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LANCASTER, SC

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA (EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1660
COUNTY OF LANCASTER (

LANCASTER COUNTY COUNCIL EXTENSION OF A DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY THREAT OF THE NOVEL CORONA VIRUS ("COVID-19"), EFFECTIVE APRIL 27, 2020

WHEREAS, the Governor of South Carolina, by Executive Order 2020-08 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 of April 16, 2020, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control has reported at least 3,931 cases of COVID-19 in South Carolina and 109 deaths as a result of COVID-19, with 71 cases and 2 deaths occurring here in Lancaster County; and

WHEREAS, as of April 16, 2020, the World Health Organization reported almost 2 million COVID-19 cases globally, of which 130,885 have resulted in death; and

WHEREAS, as cases of COVID- I9 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 health emergency.

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Lancaster County Council enacted Emergency Ordinance No. 2020 – 1653 declaring a public health emergency in response to the public safety threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to spread and is not expected to peak in the State of South

Carolina until late April or early May; and

WHEREAS, Lancaster County Council believes that the prior declaration of a public health emergency, Ordinance No. 2020-1653, may expire before the public health emergency posed by COVID-19 has subsided and before it is safe for Lancaster County to return to normal operating procedures;

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, that will remain in effect 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 27th day of April 2020, in the County of Lancaster, South Carolina.

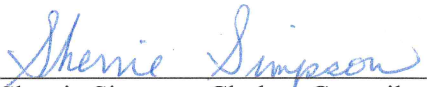
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LANCASTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

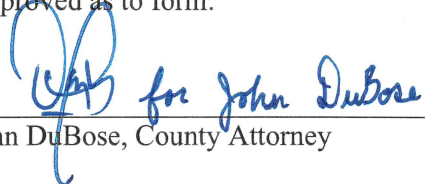

Steve Harper, Chair, County Council


Larry Honeycutt, Secretary, County Council

ATTEST:


Sherrie Simpson, Clerk to Council

Approved as to form:


John DuBose, County Attorney