

**WHATCOM COUNTY
PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Health Department and the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office Division of Emergency Management has reported to the Whatcom County Executive, beginning January 21, 2020, that operations and planning for the expanding outbreak of COVID-19 is occurring in Whatcom County, and,

WHEREAS, this incident is a threat to life and public health, and demands immediate action, and,

WHEREAS, persons and public health will be at risk of a massive breakout that requires further efforts be taken to expand operations and planning actions to reduce the threat to life and public health, and

WHEREAS, this constitutes an emergency as defined by the Whatcom County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and necessitates the utilization of powers granted pursuant to the Whatcom County Charter and RCW 38.52.070(2); therefore,

BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE WHATCOM COUNTY EXECUTIVE that an emergency exists in Whatcom County; therefore, Whatcom County departments are authorized to do the following:

- (1) Enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to combat such emergency situations to protect the health and safety of persons; and,
- (2) Provide appropriate emergency assistance to the victims of such disaster; and,
- (3) Other actions, as deemed appropriate by the Health Officer and the Director of Emergency Management or his designee.

Each Whatcom County department is authorized to exercise the powers vested under this proclamation in the light of the exigencies of an extreme emergency situation without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (excepting mandatory constitutional requirements). This Proclamation shall remain in effect until the issuance of a Termination Proclamation by the Whatcom County Executive.

Dated this 10th day of March 2020.



Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive

Recommended by:



Sheriff Bill Elfo
Director of Emergency Management

Approved as to Form:



Deputy Prosecuting Attorney