



# CITY OF PALM DESERT

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## NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PALM DESERT CITY COUNCIL

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Palm Desert City Council will convene for a **Special Meeting** at 2:00 p.m. on **Friday, March 20, 2020**, in the Civic Center Council Chamber of the Palm Desert Civic Center, 73-510 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, California 92260. Said meeting will be for the purposes as set forth on the attached agenda.

**GINA NESTANDE, MAYOR  
CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA**

March 18, 2020

**POSTED AGENDA**  
**~ SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PALM DESERT CITY COUNCIL ~**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2020 – 2:00 P.M. -- CIVIC CENTER COUNCIL CHAMBER**  
**73510 FRED WARING DRIVE, PALM DESERT, CA 92260**

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**NOTE: In consideration of the current Coronavirus/COVID-19 Pandemic and pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order N-25-20, City Councilmembers may participate via teleconference.**

**Public Participation: In accordance with Order N-25-20 and guidance from the California Department of Public Health on gatherings, remote public participation is allowed in the following ways:**

\* City Council Meetings are live-streamed on the City's website: [www.cityofpalmdesert.org/](http://www.cityofpalmdesert.org/) under the **Council Agenda** link at the top of the homepage.

\* **Public comment may be received by email or voicemail from the time the agenda is posted up until one (1) hour prior to the posted time of meeting convening.**

\* **Public comment will be accepted by email to [cityhall@cityofpalmdesert.org](mailto:cityhall@cityofpalmdesert.org) as noted above and read into the record during the public comment period for that item, if the sender so requests. Voicemail may also be left at [760-776-6317](tel:760-776-6317), up until one (1) hour prior to the meeting, and will be saved and played during the meeting if the caller so requests.**

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**\* Public is strongly encouraged to participate remotely in the meeting using the facilities noted above. City Council Chamber will be available for persons wanting to participate in person, and social distancing and hygiene protocols will be in place.**  
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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

**III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Any person wishing to discuss any item not appearing on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Palm Desert City Council may address them at this point by stepping to the lectern and giving his/her name and address for the record. Remarks shall be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes unless additional time is authorized by the City Council. Because the Brown Act does not allow the City Council to take action on items not on the Agenda, members will not enter into discussion with speakers but may briefly respond or instead refer the matter to staff for report and recommendation at a future City Council meeting.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **REQUEST FOR RATIFICATION OF A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA, PROCLAIMING EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY BY THE CITY MANAGER/EMERGENCY CORPS COMMANDER.**

Rec: Waive further reading and adopt City Council Resolution No. 2020 - 24, ratifying said Local Emergency Declaration (City Council Resolution will be available by Friday morning, March 20, 2020).

Action:

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

I hereby certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing agenda for the Palm Desert City Council was posted on the City Hall bulletin board not less than 24 hours prior to the meeting. Dated this 18th day of March, 2020.

  
Rachelle D. Klassen, City Clerk

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PALM DESERT,  
PROCLAIMING EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY  
BY THE CITY MANAGER/EMERGENCY CORPS  
COMMANDER.**

**WHEREAS**, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has confirmed multiple cases of individuals who have severe respiratory illness caused by a Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), as well as death caused by the illness; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the CDC, there is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19 and no specific antiviral treatment recommended by the CDC at this time; and

**WHEREAS**, the CDC, considers COVID-19 to be a very serious public health threat with outcomes ranging from mild sickness to severe illness and death; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 8, 2020, the first case of COVID-19 was confirmed in the County of Riverside, within the Coachella Valley and considered by the Riverside County Public Health Officer to be a case of "community spread"; and

**WHEREAS**, as of March 16, 2020, the County of Riverside reported a total of 15 cases of COVID-19 in the County, with 13 cases in the Coachella Valley, of which two deaths were reported; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Emergency Services Act (California Government Code Section 8360, 8550, et. seq.) empowers the City Council to designate by ordinance a local official with the power to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when the City Council is not in session, so long as such proclamation is ratified by the City Council within seven days, and

**WHEREAS**, Palm Desert Municipal Code Section 2.48.090 empowers the City Manager for the City of Palm Desert ("City") to proclaim a local emergency for good and sufficient reason, if the City Council is not in session; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of a Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) as a public health emergency of international concern; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency for the State of California due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 8, 2020, the Riverside County Public Health Officer issued a declaration of a local public health emergency and on March 10, 2020 the Riverside County Board of Supervisors approved Resolution No. 2020-062 proclaiming existence of a local emergency regarding Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the Governor of the State of California announced that California public health officials have determined that gatherings of more than 250 people should be postponed or canceled across the State until at least the end of March; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, the Riverside County Public Health Officer ordered the cancellation of all events across the County with an expected attendance of at least 250 people until at least the end of April 30, 2020, and on March 16, 2020, the Public Health Officer revised the previous order restricting public gatherings from 250 people or greater to no more than 10.; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the Riverside County Public Health Officer ordered the closure of all schools within the County through April 3, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a proclamation declaring the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States as a national emergency, beginning March 1, 2020; and

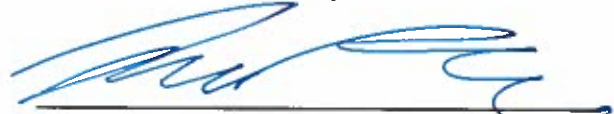
**WHEREAS**, per Section 2.48.110 of the Palm Desert Municipal Code, the City Manager shall be Emergency Corps Commander.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND PROCLAIMED** that a **LOCAL EMERGENCY** now exists throughout the City and City Manager/Emergency Corps Commander of the City of Palm Desert does hereby find:

1. The efforts required to prepare for, respond to, mitigate, and recover from the increasing spread of COVID-19 have imposed and will continue to impose, extraordinary requirements and expenses on the City, requiring diversion of resources from day-to-day operations.
2. In addition to the above facts, conditions, or threatened condition caused by COVID-19, including, but not limited to, potential isolation and quarantines of residents, employees, businesses, and public safety workers, give rise to conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within said City.
3. These conditions are, or are likely to be, beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the City of Palm Desert and will require the temporary closure of City Hall.
4. The City Council of the City of Palm Desert is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of the local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the City Manager and the emergency organization of the City shall be those prescribed by state law, the City Charter, ordinances, and resolutions of this City; that the local emergency proclamation shall expire unless ratified by the City Council within seven (7) days of this proclamation; and that the City may request any available funding from the California Disaster Assistance Act, the Small Business Administration, and/or any other funding available as a result of this proclamation of local emergency.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the City Manager/Emergency Corps Commander of the City of Palm Desert, California, on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



LAURI AYLAIAN, CITY MANAGER  
EMERGENCY CORPS COMMANDER

ATTEST:



RACHELLE D. KLASSEN, CITY CLERK  
CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA