

DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY AND EXECUTIVE ORDER

WHEREAS, it is believed that sometime in late November or early December, residents of China's Wuhan Providence began exhibiting symptoms of a serious viral infection, which has been identified as COVID-19, a highly communicable disease that may cause severe respiratory distress and death, particularly among certain vulnerable segments of the population; and

WHEREAS, since the initial outbreak in China, COVID-19 has spread throughout the world at a rapid pace, to include numerous instances of infection (and death) within the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, the first two presumptively confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection appeared in Georgia, a number which has continued to grow as the disease appears to spread across Georgia's counties; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization ("WHO") declared the COVID-19 virus outbreak a pandemic, signaling its anticipated spread to all counties on the globe; and

WHEREAS, WHO Director, General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus reports that WHO "expect[s] to see the number of cases, the number of deaths, and the number of affected countries climb even higher"; and

WHEREAS, since March 11, 2020, incidents of infection in the United States and, in particular the State of Georgia, have grown exponentially; and

WHEREAS, as of March 19, 2020, the United States has reported 10,442 COVID-19 infections and 150 deaths; and

WHEREAS, as of March 23, 2020, Georgia reported 772 cases of COVID-19 infection and 25 associated deaths, which include eleven (11) cases in Richmond County, four (4) cases in Chatham County and two (2) cases in Effingham County, signaling the rapid approach of the disease towards the City of Sylvania; and

WHEREAS, local governments throughout the country, including Atlanta, Georgia, Savannah, Georgia and Statesboro, Georgia, have implemented emergency measures to stem the rapid spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sylvania anticipates the disease will continue to spread, perpetuating a public health crisis thereby necessitating implementation of certain emergency measures designed to halt the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Mayor of the City of Sylvania with advice from the City Manager and other subject matters experts, emergency conditions exist within the City requiring extraordinary and immediate corrective actions for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Sylvania; and

WHEREAS, to prevent or minimize injury to people, certain actions are required.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by state law, and with the concurrence and authority by unanimous vote of the Sylvania City Council:

IT IS HEREBY DECLARED that a local state of emergency exists and shall continue until the conditions requiring this Declaration are abated, and:

THE FOLLOWING IS ORDERED WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTIONAL LIMITS OF THE CITY OF SYLVANIA:

A) Public or private gatherings of more than ten (10) persons are prohibited anywhere in City for the duration of this Executive Order. For the purposes of this Order, a "gathering" is any indoor or outdoor event or convening, subject to the exceptions and clarifications below, which brings together or is likely to bring together, ten (10) or more persons at the same time in a single room or other single confined or enclosed space, such as an auditorium, stadium (indoor or outdoor), tent, arena, event center, music venue, meeting hall, conference center, restaurants, cafeteria, church, funeral home, or any other confined indoor or confined outdoor space, to include birthday parties, family reunions, baby showers, and weddings. Funeral services shall only be held outdoors/graveside and shall adhere to CDC distancing recommendations as current or amended. For purposes of this Executive Order, a "gathering" shall not include the following:

- i) Office space, government facilities, public or private schools, child-care facilities, residential buildings, or any type of temporary shelter or housing;
- ii) Hospitals, medical facilities, or Red Cross blood collection centers;
- iii) Grocery stores, shopping centers, or other retail establishments, or manufacturing facilities; and
- iv) Restaurants operating in compliance with Section B of this Order.

Despite the foregoing exemptions, such exempted entities shall reasonably adhere to the fullest extent reasonably practicable with the CDC distancing recommendations as current or amended.

B) Restaurants shall only offer curbside, take out, delivery, and drive through service options. Restaurants remaining open for business shall operate in a manner that allows for a minimum of six feet of separation between all customers and employees.

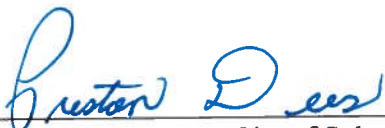
C) Hair salons, barbers, nail salons, spas, tattoo parlors, and indoor recreational facilities, including gyms, physical fitness centers, and dance studios, shall be closed for the term of this Executive Order.

D) Any violation of this Executive Order shall be a misdemeanor. The Sylvania Police Department is authorized and directed to enforce this Order.

E) This Declaration and Order shall be effective at Noon, March 24, 2020 and remain in force until April 7, 2020 at midnight, unless otherwise amended, extended or cancelled by the Mayor.


SO ORDERED this 23rd day of March, 2020

FILED for record



Preston Dees, Mayor, City of Sylvania, Georgia

This 23rd day of March, 2020



Clerk
City of Sylvania