



CITY COUNCIL ACTION FORM

Department	Presented by	Date
Administration	Drew Nelson - City Administrator	September 7, 2021

ITEM

Declaration of Extension of State of Emergency – Covid-19 Action Plan Implementation

BACKGROUND

As we are all quite aware, the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic has created an environment where federal, state and local governments Article XVII, Section 2-17-10 of the Salida Municipal Code states that when it appears to the Mayor that the general health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the City are threatened, he or she may declare a state of emergency by proclamation. After conferring with the Chaffee County Public Health, on Friday, March 13th, 2020, such an emergency declaration was approved by Mayor Wood to approve the City of Salida COVID-19 Action Plan. The City Council ratified the emergency declaration on March 17th, 2020, extending until April 25th, 2020. Seventeen (17) extensions have been granted for the Declaration, with the most recent one ending on September 8th, 2021. Staff continues to work with Chaffee County Public Health to revise the City of Salida COVID-19 Action Plan to reflect changes to the State of Colorado's COVID-19 Dial, identifying rates of infection, positivity rate, and hospitalizations as data points for moving up or down on the City's Tiered response (a copy of the Action Plan is attached hereto for your review). Currently, the City is at Tier I in the Action Plan, with Chaffee County continuing to have a public health order in place.

Section 2-17-30 establishes a term of no more than ten (10) days of for any emergency declaration. It also provides that the City Council may extend any proclamation issued by the Mayor for a period not to exceed forty (40) days by a two-thirds (2/3) vote. As issues related to COVID-19 continue, it is imperative that the City continues to follow the protocols established in the Action Plan.

FISCAL NOTE

No direct costs immediately; however, costs may be incurred as this ever-evolving situation goes forward.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Due to stagnating vaccination rates and the highly-contagious Delta variant now being the dominant strain in Colorado, it has become evident that the City should retain its emergency footing as we head through the fall months. Staff recommends approval



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by the City Council of a Declaration of Extension of Local State of Emergency to implement the City of Salida's COVID-19 Action Plan, as currently established, until October 6th, 2021, which is one day after the first regular City Council meeting in October.

SUGGESTED MOTION

A City Councilmember should state, "I move to approve a Declaration of extension of Local State of Emergency to implement the City of Salida's COVID-19 Action Plan, extending until October 6th, 2021," followed by a second and a roll call vote.

**CITY OF SALIDA, COLORADO
EXTENDING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY
REGARDING COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019)**

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS:

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a highly contagious virus that has spread to numerous countries throughout the world, including the United States; and

WHEREAS, the virus may cause serious illness or death in certain cases, particularly for elderly and persons with underlying health conditions; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 a “global pandemic”, pushing the threat beyond the “global health emergency” it had announced in January; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Governor of the State of Colorado declared a state of emergency due to the presence of COVID-19 in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners of Chaffee County declared a Local Disaster Emergency as authorized under C.R.S. § 24-33.5-703(3) to assist local governments in responding to and recovering from emergency events, including emergency epidemics and pandemics; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an initial Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19, extending until April 25, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2020, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until May 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2020, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until June 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2020, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until July 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on July 7, 2020, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until August 4, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on August 4, 2020, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until September 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2020, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until October 7, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on October 6, 2020, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until November 4, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2020, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until December 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2020, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until January 6, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on January 5, 2021, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until February 3, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on February 2, 2021, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until March 3, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2021, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until April 7, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2021, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until May 5, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2021, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until June 2, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2021, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until July 7, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2021, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until August 4, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on August 3, 2021, the Salida City Council unanimously approved an extension of the Local State of Emergency regarding COVID-19 until September 8, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Chaffee County Public Health Department anticipates that, due to the contagiousness of the illness and the fact that numerous travelers from around the world visit the County, Chaffee County will see cases of the virus and its transmission within the community; and

WHEREAS, Article XVII, Section 2-17-10 of the Salida Municipal Code authorizes the Mayor to declare a State of Emergency via proclamation when it appears that the general health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the City are threatened by general public unrest or riot, or by attack upon the State; and

WHEREAS, Article XVII, Section 2-17-30 allows for the City Council to extend any proclamation issued by the Mayor under Section 2-17-10 to be extended for a period not to exceed forty (40) days by a two-thirds (2/3) vote; and

WHEREAS, the City's current State of Local Emergency proclamation will expire on September 8, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the cost and magnitude of responding to and recovering from the impact of the COVID-19 virus on local emergency services providers and medical services is anticipated to be far in excess of the community's available resources; and

WHEREAS, in response to the outbreak of COVID-19 in Chaffee County and the Salida community, and in light of the ongoing risk to public health and safety, at this time it is necessary to extend the existing Local State of Emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED BY THE SALIDA CITY COUNCIL:

Section 1. The confirmed presence of COVID-19 in Chaffee County constitutes a Local State of Emergency, as defined in Article XVII, Section 2-17-10 of the Salida Municipal Code, not to exceed a term of forty (40) days.

