DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY
CITY OF URBANA, OHIO
Executive Order #100-1-20 (2020-01)

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 new 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, testing by the Department of Health confirmed that three (3) patients were positive for COVID-19 in the State of Ohio, creating a potentially dangerous condition which may affect the health, safety, and welfare of citizens of Ohio; 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 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, the Urbana Board of Health declared a Public Health Emergency 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 a large number of death; 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 14, 2020, the Ohio Department of Health issued an amended Director’s Order to require health screening for admission to the state operated psychiatric hospitals and Ohio Department of Youth Services facilities and issued a Director’s Order closing all K-12 schools in the state of Ohio; 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 (since reduced to 10); 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 22, 2020, the Ohio Department of Health Director issued a ‘Stay at Home Order’; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020, the Governor of the State of Ohio signed into law Am. Sub. H.B. 197, which, among other actions, modified the Open Meetings Act, provided for teleconference and video conference for attendance at public meetings, and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, President Donald J. Trump approved a request for major disaster Declaration for the State of Ohio, and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020, the Stay-at-Home Order originally in place until April 6, 2020 was revised & extended to May 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, currently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) lists over 213,000 cases in the United States of COVID-19 and over 4,500 deaths; and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio has 2,500 confirmed cases including 4 in Champaign County, 2 of which are in the City of Urbana, resulting in orders for quarantine of two (2) members of the Urbana Fire Division, and

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio, Champaign County, and the City of Urbana are currently experiencing “community spread” of the virus that causes COVID-19; 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 Urbana and across Champaign 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 Urbana, this threat has already impacted the daily lives of the citizens of the City of Urbana and, the need for citizens and City of Urbana 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 Urbana,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, William Bean, Mayor of the City of Urbana, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Ohio Constitution, Article III of the Charter of the City of Urbana, and by the Urbana Codified Ordinances, do hereby order and direct that:

1. A State of Emergency is declared for the entire City of Urbana 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.

2. I hereby suspend all purchasing and contracting requirements contained in Urbana Codified Ordinances including, but not limited to, those contained in Chapters 133 and 145, 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 Urbana.

3. I further suspend the applicable Administrative Regulations and all regulatory provisions of the Urbana Codified Ordinances and 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.

4. All public offices and employees of the City of Urbana are hereby directed to continue to discharge the duties required of them for the duration of the emergency and in the execution of emergency laws, regulations and directives, within the bounds of compliance with applicable local, state, and federal laws.

5. All public meetings, boards and commissions which continue to meet shall comply with the “social distancing” requirements. Efforts should be made to acquire technology to conduct public meetings electronically by appearing via remote access such as video conferencing, so long as all members can be seen and heard, and so long as the meeting is broadcast live to the public.

6. All citizens are called upon and directed to comply with necessary emergency measures, to cooperate with public officials and disaster service forces in execution of emergency operation plans, and to obey and comply with the lawful directions of properly identified officers.

I signed this Executive Order and Proclamation on April 3, 2020 in Urbana, Ohio and it shall take effect immediately and remain in full force and effect until the emergency no longer exists, such time to be determined by the Governor of the State of Ohio as determined by the Director of Health of the State of Ohio and the Executive Director of the Emergency Management Agency of the State of Ohio.

William Bean
Mayor, City of Urbana, Ohio

4/3/2020