

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-57

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELL GARDENS, CALIFORNIA, REAFFIRMING RESOLUTION NO. 2020-21 WHICH DECLARED A LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO THE PUBLIC THREAT CAUSED BY CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

WHEREAS, Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, was first reported in China in December 2019;

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency and the County of Los Angeles, City of Los Angeles, City of Long Beach and City of Pasadena all declared Local Emergencies;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) publicly characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency due to the continued spread and the effects of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the City of Bell Gardens City Council adopted Resolution No. 2020-21 declaring a local emergency due to COVID-19 as authorized by Government Code Section 8630 and Title 2 (Administration and Personnel), Chapter 2.34 (Disaster Council), Section 2.34.030 (Created – Membership) of the Bell Gardens Municipal Code (“Code”);

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health issued the Safer at Home Order for Control of COVID-19 to further restrict and limit the gathering of persons and to require the closure of shopping centers, children’s playgrounds, and non-essential retail businesses in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 within the greater Los Angeles community;

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-33-20 ordering all individuals living in the State of California to stay at home or their place of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operations of the federal critical infrastructure sectors;

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, the State Public Health Officer issued a memorandum spelling out the list of “Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers”;

WHEREAS, on March 21, 2020, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health modified its Safer at Home Order for the Control of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8630(c) states that a City Council “shall review the need for continuing the local emergency at least once every 60 days until the governing body terminates the local emergency”;

WHEREAS, as of July 20, 2020, there have been 159,045 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Los Angeles County, which has resulted in 4,104 deaths;

WHEREAS, the number of confirmed cases and deaths continue to increase;

WHEREAS, conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property continue due to COVID-19 in the City of Bell Gardens;

WHEREAS, it is imperative to prepare for and respond to suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases, to take measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and to prepare to respond to the increasing number of individuals requiring medical care and hospitalization;

WHEREAS, if COVID-19 spreads at a rate comparable to the rate of spread in other locations, the number of persons requiring medical care may exceed locally available resources, and controlling outbreaks minimizes the risk to the public, maintains the health and safety of the community, and limits the spread of infection in the community and within the healthcare delivery system;

WHEREAS, the reasons for declaring the local emergency still exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Bell Gardens as follows:

SECTION 1. That at the City Council meeting of March 17, 2020, the City Council declared a Local Emergency due to Coronavirus (COVID-19).

SECTION 2. That the City Council reaffirms all portions of Resolution No. 2020-21, including all order contained therein.

SECTION 3. That the City Manager, as the Director of Emergency Services, is hereby authorized to exercise his powers and duties as provided in § 2.34.060 of the Bell Gardens Municipal Code.

SECTION 4. That this local emergency shall continue to exist until the City Council proclaims the termination of this local emergency.

SECTION 5. The City Clerk shall attest and certify to the passage and adoption of this Resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions, and it shall become effective immediately upon its approval.

[Signatures on the following page]

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 27th day of July, 2020.

THE CITY OF BELL GARDENS

Alejandra Cortez, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:

Rick Olivarez
City Attorney

Jane Halstead
City Clerk