Section 2. The effect of this declaration of Local State of Emergency shall continue the City's COVID-19 Action Plan, revised and effective as of December 1, 2020, attached hereto as Exhibit A, authorizing a tiered approach to proactively respond to changes in the COVID-19 situation as well as reflect the recommendations of our Federal, State, and Local Health Departments.

Section 3. This declaration shall be made effective immediately on September 7, 2021, and shall be in effect until October 8, 2021.

APPROVED, DECLARED AND ADOPTED on this 7th day of September, 2021.

CITY OF SALIDA, COLORADO

[SEAL]

ATTEST:

P.T. Wood, Mayor
City of Salida, Colorado

City Clerk



CITY OF SALIDA – COVID-19 ACTION PLAN

Purpose: To provide a comprehensive and tiered Action Plan to City of Salida officials in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This Action Plan is intended to slowly escalate to proactively respond to changes in the situation as well as reflect the recommendations of our State and local Public Health Departments. This Action Plan is effective December 1, 2020, until further notice.

Authority: Per Sections 2-17-10 and 2-17-20 of the Salida Municipal Code, when it appears to the Mayor that the general health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the City are threatened, he or she may declare a state of emergency proclamation. The proclamation may impose a curfew within the City, may prohibit public or private assemblies, may impose restrictions on movement within the City and may contain other regulations necessary and proper to the maintenance of public peace, order and safety.

Tier I – Level Green/Blue

Heightened Awareness. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) or Chaffee County Public Health Department (CCPH) have indicated that COVID-19 is in the state and are encouraging citizens to be aware and to focus on sanitization and hygiene. CDPHE and/or CCPH has placed Chaffee County in either Level Green or Level Blue on the State's COVID-19 Dial, with Incidence Rates of up to 75 cases per 100,000 residents (or more than 15 cases in Chaffee County per two-week period), or when the percentage of positive tests is below 1.5%.

- Encourage employees to stay home if sick or to go home if exhibiting symptoms while at work. Employees will continue to use sick leave.
- Identify work spaces where employees can temporarily isolate if they are awaiting transportation to their home or medical care.
- Wash hands often, also use hand sanitizer often.
- Face coverings are required in indoor public settings.
- Heightened amount of environmental sanitation – Lysol, wipes, environmental germicide sprays, etc.
- Employees should refrain from traveling to conferences and/or meetings in other parts of the Country where cases of COVID-19 are expanding.
- Acquire/Inspect/Issue Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to selected City Staff (gloves, masks, etc.).

- Meetings of the City Council, and of official City Boards and Commissions, will offer the option for remote attendance and participation.
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Tier II – Level Yellow

Statewide Concern. CDPHE and/or CCPH have indicated multiple cases of COVID-19 within the Chaffee County. CDPHE and/or CCPH has placed Chaffee County in Level Yellow on the State’s COVID-19 Dial. Incidence Rates are between 75 and 175 cases per 100,000 residents (or between 15 and 35 cases in Chaffee County per two-week period), or when the percentage of positive tests is between 1.5% and 3%. When directed by the Mayor, City Administrator, or their delegate, the City will move its response to Tier II which, in addition to Phase I steps, include:

- Teleworking and staggered shifts authorized. Departments should utilize telework options for a limited number of employees to lessen the impact on Tech Services.
 - Meetings of the City Council, and of official City Boards and Commissions, will offer the option to attend and participate remotely, and may take place in person following all physical separation requirements. Attendance by members of the public may occur based on room size/capacity and maintaining 6’ of distance between attendees.
 - Employees should refrain of physical contact with each other and with members of the public. CDPHE and CCPH recommends a 6’ distance of separation.
 - Employees should limit or eliminate any outside agency meeting attendance, unless able to be done remotely.
 - City Departments should begin to limit internal meetings. Face coverings are required when meeting in person with other employees or while away from one’s office or desk.
 - Employees who self-identify as high risk (having compromised immune systems, for example) should work from home.
 - The City will take direction from CDPHE and CCPH.
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Tier III – Level Orange/Red

