



TOWN OF ESTES PARK

DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel coronavirus disease, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China that includes symptoms of coughing, fever and shortness of breath with outcomes ranging from mild to severe illness, and in some cases death; and

WHEREAS, those at greatest risk of contracting COVID-19 are elderly individuals and those with underlying health conditions, and the disease is easily transmitted without any display of symptoms; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) believes the onset of the first United States case of COVID-19 began on January 14, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020 the State of Colorado had its first positive case of COVID-19 and is now experiencing limited community spread; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020 Larimer County had its first positive case of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020 Governor Jared Polis declared a state of emergency in response to COVID-19 to ensure that resources are available to the state to combat the disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, acknowledging its anticipated worldwide spread; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 President Donald Trump declared a national emergency in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment ordered the closing of all bars, restaurants, theaters, gymnasiums, and casinos in the state; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, Governor Jared Polis ordered the closure of all schools in the state, including those in the Estes Park School District, until April 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, also on March 18, 2020, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment generally forbade gatherings of ten or more people statewide; and

WHEREAS, according to the most recent data disseminated by the CDC, the United States currently has at least 7,038 cases of COVID-19 in 50 states and Washington, D.C. and has experienced 97 related deaths; and

WHEREAS, according to the most recent data disseminated by the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment, the county currently has five confirmed cases, but the actual number of cases is impossible to determine because testing has not kept up with demand; and

WHEREAS, the Town, the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment, state officials and the Estes Park School District are cooperatively working to limit community spread and slow the transmission rate of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Town has activated its emergency operations center, and the Town Administrator now seeks to declare a local emergency, in addition to other steps outlined below, to address the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Town Administrator is authorized to declare a local emergency pursuant to section 24-33.5-709, C.R.S., and section 2.28.030 of the Estes Park Municipal Code, which declaration cannot be continued or renewed for more than seven (7) days without the approval of the Town Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, this declaration activates any and all local and inter-jurisdictional emergency plans and authorizes aid and assistance under the plans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Travis Machalek, Town Administrator of the Town of Estes Park, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the statutes of the State of Colorado and the Estes Park Municipal Code, declare as follows:

Section 1: A local disaster emergency now exists in the Town of Estes Park, Colorado and may continue to exist for the purposes of responding to COVID-19.

Section 2: This declaration shall be effective immediately, and it shall be in effect until rescinded, except that it shall terminate seven (7) days from the date hereof unless within that time the Estes Park Board of Trustees consents to its continuance.

Section 3: As described in the Larimer County Pandemic Flu Plan, actions that may be taken in response to the emergency include, without limitation, incident management, epidemiology, appropriate community mitigation measures, first responder operations, and information sharing. The duration of this emergency is particularly difficult to estimate. The CDC is currently communicating that the outbreak “could last a long time.”

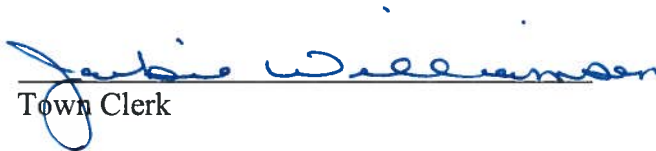
Section 4: This declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity and copies shall be filed promptly with the Town Clerk and with the Colorado Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management.

ADOPTED this 19th day of March, 2020.



Travis Machalek
Town Administrator

ATTEST:



Town Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Town Attorney

