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CLERK OF COURT
LANCASTER, SC
2020 MAR 25 PM 1:52

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA (EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1653
COUNTY OF LANCASTER (

**LANCASTER COUNTY COUNCIL DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY THREAT OF THE
NOVEL CORONA VIRUS ("COVID-19"), EFFECTIVE MARCH 23, 2020**

WHEREAS, the Governor of South Carolina, by Executive Order 2020-08 has declared that a state of emergency exists by virtue of the threat posed by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus ("COVID- 19"); and

WHEREAS, Lancaster County has taken, and must continue to take, all necessary and appropriate actions in proactively preparing for and promptly responding to the COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as cases of COVID- 19 increase, causing an imminent threat to the citizens and visitors of Lancaster County, it is necessary for the County to implement emergency planning for anticipated problems and prepare for emergency actions needed to confront the challenges of this public healthf emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, in accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws Title 4, Article 9 Section 130 and Lancaster County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Lancaster County declares that a state of emergency exists, and that the threat thereof is imminent, and extraordinary emergency measures are deemed necessary to cope with the existing and anticipated situation. Lancaster County has implemented a COVID-19 operations plan effective Monday, March 23, until further notice.

1. The County Administrator is authorized to take any necessary actions for protections of the health, safety and welfare of Lancaster County citizens and visitors including but limited to the following:
 - a. Utilize all available resources of county and municipal government as reasonably necessary to cope with the COVID-19 emergency; and

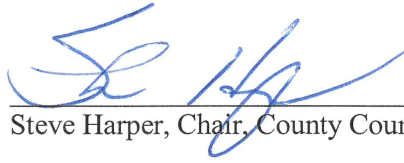
- b. Transfer the direction, personnel or functions of county departments and agencies or units thereof for purposes of facilitating or performing emergency services as necessary or desirable; and
 - c. Contract, requisition and compensate for goods and services from private sources; and
 - d. Prescribe routes, modes of transportation and destinations in connection with evacuations or relocations, if any; and
 - e. Suspend or limit nonemergency activities and prohibit public assemblies within County-owned or leased facilities; and
 - f. Any and all other actions deemed necessary for the preservation of the health, safety and welfare of citizens, residents, and visitors of Lancaster County, South Carolina.
2. The Chairman of Lancaster County Council is authorized to postpone and/or reschedule meetings of Lancaster County Council during the declared state of emergency but only after consultation with members of County Council, County Administrator, and the Clerk to Council. Said postponement or rescheduling will be in accordance with the provisions of the South Carolina Home Rule Act and the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.
3. It is further authorized by this emergency ordinance that the Lancaster County Council Agenda may be reduced to address the ongoing health emergency itself and those matters of business of immediate nature. Public attendance may be discouraged and public comments may be eliminated in the interest of public safety and to reduce public exposure to COVID-19 virus. The County will make every effort to make County meetings accessible via the internet, with such services being linked through the County's website.

This ordinance will remain in effect for the duration of the Governor's Emergency declaration unless sooner terminated by Lancaster County Council, or upon the sixty-first (61st) day after the effective date of this emergency declaration.

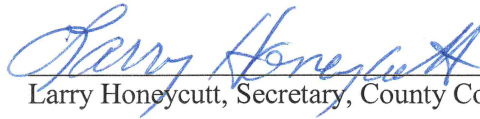
Effective the 23rd day of March 2020, in the County of Lancaster, South Carolina.

SIGNATURES FOLLOW ON NEXT PAGE.

LANCASTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

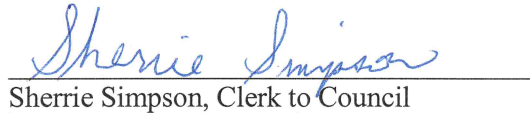


Steve Harper, Chair, County Council



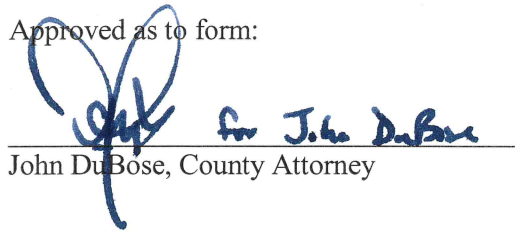
Larry Honeycutt, Secretary, County Council

ATTEST:



Sherrie Simpson, Clerk to Council

Approved as to form:



John DuBose, County Attorney