



AGENDA REPORT

TO: Steven Falk
Interim City Administrator

FROM: Angela Robinson Piñon
Deputy City Administrator

SUBJECT: Renew and Continue a Declaration of
a Local Emergency Due to COVID-19

DATE: March 25, 2023

City Administrator Approval 

Date: Apr 3, 2023

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Renewing And Continuing The City Council's Declaration Of A Local Emergency Due To COVID-19.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this resolution is to renew and continue the City of Oakland's (City) local emergency due to COVID-19. By adopting this resolution, the City Council would find and proclaim that a local emergency continues to exist due to the illness known as COVID-19 and pursuant to [California Government Code Section 8630](#).

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a proclamation of emergency relating to the respiratory illness known as COVID-19, which is caused by the novel coronavirus SARS-COV2.

On March 9, 2020, the City Administrator acting as the Director of Emergency Services Operations Center (EOC) declared a local emergency within the City of Oakland due to the outbreak of respiratory illness caused by the novel coronavirus (known as COVID-19).

On March 10, 2020, the City Council confirmed and ratified the existence of a local emergency within the territorial limits of the City of Oakland proclaimed by the City Administrator pursuant to [Oakland Municipal Code Chapter 8.50](#) and [Government Code section 8630](#).

On February 28, 2023, the statewide COVID-19 State of Emergency ended.

By adopting this resolution, the City Council will affirm that a local emergency continues to exist due to COVID-19 and directs the City to take measures to respond to the emergency.

City Council
April 18, 2023

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Despite progress in addressing the pandemic, not all eligible individuals are fully vaccinated, and new, more virulent variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus are spreading in California and throughout the world. Furthermore, despite significant progress, COVID-19 remains a threat to public health and safety in the Oakland community. Moreover, as of March 11, 2023, a total of 2,207 Alameda County residents, including 625 Oakland residents, have died of COVID-19.

COVID-19 has shown evidence of seasonality, a feature of other respiratory viral infections including some other coronavirus infections. Such seasonality, in combination with other factors, could lead to possible surges and subsequent annual waves of infection. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has identified the existence of highly contagious variants of the COVID virus and has indicated that additional variants of high consequence are to be expected. In light of this information on March 21, 2023, the Oakland City Council did adopt [Resolution No. 89647 C.M.S.](#) which requires employees, patrons and visitors of City facilities to wear a mask to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and for the City to provide masks to those that do not have one,

The City will continue to require access to services, personnel, equipment, facilities and other resources from the federal government, state, local and other agencies, including resources that may not be currently available, to continue to respond to cases and control the spread of the virus within Oakland's population and communities, as well as to respond to continuing impacts of the pandemic. Failure to adopt the resolution may limit the City's access to resources needed to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact directly associated with this action; however, the declaration of a local emergency is a requirement for a local jurisdiction to be eligible for funding to support disaster recovery post-emergency.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

There was no public outreach required beyond the posting and noticing of this agenda item.

COORDINATION

Production of this ordinance was coordinated between the Oakland City Attorney's Office and the City Administrator's Office.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: As noted, declaration of a local emergency is often a pre-requisite to receive disaster recovery funding.

Environmental: There are no direct environmental opportunities associated with the proposed resolution.

Race & Equity: The data shows that the COVID-19 Pandemic has had the greatest impact to low-income, and marginalized people, which in Oakland are overwhelmingly represented by African-Americans and other communities of color. Declaration of a local emergency may allow the City to access funds that may be used to mitigate the direct effects of a local emergency. These funds, once received, could be targeted to address the immediate needs of Oakland's most vulnerable residents.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Renewing And Continuing The City Council's Declaration Of A Local Emergency Due To COVID-19.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Angela Robinson Piñon, Deputy City Administrator, at arobinsonpinon@oaklandca.gov.

Respectfully submitted,



ANGELA ROBINSON PIÑON
Deputy City Administrator
City Administrator's Office