

**PROCLAMATION OF CIVIL EMERGENCY
CITY OF PARMA, OHIO**

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

April 2, 2020

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person. The virus is spread between individuals who are in close contact with each other (within about six feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It may be possible that individuals can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or eyes; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of COVID-19 a public health emergency of international concern; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, Alex M. Azar II, Secretary of Health and Human Services, determined and declared that a public health emergency exists in the United States in relation to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on February 1, 2020, the Ohio Department of Health issued a statewide Health Alert Network to provide local health departments with updated guidance for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Mike DeWine, signed an Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency for the entire State of Ohio in relation to COVID-19 pursuant to the Governor's authority vested in him by the Constitution, the laws of the State of Ohio and in accordance with Revised Code section 5502.22; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency for the entire State of Ohio urged all citizens to heed to the advice of the Department of Health and other emergency officials regarding COVID-19 in order to protect their health and safety; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Cuyahoga County opened the Cuyahoga County Emergency Operations Center and Joint Information Center to support the coordination and response to COVID-19 within Cuyahoga County; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Cuyahoga County Executive declared a State of Emergency for Cuyahoga County due to this imminent threat of an acutely hazardous disease, posing a high probability of widespread exposure to an infectious agent that poses a significant risk of substantial harm to a large number of people, a large number of serious or long-term disabilities, or numerous deaths; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Cleveland, OH. issued a Proclamation of Civil Emergency because of COVID-19.

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor DeWine announced the closing of all kindergarten through 12th grade schools through April 3, 2020 and the Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton signed an order prohibiting mass gatherings in the state of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared a National Emergency, invoking the Stafford Act and allowing the Federal Emergency Management Agency to coordinate disaster response and aid state and local governments in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Ohio Department of Health issued an amended Director's Order to Limit Access to Ohio Nursing Homes and Similar Facilities; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the Ohio Department of Health issued a Director's Order to restrict the sales of alcohol, food, and all other beverages to carry-out sales and delivery only and issued interim guidance limiting mass gatherings to no more than 50 people; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Ohio Department of Health issued a Director's Order closing all polling locations on March 17, 2020 in the state of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine signed House Bill 197 which provides emergency relief to Ohioans during the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill among other things 1.) Waives state testing requirements for school children this year; 2.) Extends professional licenses for those who cannot get them renewed; 3) Allows local governments to hold public meetings remotely and with transparency; 4.) Extends the income tax deadline to July 15, 2020; 5.) Extends absentee voting by mail until April 28, 2020 and 6.) Provides funding for small businesses, such as day cares and services for the disabled; and,

WHEREAS, on March 30, 2020, Governor DeWine announced the continued closing of all kindergarten through 12th grade schools through May 1, 2020 and the Ohio Department; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has advised those that have possible or confirmed COVID-19 to stay home from work, school, and away from other public places; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Parma and across Cuyahoga County there is a current threat of an acutely hazardous disease, illness, or health condition; specifically, COVID-19, that is believed to be caused by the appearance of a novel infectious agent; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Parma, this threat has already impacted the daily lives of the citizens of the City of Parma and, the need for citizens and City of Parma employees to stay home from work and other public places should they be exposed to the virus substantially impairs the functioning of city government and its ability to protect the lives and property of the citizens of the City of Parma,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tim DeGeeter, Mayor of the City of Parma, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Ohio Constitution, Chapter 733 and Section 5502.21(C) and (F) of the Ohio Revised Code, and Chapter 133 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Parma (“Parma Code”) do hereby order and Proclaim that:

SECTION 1. A State of Emergency is declared for the entire City of Parma to protect the lives and well-being of the citizens of the City as well as those who work, attend school, and visit the City, from the dangerous effects of COVID-19; and,

SECTION 2. I invoke Section 155.14 of the Parma Code titled “EMERGENCY PURCHASES” and Section 155.06 of the Parma Code titled “ENCUMBERANCE OF FUNDS” to allow for entering into contracts for the procurement of materials, supplies, equipment, construction or service in order to procure any necessary resources or supplies to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Parma; and,

SECTION 3. I invoke Section 145.08 of the Parma Code titled “WORK WEEK; COMPENSATORY TIME OFF” and Section 173.24 of the Parma Code titled “TEMPORARY APPOINTMENTS” to allow for the necessary staffing of City personnel in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Parma; and,

SECTION 4. I further, where authorized, suspend all other regulatory provisions of the Parma Code as necessary to allow for the continued ability of the City to meet payroll, process insurance benefits, and pay vendors during the time of the emergency; and,

I sign this Proclamation on April 2, 2020 in Parma, Ohio and it shall take effect immediately and remain in full force and effect until the issuance of a proclamation by the Mayor of Parma that the State of Emergency no longer exists.



Tim DeGeeter
Mayor, City of Parma, Ohio

April 2, 2020
Date