

**City of Electric City  
Grant County, Washington**

**DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY FOR THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE**

**RECITALS:**

1. On March 5, 2020, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) confirmed the first case of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in Grant County, Washington, and the Grant County Health District and the Washington State Department of Health have since worked to identify, contact, monitor and test others in Grant County potentially exposed to COVID-19 in coordination with the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and

2. COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; and

3. The CDC identifies the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 both globally and in the United States as "very high," and has advised that person-to-person spread of COVID-19 will continue to occur globally, including within the United States and Grant County; and

4. The DOH currently indicates there are over 1012 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Washington State and 52 fatalities, and the DOH confirmed localized person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in Washington State, significantly increasing the risk of exposure and infection to Washington State's general public creating an extreme public health risk that may spread quickly; and

5. Seven confirmed cases, and several persons under investigation (PUI) cases of COVID-19 already exist in Grant County, COVID-19 already caused the death of one Grant County resident, and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout Grant County may significantly impact the life and health of our people, as well as our economy, and is a public health disaster that affects life, health, property or the public peace; and

6. 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 January 27, 2020; and

7. On February 29, 2020, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee proclaimed a public health emergency for COVID-19, beginning February 29, 2020; and

8. On March 2, 2020, the Grant County Health District activated its District Operations Center to manage their response to the COVID-19 cases; and

9. On March 12th, 2020, the Grant County Health Officer proclaimed a countywide public health emergency (Per RCW 70.05.070) for COVID-19; and

10. On March 13, 2020, the Grant County Board of Commissioners declared a State of Emergency in Grant County, beginning March 13, 2020; and

11. There is an emergency present which necessitates activation of the Grant County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and utilization of emergency powers granted pursuant to chapter 38.52 RCW and Grant County Code (GCC) 2.32.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. **EMERGENCY DECLARATION.** A state of emergency, specifically covered under Chapter 38.52 RCW, exists within the City of Electric City, Washington, as a result of the spread of COVID-19 in Grant County. The outbreak of COVID-19 and the effects of its extreme risk of person-to-person transmission throughout Washington State and Grant County significantly impacts the life and health of those living and working at Electric City, as well as continuity of operations and government at the City, and is a public emergency that affects life, health, property or the public peace.

2. **EMERGENCY POWERS.** The Mayor or her designee(s) is authorized to invoke all emergency powers and authority set forth in RCW 38.52.070 and GCC 2.32, including without limitation to the right to enter into contract, employ temporary workers, and incur obligations without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (except mandatory constitutional requirements).

3. **STATE AND FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.** The Mayor or her designee(s) is authorized to request all available state and federal assistance necessary to respond to this emergency.

4. **REPORTS TO CITY COUNCIL.** The City Administrator and/or Mayor is directed to provide regular reports regarding actions taken pursuant to this emergency declaration to the Electric City City Council, including updates at each special or regular meeting of the City Council, through the duration of this emergency.

SIGNED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020

  
Diane Kohout, Mayor