A DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY on March 12, 2020

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S., Section 24-33.5-701, et seq., the City of Aspen ("City") has identified a local disaster currently present in the City, to wit, the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from COVID-19 requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage and to protect public health; and

WHEREAS, the cost and magnitude of responding to and recovery from the impact of COVID-19 is far in excess of the City’s available resources; and

WHEREAS the Colorado Governor Jared Polis and Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment have indicated the likelihood of community transmission of COVID-19 within the City of Aspen on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, it would be appropriate and in the interests of the public health and safety, and would further protect property, for the City to take immediate actions for public safety, health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709, Aspen Municipal Code Chapter 4.12, and the emergency management and operations plans and resolutions of Aspen, Colorado, the City Manager is authorized to declare a local disaster emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF ASPEN HEREBY DECLARES THE FOLLOWING:

Section 1. That there is a local disaster emergency in the City of Aspen, Colorado, to wit, the occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from COVID-19 requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage.

Section 2. That the effect of this declaration of disaster shall be to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to seek and authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans.

Section 3. That City of Aspen residents, businesses and visitors are encouraged to remain informed, follow the U.S. Center for Disease Control guidance for mitigation strategies for communities with local COVID-19 transmission.

Section 4. That this declaration shall be effective upon the date and time given below and shall remain in effect for a period not to exceed seven days thereafter except by or with the consent of a majority of the members of the City Council. Two copies will be filed promptly with the Pitkin County Emergency Manager, the Colorado Office of Emergency Management, the Pitkin County Clerk and Recorder and the City Clerk and shall be promptly distributed to the appropriate representatives of the news media.

Dated: March 12, 2020, Time: 14:07

THE CITY OF ASPEN, a Colorado Home Rule Municipality, by a through its City Manager

Sara G. Ott, City Manager
Emergency Administrative Order #1-2020
By City Manager Sara G. Ott

Whereas, an emergency declaration for the City of Aspen, Colorado, was executed on March 12, 2020; and

Whereas, in the interest of public safety it is the responsible and proactive approach to implement mitigation strategies to limit the transmission of COVID-19 within the city limits;

Whereas, local resources of the city of Aspen are not sufficient to immediately implement mitigation strategies in all non-essential public facilities; and

Whereas, maintaining healthy work environments is important for personal and community health, including keeping first responders and essential government services operating.

Now therefore, I, Sara Ott, City Manager of Aspen, Colorado issue the following emergency administrative orders to be implemented by the staff of the City of Aspen:

Section 1: The following facilities shall be closed to the general public through March 31, 2020. Events and programming in these facilities shall be cancelled until March 31, 2020. This date may be extended in the future.
   - Aspen Recreation Center
   - Aspen Ice Garden
   - Red Brick Recreation Center
   - Red Brick Art Gallery and meeting rooms
   - Aspen Golf Simulator
   - Wheeler Opera House

Section 2: Recreational classes and programs, City advisory boards and commission meetings and City sponsored public open houses are cancelled through April 15, 2020.

Section 3: Regular city council meetings, Historic Preservation Commission, Board of Adjustments and Planning Commission will continue as scheduled. The public can expect some changes to accommodate social distancing.

Section 4: Basic social distancing practices shall be implemented in City buildings. The public is encouraged to use telephone and online resources for accessing government services when reasonably possible.

Section 5: Additional restrictions and possible cancellations of special events should be announced shortly.

Date: March 12, 2020  Time: 14:13

Sara G. Ott, City Manager