

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION OF CIVIL EMERGENCY

Whereas, one of the greatest responsibilities of any elected official is the protection of the electorate served and the protection of the greater public health and safety; and

Whereas, the World Health Organization has reported an outbreak of thousands of cases of Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) in multiple countries, causing illness and deaths, and has declared the COVID-19 outbreak as a global pandemic; and

Whereas, multiple cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Iowa, and the Iowa Department of Public Health has determined that community spread of COVID-19 is occurring within our state and in Johnson County; and

Whereas, COVID-19 can spread person-to-person and poses a possibility of causing severe illness in certain populations and disability and/or death to certain Iowans; and

Whereas, the risk of transmission of COVID-19 may be substantially reduced by separating and restricting the movement of persons known or suspected to have the disease, or who have been exposed to those known or suspected to have the disease and to that end the City of Iowa City has closed a number of city facilities to the public, including the library, recreation centers, senior center and most recently City Hall; and

Whereas, on March 17, 2020, the Governor of Iowa issued a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency and implemented measures to increase social distancing and limit community spread of the virus, including moving restaurants to drive-through, carry-out and delivery only, closures of certain entities like bars, theatres and fitness centers, and prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people; and

Whereas, the City hopes and expects that all persons will voluntarily comply with the Governor's orders, but if voluntary compliance cannot be achieved the Iowa City Police Department will enforce the orders by criminal citation and arrest if necessary to assure that the Governor's orders are implemented within our City; and

Whereas, Iowa Code Section 372.14(2) and City of Iowa City Code Section 8-1 grant the Mayor the authority to declare a civil emergency and thereafter take extraordinary measures to protect the public health and safety.

Now, therefore, in consideration of the foregoing I, Bruce Teague, Mayor of Iowa City, do hereby declare and proclaim that a civil emergency exists within the City of Iowa City due to the dangers presented by COVID-19 and its confirmed community spread.

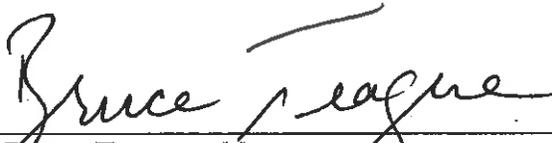
I further declare my intention to issue such further proclamations and take such extraordinary measures as are in my judgment necessary to maintain health, welfare and safety within the community as this Proclamation is part of an ongoing response of the City of Iowa City to protect public health and safety and may be modified or superseded with more restrictive proclamations at any time as circumstances warrant.

I further ORDER that the following extraordinary measure be taken:

The City Manager or his designee may procure by purchase or lease, without competitive procurement procedure, such goods or services as he deems necessary in furtherance of the City's response to the emergency presented by COVID-19.

This proclamation of civil emergency shall remain in effect until withdrawn or modified by me.

Issued this 18th day of March, 2020.

By: 
Bruce Teague, Mayor

Attest: 
Ashley Platz, Deputy City Clerk