

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, MINNESOTA  
EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 821  
CITY COUNCIL CONSENT TO MAYORAL DECLARATION  
OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Minnesota (“Mayor”) declared an Emergency to exist in the City of Alexandria, Minnesota (“City”) effective 4:30 p.m. on March 17, 2020 upon signing a Mayoral Declaration of a Local Emergency, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference herein (“Declaration”); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.29, Subd. 1 in order for the Declaration to continue beyond three days the City Council of the City of Alexandria, Minnesota (“City Council”) must consent to the Declaration; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council convened in an emergency meeting at 4:00 p.m. on March 18, 2020, in the City Council Chambers in Alexandria for purposes of receiving an emergency COVID-19 update and considering formal action to consent to the Declaration and related actions; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council is the official governing body of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 3.02 of the City’s Home Rule Charter allows the City Council to pass emergency ordinances with immediate effect; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that an emergency in the City exists as described in the Declaration; and

**WHEREAS**, this emergency threatens the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the community and threatens the provision and delivery of City services; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that the Emergency poses the risk of and may cause catastrophic loss of public health, safety, and welfare if not immediately addressed; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that traditional sources of relief may not be available to prevent or remedy any such injury or loss.


**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, MINNESOTA, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:**

1. The foregoing recitals and the recitals in the Declaration are incorporated herein by reference.
2. The City Council hereby consents to, confirms, and ratifies the Declaration except as modified herein.
3. To the extent normal state laws and city policies and procedures impede an efficient response to or compliance with federal and state directives and recommendations, the City Clerk/Administrator, Chief of Police, and their designees are hereby authorized to suspend compliance with those laws, policies, and procedures as authorized by Emergency Executive Order 20-01 and by Minnesota Statutes, Sections 12.32 and 12.37, and to take those actions necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.
4. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage as permitted by Home Rule Charter § 3.02, and it shall be in effect for 30 days from the date hereof.
5. The City Clerk is authorized and directed to file and to post notice of this Ordinance and any emergency regulations as authorized and required by State law and City Code.

Passed and adopted this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
Sara Carlson, Mayor

Attest:

  
Martin D. Schultz, Clerk/Administrator

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, MINNESOTA  
MAYORAL PROCLAMATION  
AND DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, the virus named “SARS-CoV-2,” is a new strain of coronavirus that has not previously been identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person and which causes a disease named “coronavirus disease 2019,” commonly known as “COVID-19,” which is a respiratory disease that can result in serious injury or death; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has been identified by the World Health Organization as a pandemic, and the United States Centers for Disease Control has provided guidance for individuals, healthcare professionals, and businesses to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 21, 2020 the first case of COVID-19 was detected in the United States; on March 6, 2020 the first case of COVID-19 was detected in the State of Minnesota; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning on January 27, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a National Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, Governor Tim Walz declared a Peacetime State of Emergency to authorize and all necessary resources to be used in support of the COVID-19 response; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020 President Donald Trump issued additional guidelines that called for Americans to avoid social gatherings of more than 10 people and to limit discretionary travel; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020 Governor Tim Walz issued Emergency Executive Order 20-04 Providing for Temporary Closure of Bars, Restaurants, and Other Places of Public Accommodation; and

**WHEREAS**, as of March 17, 2020, there are sixty (60) known cases of COVID-19 in Minnesota, including cases in the counties of Anoka, Benton, Blue Earth, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Olmsted, Ramsey, Renville, Stearns, Wright, Waseca, and Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, as of March 17, 2020 the World Health Organization Situation Report confirmed a total of 167,515 cases of COVID-19 in over 150 countries, including 6,606 deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Alexandria’s staff and elected officials have the need to continue to prepare and to work diligently with local, state, and federal partners to maintain situational awareness and respond to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, additional local cases are likely to trigger a more aggressive public health response and are predicted to impact residents of Alexandria and those who work in or travel through the City, including City employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the need for social distancing, the closing of schools, bars, restaurants, and other places of public accommodation, and quarantine methods to stop the spread of COVID-19 are expected to cause significant challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Administrator and other City officials find that this situation threatens the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the community and will cause a significant impact on the ability of public safety personnel to address any immediate dangers to the public as a result of COVID-19; and

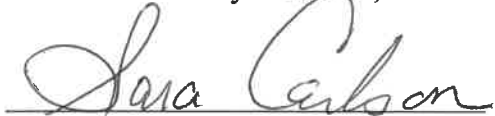
**WHEREAS**, the City Administrator and other City officials find that traditional sources of financial aid, assistance and relief will not be able to compensate for the potential impact of COVID-19, and have determined that the necessary resources to respond to and recover from this pandemic may exceed those resources available within the City of Alexandria, such that additional resources may be needed from other sources.

**NOW, THEREFORE, MAYOR SARA CARLSON OF THE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA PROCLAIMS, DECLARES, REQUESTS, AND DIRECTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Under the authority given by Minnesota Statutes, Section 12.29, declares that a local emergency exists within the City of Alexandria, effective 4:30 p.m. March 17, 2020, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided by Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 12.
2. Directs City Staff to review ordinance and regulatory requirements, operations, civil and legal proceedings, events, and resources to determine whether the foregoing should be adjusted or suspended, and to make recommendations regarding additional emergency regulations to support the employees and residents of the City of Alexandria.
3. Directs all City departments and offices to operate and support the response to this incident, under the direction and coordination of the City Administrator, including implementing new employee protocols, strategies, and processes to ensure that public services are maintained.
4. Directs the City's Administrator and other appropriate City staff to request and coordinate appropriate aid and resources from surrounding jurisdictions, Douglas County, the State of Minnesota, and the Federal government, as needed.
5. Declares, under Minnesota Statutes, Section 13D.021, that the closeness of in-person meetings of the City Council, Planning Commission, and other advisory commissions of the City of Alexandria is not practical or prudent due to the COVID-19 health pandemic and the peacetime emergency declared by Governor Walz pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 12; therefore, from and after March 18, 2020 meetings of the City Council, Planning Commission, and other advisory commissions of the City shall be conducted by telephone or other electronic means unless social distancing of at least six feet between each person can be maintained, and when necessary, City Staff is hereby directed to take such action as may be needed to enable such meetings to occur via telephone or other electronic means pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 13D.021, until such time as it is no longer impractical or imprudent for the City Council, Planning Commission, and other advisory commission to resume in-person meetings without said social distancing.

6. Requests that the City Council convene an emergency session at its earliest convenience to discuss the situation and this declaration. This emergency declaration shall continue for a period of three (3) days from its effective date of March 17, 2020, unless further extended by or with the consent of the City Council pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 12.29, Subd. 1.
7. Orders that this declaration be given prompt and general publicity and that it be filed promptly by the City Clerk/Administrator.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sara Carlson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sara Carlson, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Minnesota