RESOLUTION NO. 33- 2020

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BURLINGAME PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

CITY OF BURLINGAME

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services requests that the City Council proclaim the existence of a local emergency pursuant to Burlingame Municipal Code section 3.36.060; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America has confirmed cases of individuals who have a severe acute respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus ("COVID-19" or "the virus") first detected in Wuhan, Hubei Province, People's Republic of China ("China"). The virus was first reported in China on December 31, 2019. As of March 2, 2020, the World Health Organization ("WHO") reported more than 3,000 deaths stemming from approximately 89,009 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and the virus is present in 67 countries; and

WHEREAS, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases has continued to escalate dramatically over a short period of time; and

WHEREAS, WHO officials now report that sustained human-to-human transmission of the virus is occurring. Transmission from asymptomatic individuals has been documented. Suspected community transmission of the virus is occurring in the United States; and

WHEREAS, although the majority of individuals infected with COVID-19 recover from the disease without special treatment, there is significant potential for serious infection and death; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak a public health emergency of international concern, and on January 31, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency for the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, as of March 4, 2020, across the globe, there were more than 94,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19, tragically resulting in more than 3,000 deaths worldwide; and

WHEREAS, as of March 4, 2020, there were 129 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States, including 53 in California, and more than 9,400 Californians across 49 counties are in home monitoring based on possible travel-based exposure to the virus, and officials expect the number of cases in California, the United States, and worldwide to increase; and
WHEREAS, on or about March 4, 2020, as part of the State of California’s response to address the global COVID-19 outbreak, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a State of Emergency to make additional resources available, formalize emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments, and help the state prepare for broader spread of COVID-19 following one official COVID-19 death; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, San Mateo County declared a Local Health Emergency pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 101080 due to the potential introduction of COVID-19 in San Mateo County; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization made the assessment that COVID-19 can be characterized 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, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has determined that the virus presents a serious public health threat, requiring coordination among state and local health departments to ensure readiness for potential health threats associated with the virus. On March 11, 2020, the CDC issued recommendations for 30-day mitigation strategies based on the current situation with COVID-19 transmission and affected health care facilities including the recommendation to cancel large gatherings e.g., greater than 250 people or move to smaller groupings; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the San Mateo County Public Health Officer issued an order pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Sections 101040, 101085, and 120175, prohibiting mass gatherings in the County until 11:59 P.M. on April 3, 2020; and

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

WHEREAS, 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; and

WHEREAS, as contemplated in the Emergency Service Act contained in Government Code Section 8550 et seq., including Section 8558(c), a local emergency exists because of the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the City of Burlingame caused by the aforesaid conditions which are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel and facilities of the City of Burlingame and require the combined forces of other political
subdivisions to combat; and the proclamation of a Local Emergency is necessary to enable the City of Burlingame and other local government entities to adequately plan, prepare and preposition resources to be able to effectively respond to the threat posed by COVID-19, and to warn City of Burlingame residents and visitors of the threat posed by COVID-19 and to enable them sufficient time to plan and prepare; and

WHEREAS, Central County Fire Department, a joint powers authority, provides fire and emergency services within the City of Burlingame, the Town of Hillsborough, and, by contract, the City of Millbrae; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager of the City of Burlingame serves as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Central County Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the City Council of the City of Burlingame proclaimed the existence of a local emergency and authorized its City Manager, acting in her capacity as the Chief Administrative Officer of the Central County Fire Department, to execute any agreement or application for, and to file an agreement with, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services for the purposes of obtaining Federal financial assistance.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that:

1. A local emergency exists in accordance with the findings set forth above, commencing on or about the time and date of the signature of the Mayor below.

2. During the existence of this local emergency, the powers, functions and duties of the emergency organization of this City shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances and resolutions of this City, and by the City's Emergency Operations Plan.

3. The Director of Emergency Services of the City of Burlingame is hereby authorized to execute for and on behalf of the City of Burlingame, and on behalf of the Central County Fire Department, a Joint Powers Authority providing fire and emergency services within the City of Burlingame, any agreement or application for, and to file the agreement with, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services for the purposes of obtaining federal financial assistance.

4. The local emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist until its termination is proclaimed by the City Council of the City of Burlingame.

IT IS REQUESTED that the Governor of the State of California include the City of Burlingame in any emergency declaration by the State; ensure the City of Burlingame and the Central County Fire Department is included in any emergency declaration that may be issued by the President of the United States of America; waive regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; and make available California Disaster Act and State Private Nonprofit Organizations Assistance Program Funding.
Date and time: March 16, 2020 at 10:15 p.m.  By: Emily Beach, Mayor

I, MEAGHAN HASSEL-SHEARER, City Clerk of the City of Burlingame, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was introduced at a special meeting of the City Council held on the 16th day of March, 2020, and was adopted thereafter by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS: BEACH, BROWNRIGG, COLSON, O'BRIEN KEIGHRAN, ORTIZ

NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS: NONE

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: NONE

Meaghan Hassel-Shearer, City Clerk