

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON
EXECUTIVE RULE NO. 388

Declaration of Emergency

- A. Multnomah County is authorized under ORS 401.305 to act as an emergency management agency, including authority to establish policies and protocols for defining and directing responsibilities during times of emergency.
- B. Multnomah County has enacted a local ordinance, Multnomah County Code § 25.410 *et seq.*, pursuant to the authority granted by ORS 401.025 *et seq.*, and the Multnomah County Charter, that provides for executive responsibility in times of emergency and specifically delegates authority to declare a state of emergency to the County Chair, or in the Chair's absence or inability to perform the functions of office, the most senior member of the Board, or in the senior member of the Board's absence or inability, the Sheriff, or in the Sheriff's absence or inability, the Chair's designated interim, or in the Chair's designated interim's absence or inability, the Sheriff's designated interim.
- C. The Chair is authorized pursuant to Multnomah County Code § 7.007, to adopt Executive Rules to implement and enforce provisions of the Multnomah County Code and to carry out the Chair's duties under the Charter.
- D. **The following conditions have resulted in the need for a state of emergency declaration:**
A novel coronavirus causes an illness known as COVID-19. Coronavirus are a group of viruses that can cause respiratory disease, with the potential to cause serious illness or loss of life. On January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a "public health emergency of international concern." On January 31, 2020, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency for the United States. Several states, including Oregon, Washington, and California have declared states of emergency in response to the coronavirus outbreak, as well as some nearby counties, including Washington, Clackamas, and Clark counties. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared that COVID-19 is a pandemic. COVID-19 requires a significant amount of resources at the local level to keep the public and community informed and as safe as possible.
- E. **The following damage to lives and property can be expected from the above conditions:**
The continued spread of COVID-19 could create extreme respiratory illness, loss of life, an extreme public health risk, and significant economic impact in the region.
- F. An emergency is declared for the entire County.
- G. All local resources have not been expended.

NOW, THEREFORE, the following Executive Rule is adopted:

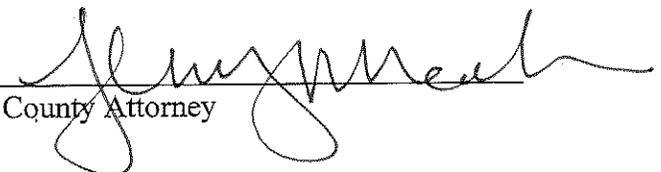
1. The undersigned formally declares a state of emergency for Multnomah County, effective on March 11, 2020, throughout Multnomah County.

2. The Governor of the State of Oregon declared a state of emergency under ORS 401.165 on March 8, 2020, and Multnomah County hereby requests the State to take such steps as are necessary to assist the citizens of Multnomah County who have suffered damage resulting from the emergency described above.
3. The following additional actions are authorized under Multnomah County Code Chapter 25:
 - a. The Director of the Multnomah County Department of Emergency Management shall take all necessary steps authorized by law to coordinate response and recovery from this emergency, including, but not limited to, requesting assistance from the State of Oregon.
 - b. Price gouging prohibited; the value received for goods and services sold within the designated disaster area may not exceed the prices ordinarily charged for comparable goods and services in the same market area at, or immediately before, the time of the emergency.
 - c. The Director of County Management is authorized to suspend purchasing rules and to direct the Multnomah County purchasing manager to make or authorize others to make procurements of goods and services under the authority provided in the County's Public Contracting Review Board rule 47-0280 and ORS 279B.080.
 - d. The Director of County Management is authorized to suspend or modify personnel rules and administrative procedures or enter into memorandums of agreement or exception with union partners if compliance with such provisions would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency or pose hardship on the communities we serve or employees of Multnomah County.
 - e. The Chief Operating Officer may direct County officers and employees to perform or facilitate emergency services.
4. This declaration of emergency shall expire on April, 10, 2020, unless rescinded or extended further.

FOR THE MULTNOMAH COUNTY CHAIR

REVIEWED: COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON:

By: 
Multnomah County Chair

By: 
County Attorney