

PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Washington proclaimed a State of Emergency in response to novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in all counties in the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Benton County proclaimed a State of Emergency in Benton County in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Benton County Health Department has confirmed that COVID-19 is in the community, and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued a warning regarding the impacts and severity of this event; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease which is new to humans and can cause serious illness, including pneumonia, and can result in death; and

WHEREAS, the protection of the lives, public peace, safety and welfare of the residents of the City of Prosser during this outbreak of COVID-19 is of utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, the duration of this event is unknown, and its severity may exceed the capability of local resources; and

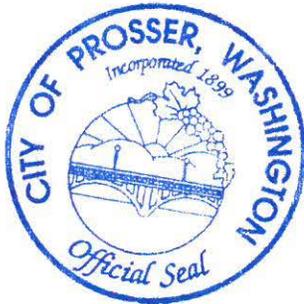
WHEREAS, the City of Prosser may require supplemental assistance; and

WHEREAS, conditions warrant the proclamation of the existence of a local emergency;

NOW THEREFORE, I, RANDY TAYLOR, AS MAYOR OF CITY OF PROSSER, DO PROCLAIM AS FOLLOWS:

- A. Pursuant to Prosser Municipal Code (“PMC”) Chapter 9.10.010, after consultation with our City Staff and relevant federal, State and County emergency management officials, I hereby proclaim an emergency exists, as defined in PMC 9.10.010(B), in the City of Prosser as a result of COVID-19, which is new to humans and can cause serious illness, including pneumonia, and even death.
- B. Effective upon my signing this Proclamation, the Mayor is hereby empowered with emergency powers vested to the Mayor by way of RCW Chapter 38.52 and PMC Chapter 9.10.
- C. Effective March 23, 2020, all City offices shall be closed to the public except during City Council Meetings. City staff shall continue to report to work, unless they are ill or otherwise excused by their supervisor. If authorized by their supervisor, City staff may work from home. To the extent practical, City staff shall communicate with citizens who need services by telephone, fax, or email. This order does not close the City for business; rather, it only closes its public spaces to the public.

- D. City staff shall not disconnect any city-utility customer from any city-utility service due to their failure to pay a utility bill until 30 days after this declaration is terminated and until after all notices have been provided pursuant to PMC Chapter 13.10. All late fees for the failure to timely pay a city utility bill are waived and shall not accrue until after 30 days from the date this declaration is terminated.
- E. A copy of this Proclamation shall be filed with the City Clerk and, to the extent practicable, shall be available to the general public. Pursuant to PMC 9.10.030, a copy of this Proclamation shall be delivered to all news media in Benton and Yakima Counties that have requested notice of city proceedings. This proclamation shall be posted on public facilities and included on any publically available public address systems.
- F. This Proclamation shall be in effect until such a time it is terminated by the Mayor.



Randy Taylor

Randy Taylor, Mayor

3/19/2020

Date

Attest:

Rachel Shaw

Rachel Shaw, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Howard Saxton

Howard Saxton, City Attorney

CITY OF PROSSER, WASHINGTON
NOTICE OF PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE . . . the Mayor of the City of Prosser, pursuant to PMC 9.10 has issued an Emergency Proclamation regarding the local impacts of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). A copy of said proclamation is on file with the City Clerk's Office and is attached to this Notice. The news media is encouraged to share this proclamation with the public in order to inform of this State of Emergency.

POSTED:

City of Prosser City Hall
City of Prosser Council Chambers
City of Prosser City Yard
City of Prosser Police Department