

Resolution No. 20-08

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, currently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) lists over 129,000 worldwide cases of COVID-19 in 88 countries and over 4,700 deaths; 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, the State of Ohio is experiencing "community spread" of the virus that causes COVID-19; 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, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; 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, the Ohio Department of Health issued an order prohibiting mass gatherings throughout the State of Ohio; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Governor declared that all K-12 schools throughout Ohio will be closed effective the afternoon of March 16, 2020 and remain closed for a three (3) week period of time; and

WHEREAS, in the cities of Columbus and Worthington, there is an imminent 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 cities of Columbus and Worthington, this imminent threat of an acutely hazardous disease, illness, or health condition poses 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 deaths;

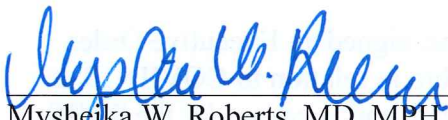
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

Pursuant to the authority granted by Chapter 775 of the Columbus City Health Code, Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3709, and the contract between the Columbus Public Health Department and the City of Worthington, executed on December 2, 2019 and approved on January 27, 2020, a state of public health emergency is declared in the cities of Columbus and Worthington;

SECTION 1: The entire jurisdictions of the cities of Columbus and Worthington are subject to this declaration of public health emergency.

SECTION 2: This declaration shall take effect immediately and remain in full force and effect until terminated after a finding that the occurrence or condition that caused the public health emergency no longer exists or is threatened. In any event, this declaration shall automatically be terminated after thirty (30) days unless renewed by the Board of Health and/or the Health Commissioner.

ADOPTED: March 13, 2020


Mysheika W. Roberts, MD, MPH
Secretary


Mary Ellen Wewers, PhD, MPH, RN
President Pro Tempore