

**MAYORAL PROCLAMATION OF AN EXTENSION OF CIVIL EMERGENCY
AND ORDER**

**Proclamation No. 2021-17
Extension of Mayoral Proclamation of Emergency and Order**

**City of Yakima, Washington
May 4, 2021**

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services Secretary Alex M. Azar II declared a public health emergency for the novel coronavirus (abbreviated “COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee issued Proclamation 20-05, proclaiming a State of Emergency for all counties throughout the State of Washington as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States and in the state of Washington, and has issued subsequent amendatory Proclamations; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of the Yakima County Department of Health for Yakima County has reported to the Mayor and/or the City Manager and the public that there are a number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Yakima County and the City of Yakima and that that number will likely increase; and

WHEREAS, the Proclamation and Order by the Mayor of the City of Yakima dated March 12, 2020 (here referred to as Proclamation No. 2020-01) declared a state of emergency in the City of Yakima (the “City”) due to COVID-19 in the City of Yakima, established and ordered measures to protect public health and safety, and was ratified by the City Council on March 13, 2020, and subsequent extensions of the Mayoral Proclamation have been issued and ratified by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 disease continues to progress in Yakima County; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor is authorized by Yakima Municipal Code (“YMC”) Chapter 6.06 entitled “Emergency Powers of Mayor, City Council, and City Manager” to take certain actions necessary to protect persons and property in the event of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, RCW 38.52.070(2) on emergency powers and YMC 6.06.030D authorize the City to enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to combat a civil emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor finds it to be in the best interest of the City of Yakima to continue and extend a proclamation of a state of emergency for the City and to establish measures to protect public health and safety; now, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED:

1. Determination of Emergency. A state of emergency currently exists and continues to exist in the City of Yakima as a result of continued effects of COVID-19.

As a result of the occurrence of this outbreak and the emergency that exists, I authorize the City of Yakima to exercise all actions necessary during the state of emergency to protect the safety, health and well-being of the residents of the City, to include but not be limited to:

a. altering the schedule, means, methods and occurrence of City Council meetings to accommodate health concerns and preservation of public safety;

b. altering the schedule, means, methods and occurrence of meetings of City committees, commissions and boards as may be determined to be appropriate to accommodate health concerns and preservation of public safety;

c. authorizing the City to enter into contracts and obligations necessary to respond to the declared emergency to protect the health, welfare and property of the City's residents and to provide emergency assistance as required, and to otherwise suspend requirements for bidding processes and formalities otherwise required by law unless mandated by Constitutional requirements in order to respond to the emergency that exists; and

d. authorizing the City to utilize alternative methods of conducting all formal bid openings, and waiving the requirements of Yakima Municipal Code Chapter 1.80.020 for public bid openings while the declared emergency is in effect. Bid tabulations shall be made available to all bidders, or upon request, within a reasonable amount of time after bid openings.

2. Subsequent Orders. The Mayor is authorized to issue subsequent Orders which are additionally necessary to address the present situation.

3. Circulation. A copy of this Proclamation and Order shall be sent to the Governor of the State of Washington and to the County Commissioners of Yakima County.

4. Presentation, Ratification, Termination. This Proclamation and Order shall at the earliest practicable time pursuant to YMC 6.06.030 be presented to the City Council for ratification and confirmation, modification, or rejection, but in no event more than seventy-two (72) hours after the proclamation of this Order, and if rejected, shall be void. This Proclamation and Order shall remain in effect until such time as it is removed by a subsequent City Proclamation, Order or Resolution when it is determined that the extraordinary measures are no longer required for the protection of the public peace, and safety and welfare, or when the City Council shall either modify, renew or discontinue this Proclamation and Order; or until 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, whichever occurs first.

DATED this 4th day of May, 2021.

Patricia Byers
Mayor of the City of Yakima