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Issuer: City of Saint Paul, Minnesota (Office of the Mayor; Emergency Management)

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Text captured from the City page on 2026-09-26 (the City page carries the full text of each Emergency Executive Order); the complete page capture is filed as the companion compendium exhibit in this folder.

City of Saint Paul Emergency Executive Order 2020-1 (March 17, 2020)

Executive Order March 17, 2020-01

EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-1

I, Melvin Carter III, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, on March 17, 2020, by the authority vested in me by Saint Paul Administrative Code Section 13.02, issue the following Executive Order:

The City of Saint Paul, along with the State of Minnesota are preparing for the impact of COVID-19 commonly known as the Coronavirus. Currently, there are 60 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State of Minnesota, with 11 of those cases existing in Ramsey County, so the risk of spreading COVID-19 is higher in the City of Saint Paul than in many other communities in Minnesota. The newest cases include individuals who have no known connection to international travel or contact with infected individuals. COVID-19 has become "community spread," which means that someone has become infected with the virus, but health officials aren't sure where, or how, the individual was infected. In response to this development, the City of Saint Paul must take additional proactive measures.

On March 16, 2020, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued guidance that large events and mass gatherings contribute to the spread of COVID-19. In accordance with the CDC's recommendation, the Minnesota Department of Health recommends that in order to protect the public's health and slow the rate of transmission of COVID-19, the following events should be postponed or canceled across the state of Minnesota: events where fifty (50) or more people would gather, smaller events (fewer than 50 people) that are held in crowded auditoriums, rooms, or other venues that do not allow social distancing of 6 feet per person, and events with more than 10 people where the majority of participants are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

On March 16, 2020, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz issued Executive Order 20-04, which ordered certain places of public accommodation closed to ingress, egress, use, and occupancy by members of the public. For the purpose of Executive Order 20-04, "place of public accommodation" means a business, or an educational, refreshment, entertainment, or recreation facility, or an institution of any kind, whether licensed or not, whose goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations are extended, offered, sold, or otherwise made available to the public.

On March 15, 2020, the City of Saint Paul declared a local emergency pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 12, and Saint Paul Legislative Code, Chapter 13 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

No adequate regulation presently exists and I, as the Mayor of Saint Paul, have a responsibility to implement measures that will aid in preventing the spread of COVID-19 to protect the public's safety, health, and welfare in Saint Paul and throughout Minnesota;

For these reasons, I promulgate and order as follows:

The City of Saint Paul, in keeping with the recommendation of the CDC, will not participate in or host mass gatherings of larger than fifty (50) people until further notice. Effective Wednesday, March 18, 2020, the City of Saint Paul will not permit any gatherings of fifty (50) persons or more to take place on any City owned or controlled property. This restriction will remain in effect until such time as CDC guidelines suggest otherwise.

The City of Saint Paul recommends and encourages the cancellation or postponement of all large community events/gatherings of fifty (50) persons in Saint Paul until such time as CDC guidelines suggest otherwise. Events/gatherings of any size should only be continued if they can be carried out with adherence to guidelines for protecting vulnerable populations, hand hygiene, and social distancing (6 ft).

The City of Saint Paul will review all permits issued for large community events/gatherings involving fifty (50) persons or more to determine if the event/gathering presents a public health risk and should be cancelled/postponed as a result of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Pursuant to Chapter 13 of the Saint Paul Administrative Code, and consistent with Chapter 12 of Minnesota Statutes, this Executive Order is in effect immediately upon my signature, and, if not sooner rescinded, every such regulation contained herein shall expire at the end of forty (40) days after its effective date or at the end of the declared local emergency to which it relates, whichever occurs first.