

## CITY OF AUBURN, GEORGIA

### DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

**WHEREAS**, beginning in late 2019, the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, SARA-CoV-2, emerged causing a novel coronavirus disease, COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has now become a worldwide pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the COVID-19 pandemic a national emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 14, 2020, the Governor of the State of Georgia declared that a Public Health State of Emergency exists in the State of Georgia due to the public health emergency from the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 pandemic has the potential to result in significant loss of life and has the potential to result in a major disruption of community affairs, business services, and governmental operations; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to mitigate or alleviate some of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in the City, certain actions are needed; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon the President's Declaration of National Emergency and the Governor's Public Health State of Emergency, it is in the best interest of the welfare of the City of Auburn, Georgia and its citizens to declare a local state of emergency to activate certain emergency powers under the City's Charter and Code of Ordinances;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Auburn, Georgia, by local and state law;


**IT IS HEREBY DECLARED**, pursuant to Section 1.13(h) of the City's Charter that a local state of emergency exists and is expected to continue to exist throughout the City of Auburn due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

#### **THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:**

- (1) Pursuant to the City Code of Ordinances of Section 8.24.010 that the following measures are authorized and activated effective immediately:
  - The City Administrator and Department Heads are authorized to utilize all available resources of the City and subordinate agencies over which the City has budgetary control as reasonably necessary to cope with the impact of COVID-19 on the City;

- The Mayor is authorized to undertake all actions permitted by City Code Section 8.24.010 and O.C.G.A. § 38-3-54.
  - The City Administrator is authorized to award contracts and make purchases for the purpose of meeting the emergency pursuant to City Code Section 2.06.030.
  - The Chief of Police or his designee is authorized to undertake the actions permitted in the City Code Section 5.50.400.
  - The Mayor is authorized to executed intergovernmental agreements for grants, if such are available, to meet COVID-19 related necessary expenses or serious needs of the City, individuals, families or businesses adversely affected by COVID-19.
  - The Mayor, City Council, City Administrator and Department Heads shall perform and exercise such other functions, powers and duties as may be deemed necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the population during COVID-19 Public Health State of Emergency.
- (2) Pursuant to Section 3.04.070 of the City of Auburn Code of Ordinances, the City procedures for soliciting and advertising projects pursuant to the City's Purchasing Ordinance are be suspended during this emergency to meet the needs of the City and its citizens for expenditures necessary for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- (3) That this City Declaration of Local Emergency shall continue until April 2, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. or further action of the Mayor or City Council.

This 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
Hon. Linda Blechinger, Mayor

Approved as to form:

  
Robert Jackson Wilson, City Attorney