACTING AND BORROWING AUTHORITY/DELEGATION

A. Pursuant to MVMC Section 2.40.080, I hereby assume the authority to enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to relieve the emergency, protect the health and safety of persons and property, and provide emergency assistance to the victims, and to exercise them in light of the exigencies of the situation without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by ordinance (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements) unless otherwise required.

B. I delegate to the following City department heads and officials the authority under my supervision to take the actions identified for and on behalf of the City: To the Fire Chief and Police Chiefs, direction of any necessary population and property protection, as well as control of incidents and maintenance of public peace and order. Other departments and personnel will assist as requested.



C. This proclamation shall not render to divest, repeal or replace any previous determination and delegation.

IV. CIRCULATION

A copy of this Proclamation shall be filed in the Office of the City Finance Director and posted at such public places as further directed be the Mayor. A copy of this Proclamation may be delivered to the Governor of the State of Washington. To the extent practicable, notices of this Proclamation shall be made available to all news media within the City and to the general public.

V. PRESENTATION, RATIFICATION, TERMINATION

This Proclamation shall at the earliest practicable time be presented to the City Council for ratification and confirmation, modification, or rejection, and if rejected, shall be void. This Proclamation shall be terminated by the issuance of another proclamation when I determine that the extraordinary measures are no longer required for the protection of the public peace, safety and welfare.

VI. RECITALS

The recitals set forth prior to this Proclamation are incorporated herein as findings in support of this Proclamation.

DATED this 11th day of March 2020.



Jill Boudreau, Mayor
City of Mount Vernon, WA