

# **MAYOR EXECUTIVE ORDER**

## **NO. 20-02**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services, Governor of the State of Washington and King County Executive have declared national and state emergencies as a result of transmission of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a serious respiratory illness that may result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus; and

**WHEREAS**, the virus has to date proven to be highly contagious with no known cure; and

**WHEREAS**, the Director of Emergency Services for the City of North Bend reported to the Office of the Mayor that conditions relative to the pandemic constitute a threat to the safety and welfare of the citizens and staff of North Bend.

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to North Bend Municipal Code Chapter 2.68 and RCW 38.52.070, the Mayor of the City of North Bend declared an emergency on March 11, 2020 in order to take such actions as may be necessary to protect the public health and safety (“Mayor’s Proclamation”); and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) identifies the public health threat as “high”, and on March 11, 2020 declared a global pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, the North Bend City Council ratified and confirmed the Mayor’s Proclamation;

**WHEREAS**, the City of North Bend’s Emergency Operations Center (“EOC”) was activated on March 17, 2020.

**WHEREAS**, the City performs essential functions such as public safety, delivery of water and wastewater treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, the risk to City employees is real and the infection of just one employee may cause the mandatory quarantine of essential employees; and

**WHEREAS**, in the event of community transition within the City of North Bend proactive measures are being taken to protect employees and the public;

**WHEREAS**, it is critical to public safety of citizens, staff and others and for the economic future and protection of our businesses, that effective and immediate actions be implemented by the Mayor under his executive authority to address this pandemic threat.

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19, its significant progression in Washington State and the high risk it poses to our most vulnerable

populations, I have issued Executive Order No. 20-01 and will be issuing this Executive Order No. 20-02, exercising my emergency powers by closing certain active recreational areas in all parks and open spaces within the city limits of the City of North Bend.

**WHEREAS**, with heavy use in parks, it is necessary to close playgrounds, skate parks, sports courts, BMX bike tracks, ballfields and picnic shelters in order to follow the public health recommendations of practicing social distancing;

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH BEND, WASHINGTON, BY THE POWER VESTED IN HIM BY THE CONSTITUTION AND STATUTES OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON DOES HEREBY, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, ORDER AND DIRECT:**

**Section 1. Closing of Playgrounds and Active Recreation Areas.** Playgrounds, sports courts, skate parks, BMX bike parks, ballfields and picnic shelters shall be closed immediately. This closure includes all basketball and tennis courts, ballfields when used for group sport activities but not for passive walking, relaxation or picnics, and all other active recreation areas where people may be in close contact. Parks, open space and trails shall remain open for walking and activities that do not require close proximity and allow for the recommended social distancing of a minimum of six feet (6') between people. Restrooms will remain open to allow users the ability to wash their hands as recommended by public health authorities.

**Section 2. Parks Included.** This Executive Order shall apply to all public parks located within the corporate limits of the City of North Bend whether owned or operated by the City of North Bend, Si View Metropolitan Park District or by a homeowner's association.

**Section 3. Signage.** Staff is directed to place signs at playgrounds and active recreation areas advising the public of this closure.

**Section 4. Violations.** Violations of this order may result in civil infractions being issued and fines up to \$500 for each violation.

DATED this 23rd day of March, 2020

CITY OF NORTH BEND



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Mayor Rob McFarland