

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: March 9, 2023

From: City Manager Department

Subject: Termination of Local Emergency

Recommended Action: Adopt a resolution terminating the Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency due to the Worldwide Spread of the Coronavirus ("COVID-19").

Background: The California Emergency Services Act defines a local emergency as the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a city, caused by conditions beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of a city.

Capitola Municipal Code Chapter 8.08 designates the City Manager as the Director of Emergency Services for the City and empowers the Director to request that the City Council proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency if the City Council is in session.

Discussion: On March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a State of Emergency due to the presence of and threat posed by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 12, 2020, the City Council of the City of Capitola adopted Resolution No. 4168, proclaiming the existence of a local emergency due to the worldwide spread of COVID-19. In times of declared emergencies, the proclamation of a local emergency enables the City to more effectively respond to the emergency, potentially obtain reimbursement for the response, and ensure that City staff have the necessary tools at their disposal aimed at keeping the community safe.

For the past three years, the City of Capitola has balanced pandemic response with ongoing local government operations, scaling the emergency response focus to continuously changing public health needs in the community and/or county/state/federal mandates. In light of the termination of the Statewide state of emergency on March 1, 2023 and with vaccines and boosters widely available to the public and treatment options expanding, staff recommends the termination of the local emergency.

Government Code Section 8630 requires the Council to terminate the local emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

Fiscal Impact: There is no fiscal impact related to the adoption of this ordinance.

Attachments:

1. Resolution No. 4168
2. Resolution Terminating the Local Emergency

Report Prepared By: Julia Moss, City Clerk

Reviewed By: Tamar Burke, Assistant City Attorney

Approved By: Jamie Goldstein, City Manager