

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
COUNTY OF OAKLAND  
TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE

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**RESOLUTION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY TO PROTECT  
THE PUBLIC PEACE, HEALTH, SAFETY AND GENERAL WELFARE (COVID-19)**

RESOLUTION NO. 21-028

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of White Lake, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, held electronically via Zoom in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended, on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. with those present and absent being,

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

the following resolution was offered by \_\_\_\_\_ and supported by \_\_\_\_\_.

**PREAMBLE:**

A. On March 2, 2021 the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) made the following findings:

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death. It is caused by a new strain of coronavirus not previously identified in humans and easily spread from person to person. COVID-19 spreads through close human contact, even from individuals who may be asymptomatic.

On March 10, 2020, MDHHS identified the first two presumptive-positive cases of COVID-19 in Michigan. As of March 1, 2021, Michigan had seen 589,150 confirmed cases and 15,534 confirmed deaths attributable to COVID-19. Michigan was one of the states most heavily impacted by COVID-19 early in the pandemic, with new cases peaking at nearly 2,000 per day in late March. Strict preventative measures and the cooperation of Michiganders drove daily case numbers dramatically down to fewer than 200 confirmed cases per day in mid-June, greatly reducing the loss of life. Beginning in October, Michigan again experienced an exponential growth in cases. New cases peaked at nearly 10,000 cases per day in mid-November, followed by increases in COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths.

On November 15, 2020, MDHHS issued an order enacting protections to slow the high and rapidly increasing rate of spread of COVID-19. Cases, hospitalizations, and deaths remained high through early December, threatening hospital and public health capacity. On December 7, 2020, December 18, 2020, and January 13, 2021, MDHHS issued orders sustaining

those protections. These orders played a crucial role in slowing the spread in Michigan and have brought new cases down to about 1,500 per day. These lower rates prevented Michigan's healthcare system from being overwhelmed with a holiday surge.

As of February 27, the State of Michigan had a seven-day average of 91.2 cases per million people, nearly 88% lower than the case rate in mid-November. While that case rate is similar to the rate in early October, it has plateaued over the past week and remains three times the rate of the summer low point.

Test positivity was 3.7% as of February 27, and has started to plateau as well. While metrics have decreased from all-time highs, further progress has tapered off and there is growing concern of another spike with the presence of more infectious variants in Michigan and the United States as a whole.

Even where COVID-19 does not result in death, and where Michigan's emergency and hospital systems are not heavily burdened, the disease can cause great harm. Recent estimates suggest that one in ten persons who suffer from COVID-19 will experience long-term symptoms, referred to as "long COVID." These symptoms, including fatigue, shortness of breath, joint pain, depression, and headache, can be disabling. They can last for months, and in some cases, arise unexpectedly in patients with few or no symptoms of COVID-19 at the time of diagnosis. COVID-19 has also been shown to damage the heart and kidneys. Furthermore, minority groups in Michigan have experienced a higher proportion of "long COVID."

The best way to prevent these complications is to prevent transmission of COVID-19. Since December 11, 2020, the Food and Drug Administration has granted emergency use authorization to three vaccines to prevent COVID-19, providing a path to end the pandemic. Michigan is now partaking in the largest mass vaccination effort in modern history and is presently working toward vaccinating at least 70% of Michigan residents 16 years of age and older as quickly as possible.

New and unexpected challenges continue to arise: in early December 2020, a variant of COVID-19 known as B.1.1.7 was detected in the United Kingdom. This variant is roughly 50 to 70 percent more infectious than the more common strain. On January 16, 2021, this variant was detected in Michigan. It is anticipated that the variant, if it becomes widespread in the state, will significantly increase the rate of new cases. Currently, Michigan is second in the nation with respect to the number of B.1.1.7 variants detected. To date, there are over 400 cases, and this is one fifth of all cases identified in the United States. CDC modeling predicts B.1.1.7 could become the predominant variant by the end of March. At present, however, it appears that cases have plateaued.

B. While the MDHHS rescinded its emergency orders on June 22, 2021, the surge of the B.1.1.7 variant (the "Delta variant") across the U.S. prompted the Centers for Disease Control to issue updated recommendations for masking in July 2021. It is likely that federal, state, and county orders, directives, guideline, and recommendations relating to Covid-19 and the Delta variant will soon follow.

C. COVID-19 and the Delta variant, and the possible exposure to persons afflicted with it, constitute a clear and present danger to the health, safety, and welfare of Township personnel and persons doing business with or residing in the Township.

D. In accordance with the Emergency Management Act, Public Act 390 of 1976 and the Township's Emergency Operations Plan, the Township's Emergency Services Coordinator, Supervisor and Township Board have determined to declare a Local State of Emergency due to COVID-19 and authorize the Emergency Services Coordinator and/or the Supervisor, in conjunction with Township Staff and Police and Fire Services, to act in accordance with the Township's Emergency Operations Plan, to ensure that indoor gatherings are conducted safely and in accordance with applicable federal, state, and county orders, directives, guidelines, and recommendations relating to Covid-19.

E. The Township Board has further determined that certain additional emergency measures and actions should be taken or authorized, as determined to be necessary by the Emergency Services Coordinator and/or the Supervisor in accordance with the Township of White Lake Emergency Operations Plan, and this Resolution.

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND DECLARED** by the Emergency Services Coordinator, the Township Supervisor and the Township Board of the Charter Township of White Lake, Oakland County, Michigan, that there is a Local State of Emergency in the Township due to COVID-19, including the recent surge of the Delta variant; that, in accordance with the Emergency Management Act, Public Act 390 of 1976, the Township's Emergency Operations Plan, the Township's Emergency Operations Plan be implemented to ensure that local resources are to be used as needed and to the fullest extent possible.

**IT IS FURTHER DECLARED THAT:**

1. The Township Board authorizes the Emergency Services Coordinator and/or the Township Supervisor to take appropriate measures, in his/her discretion, to respond to or protect Township citizens, businesses, and personnel from the declared State of Emergency by adopting and enforcing all appropriate measures, including but not limited to:
  - a. Taking actions necessary to comply with federal, state, and county orders and directives that are or become binding on the Township.
  - b. Limiting, cancelling, or postponing Township meetings and functions to those required by law.
  - c. Cancelling, postponing, or establishing emergency rules for any public meeting of a Township board, commission, or committee, and providing public notice and conducting Township board, commission, and committee meetings electronically with remote attendance, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, as amended.

2. This Declaration shall remain in effect until the earlier of December 31, 2021 or a Township Board determination that the Local State of Emergency no longer exists and terminates this Declaration.

3. To the extent the Resolution Declaring Coronavirus Local State of Emergency, Resolution No. 21-010 adopted by the Township Board on March 16, 2021 remains in effect, this Declaration terminates and supersedes said former Declaration.

YEAS: \_\_\_\_\_

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

STATE OF MICHIGAN            )  
  ) ss.  
COUNTY OF OAKLAND        )

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of White Lake Charter Township, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of certain proceedings taken by the Township Board of said Township at a meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required under the Open Meetings Act.

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Anthony Noble,  
White Lake Charter Township