

PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the California Emergency Services Act (Government Code Section 8550 et seq.) and San Luis Obispo County Code Chapter 2.80 authorize the County of San Luis Obispo Emergency Services Director to proclaim a local emergency under certain circumstances as described in Government Code Sections 8558, subdivision (c) and 8630; and

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8558, subdivision (c), defines a "local emergency" as "the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county . . . caused by . . . conditions . . . [that] are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of [the county] and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat. . ."; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Government Code section 8630, I, Wade Horton, Emergency Services Director of the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, hereby find and determine as follows:

1. A novel coronavirus named "COVID-19" by the World Health Organization ("WHO") was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, in December 2019.
2. Cases of COVID-19 have been diagnosed in the United States, primarily in individuals who have traveled to other countries, but there have been cases identified of "community spread" of COVID-19 involving individuals who have not traveled overseas and who have no known connections to overseas travel.
3. As of March 12, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control ("CDC") reported 1,323 cases of COVID-19 in the United States and 198 cases of the virus within the State of California.
4. On March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency due to outbreaks of COVID-19 within the state, and ordered the suspension of: (1) the provisions of Government Code section 8630 and Health and Safety Code section 101080 mandating that the governing authority of a city or

county review and renew proclamations of local emergency and declarations of local health emergencies as set forth in the governing statutory law; and (2) applicable provisions of the Government Code and Public Contract Code, including but not limited to those provisions related to travel, advertising, and competitive bidding requirements in order to address the effects of COVID-19.

5. On March 11, 2020, the WHO declared COVID-19 to be a pandemic, presently affecting six continents where sustained transmission of the virus has infected more than 120,000 people and killed more than 4,300 worldwide.

6. The number of reported cases of COVID-19 has escalated dramatically over a short period of time; for instance, as of March 12, 2020, the World Health Organization has reported 127,863 confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide, with 80,932 cases in China and the remaining 46,931 cases in 116 other countries; there have been 3,169 deaths in mainland China due to COVID-19, and another 1,549 deaths in other countries (4,718 worldwide); as of March 10, 2020.

7. Cases of COVID-19 have now been identified in the following California counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, Monterey, San Diego, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Sacramento, Solano, and the City and County of San Francisco. Each of these counties have made declarations of local health emergency or proclamations of local emergency.

8. Currently, there is no vaccine or specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19.

9. The best information to date indicates the following: (1) the virus is spread between people primarily via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; (2) symptoms of the virus include fever, cough, and shortness of breath; (3) infected individuals have experienced a range of outcomes, from mild sickness to severe illness and death; and (4) the CDC believes that symptoms appear two to fourteen days after exposure.

10. In order to protect public health and limit the spread of COVID-19 in the United States, the CDC recommends that travelers avoid all nonessential travel to countries with sustained transmission.

11. On March 12, 2020, the Governor of the State of California issued an Executive Order to cancel or postpone non-essential mass gatherings that bring people together in a single room or single space at the same time.

12. In light of the foregoing, the Health Officer of the County of San Luis Obispo has determined that there is an imminent and proximate threat to public health from the likely introduction of COVID-19 in San Luis Obispo County, and has issued a declaration of a local health emergency in order to best protect the public health.

NOW, THEREFORE, I HEREBY PROCLAIM A LOCAL EMERGENCY pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act (starting with Government Code Section 8550) and Chapter 2.80 of Title 2 of the San Luis Obispo County Code, in the entire area of the County of San Luis Obispo due to the existence of conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons within the entire area of the county caused by an imminent and proximate threat to public health from the likely introduction of COVID-19 in San Luis Obispo County, and do hereby invoke all of the powers and mechanisms set forth in the California Emergency Services Act and in the San Luis Obispo County Code Chapter 2.80, and hereby order that:

1. All of said powers and mechanisms set forth in section 2.80 may hereafter be utilized by authorized personnel of the County of San Luis Obispo;
2. A copy of this Proclamation of Local Emergency be posted on all outside public access doors of the new County Government Center and in one public place within any area of the County of San Luis Obispo within which this Proclamation applies, and that personnel of said county shall endeavor to make copies of this Proclamation available to news media;
3. This Proclamation of Local Emergency shall be effective immediately and shall be ratified by the Board of Supervisors within seven days.

Date: 13 MARCH 2020



WADE HORTON
Emergency Service Director

Time: 10:00AM