



## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**

March 15, 2020

**COVID-19 EMERGENCY DECLARATION,  
CITY OF BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA**

Bismarck, N.D.

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a severe respiratory illness, caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, a new strain of coronavirus that is spread from person to person, posing a threat to the health and safety of the residents of the City of Bismarck; and

WHEREAS, no drug or vaccine is currently available to treat or prevent COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a national public health emergency for COVID-19 on January 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump issued a declaration of a national emergency due to the growing COVID-19 crisis in the United States; and


WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Doug Burgum issued a declaration of a state emergency in response to the public health crisis resulting from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, Bismarck City Ordinance 2-08-03 provides that the President of the Commission has the power to declare a local disaster emergency

WHEREAS, preparedness, response and recovery from the COVID-19 virus requires a whole-of-government and whole-of-community approach across all governments as well as private and nonprofit sectors, and the virus has the risk of substantially endangering the health, safety and property of the citizens of Bismarck.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the President of the Board of City Commissioners does declare a state of emergency exists in the City of Bismarck, North Dakota in response to the public health crisis resulting from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

DATED at Bismarck, North Dakota this 15th day of March, 2020.



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Steve Bakken, President  
City of Bismarck Commission