



DECLARATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

The following declaration is issued by the Mayor of the Town of Black Mountain, Buncombe County and is in concert with Buncombe County's Declaration of State of Emergency:

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus previously unidentified in humans and which can spread from person to person.

WHEREAS, in response to the global spread of the virus and the disease it causes, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has warned of the high public health threat posed by COVID-19 globally and in the United States and has deemed it necessary to prohibit or restrict travel to areas designated by the CDC; the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency in the United States for COVID-19; and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services ("NCDHHS") confirmed multiple cases of COVID-19 in North Carolina as of March 10, 2020.

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020 the State of North Carolina, through the Office of the Governor, Roy Cooper, issued Executive Order No. 116 titled "Declaration of a State of Emergency to Coordinate Response and Protective Actions to Prevent the Spread of Covid-19."

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a Pandemic, the first caused by a coronavirus.

WHEREAS, in consultation with health care professionals and based upon guidance from CDC and NCDHHS arrangements must be made immediately to take such actions as are deemed necessary and appropriate to ensure that COVID-19 remains

controlled and that residents and visitors in Buncombe County and the Town of Black Mountain will remain safe and secure.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority contained Section 13.2 of the Town of Black Mountain and Article 1A of the N.C.G.S. Chapter 166A, the Mayor of the Town of Black Mountain is authorized to declare a Local State of Emergency for Black Mountain beginning upon adoption of this Declaration and shall remain in effect until rescinded; and

WHEREAS, Buncombe County has issued a Declaration of Emergency and by this declaration, the Town of Black Mountain should consent to the application of that declaration within the municipal limits of the Town of Black Mountain; and

WHEREAS, that the Emergency Management Plan adopted by Buncombe County, and all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements, should be placed in effect and remain in effect until this Declaration expires or is rescinded and all Emergency Management and Health and Medical Services personnel should be ordered to cooperate in the implementation of the provisions of the County's Emergency Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, copies of this Declaration should be disseminated to the mass communications media for publication and broadcast, and that a copy of this Declaration be posted at the Town Hall and other public buildings as appropriate.

WHEREAS, in the judgment the Mayor of Black Mountain in conjunction with the judgment of Buncombe County Emergency Management personnel, arrangements must be made immediately to implement plans for the prevention of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from any and all emergency situations that may result from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of such Emergency Management plans will allow sufficient personnel to be mobilized and positioned in order to:

a) Reduce vulnerability of people and property of the Town of Black Mountain to damage, injury, and loss of life and property;

b) Prepare for prompt and efficient identification, care, and treatment of threatened or affected persons;

c) Coordinate with state and federal agencies for the orderly protection, treatment and rehabilitation of affected persons; and

d) Provide for cooperation and coordination of activities relating to emergency mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery among agencies and officials of the Town of Black Mountain and with similar agencies and officials of other counties, with state and federal governments, with interstate organizations, and with other private and quasi-official organizations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority contained in Ch. 13, Civil Emergencies, of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Black Mountain, and Article 1A of the N.C.G.S. Chapter 166A, the undersigned Mayor of the Town of Black Mountain does hereby declare a Local State of Emergency for the Town of Black Mountain in concert with Buncombe County and further declares that the Emergency Management Plan adopted by Buncombe County together with all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements are in effect and shall remain in effect until this Declaration expires or is rescinded. All emergency management personnel are hereby ordered to cooperate in the implementations of the provisions of the County's Emergency Management Plan and all applicable mutual assistance compacts and agreements, and to furnish assistance thereunder.

I direct that copies of this Declaration be disseminated to the mass communications media for publication and broadcast, and that a copy of this Declaration be posted at Town Hall.

Adopted this the 12th day of March 2020.


Don Collins, Mayor

Attest:


Angela L. Reece, Assistant to Manager/Town Clerk