Chaffee County Concern. Chaffee County Health has indicated multiple rising cases of COVID-19 within Chaffee County, with an Incidence Rate between 175 and 350 per 100,000 residents (or between 35 and 70 cases in Chaffee County per two-week period), or when the percentage of positive tests is between 3% and 5%. CDPHE and/or CCPH has placed Chaffee County in either Level Orange or Level Red of the State’s COVID-19 Dial. When directed by the Mayor, City Administrator, or their delegate, the City will move its response to Tier III which, in addition to Phase II steps, include:

- Employees will be directed to stay home (or go home) if they or any family member they live with is exhibiting any symptoms, or if they are high risk.
- Meetings of the City Council, and of official City Boards and Commissions, may take place in person following all physical separation requirements, and with the following limited

restrictions: in-person attendance of the public is limited to only applicants or appellants for quasi-judicial hearings. Remote attendance and participation by all parties, including City Councilmembers and staff, is strongly encouraged.

- Recreation programs shut down, including very limited access to, or closure of, the Salida Hot Springs Aquatic Center, the SteamPlant Event Center, and the Rotary Scout Hut. Specific closure dates shall be established by Department Heads and announced via press release.
- Teleworking and staggered shifts authorized. Departments will continue to roll out additional measures or plans to allow employees to work remotely, when feasible.
- Departments must take additional steps they have identified to limit exposure between employees and between employees and members of the public.
- Reduced staffing in City buildings authorized. Departments will take steps to ensure City buildings are minimally staffed, and public access is very limited. Employees are encouraged to perform all tasks remotely, if possible. Face coverings must be worn at all times, including while in one's office or at one's desk.
- Heightened level of sanitization of spaces including additional germicide spraying.
- Selected City Staff have PPE on hand and begin utilization, as appropriate.
- Public events (other than official meetings of the City Council, or of official City Boards or Commissions) scheduled to take place in City-owned facilities are suspended until further notice. The Salida community is strongly encouraged to engage in social distancing and to postpone or cancel any gatherings where people will congregate in large numbers and/or in close contact with one another.
- Other steps as directed by CDPHE and CDPH.

Tier IV – Level Red/Purple

Full implementation of Response Plan. Tier IV may occur at such time as CDPHE and/or CDPH places Chaffee County in either Level Red or Level Purple on the State's COVID-19 Dial, with Incidence Rates in excess of 350 cases per 100,000 residents in Chaffee County (or more than 70 cases in Chaffee County per two-week period), or when the percentage of positive tests exceeds 5%, or schools are shut down, or hospitalizations exceed bed capacity at health facilities in Chaffee County, or at such other time as Salida deems it to be in the best interest of the organization and/or community. When directed by the Mayor, City Administrator, or their delegate, the City will move its response to Tier IV which, in addition to Phase III steps, include:

- City Buildings minimally staffed, no public access. Public will be directed to conduct business online, if feasible, or by phone. Non-essential services (City Hall Administration, City Hall Finance, Fire Station Administration, Police Station Administration, and Public Works Administration) are closed to the public. Public is encouraged to use digital and telephone communication, website access, online payments, and other ways of communication to conduct business with the City. Masks required at all times.

- In-Person attendance of meetings of the City Council, and of official City Boards and Commissions, shall be heavily restricted to only staff and select Elected or Appointed Officials who are necessary to be present to effectively run meetings. Any attendance and participation by the public, including applicants and appellants for quasi-judicial hearings, shall be conducted remotely only.
- Departments will fully enact Departmental plans. Teleworking options and staggered shift work maximized. Only essential services ongoing, unless able to be provided through employees working remotely.
- Incident Command may be set up locally or in coordination with County Authorities.
- Selected City Staff mandatory use of PPE.
- Other steps as directed by State and Local Health authorities, including support of their efforts.

Mayor P.T. Wood asks that the community remain vigilant during these challenging times.

“Chaffee County Public Health has worked very hard to get our community through a tumultuous period while keeping our business community intact. It is critically important that we increase our efforts to limit the spread of the disease to the greatest extent possible as we head into the upcoming winter months. Remember that Chaffee’s Got Heart:

- **Hang at Home if Sick**
- **Excel at Handwashing**
- **Always Wear a Mask in Public**
- **Respect Social Distancing**
- **Test if You Have Symptoms**

