

**PROCLAMATION OF CIVIL EMERGENCY IN GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS:
COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

March 23, 2020

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel (new) coronavirus was first detected in Wuhan, Hubei Province, People's Republic of China; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of COVID-19, a highly contagious respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans, a public health emergency of international concern; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic; 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, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) lists 33,404 cases of COVID-19 in the United States in all 54 states and territories. According to Johns Hopkins University Center for Systems Science and Engineering, in the aggregate there are over 372,563 confirmed worldwide cases, a number that is increasing daily.

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio government, under the leadership of Governor Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Health Director Dr. Amy Acton, has adopted necessary and bold preventive and proactive measures to slow the spread of the virus and treat those affected, and 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, since March 9, 2020, testing by the Ohio Department of Health has confirmed 442 patients who are positive for COVID-19 in the State of Ohio, a number that is increasing daily, creating a potentially dangerous condition which may affect the health, safety, and welfare of citizens of Ohio; and

Greta M. Kearns
Mayor

gkearns@grandviewheights.org

WHEREAS, the Director of the Ohio Department of Health has of Ohio has confirmed that Ohio is experiencing "community spread" of COVID-19, meaning it can be contracted without coming into contact with a person who has travelled to at-risk regions, and threatens to strain our local and regional healthcare systems; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Mike DeWine signed an Executive Order declaring a state of emergency for the State of Ohio in relation to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Executive Order declaring a state of emergency for the entire state urges 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 at least three (3) weeks, and has subsequently issued additional orders to protect public health including closing non-essential businesses, polling locations and limiting mass gatherings; and

WHEREAS, within Franklin County, there is an imminent threat of an acutely hazardous disease, illness, or health condition, specifically, COVID-19, believed to be caused by the appearance of a novel infectious agent; and

WHEREAS, this imminent threat of an acutely hazardous disease, illness, or health condition poses a high probability of widespread exposure and illness to a large number of people.

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther issued Executive Order No. 2020-1 declaring a State of Emergency in the City of Columbus, Ohio, which is contiguous with the borders of the City of Grandview Heights, and in which a large proportion of our residents work; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, Franklin County Board of Health, the local body with primary authority to enforce quarantine and isolation under state law, issued Res. 20-044 declaring a Public Health Emergency pursuant to R.C. 3709.21 in the Franklin County General Health District which includes the City of Grandview Heights; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2020, Director of the Ohio Department of Health Amy Acton, MD, MPH, issued a Stay at Home Order mandating that residents stay home beginning at 11:59 pm today, March 23, 2020 unless conducting Essential Activities, Essential Governmental Functions, or to participate in Essential Businesses and Operations in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

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WHEREAS, the City of Grandview Heights is currently following emergency operations response protocol for a public health emergency in coordination with Franklin County Public Health who has Incident Command over the situation, and Franklin County Emergency Management Agency, both of whom are in daily communication with Grandview Heights Fire/Emergency Medical Services and Police Departments regarding the situation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grandview Heights, under my leadership and in consultation with the Directors of all City Departments, has been preparing and implementing measures to maintain critical public safety infrastructure and City government capacity to deliver essential public safety services during the COVID-19 pandemic, including but not limited to enhanced physical protection and distancing of our first responders in our Police and Fire/Emergency Medical Services departments, procurement and utilization of personal protective equipment, platooning of Service and Parks Department employees, engaging mutual aid and shared services with other agencies, limiting access to City facilities, suspending non-essential programs, placing City staff members on emergency standby status, redeploying City staff members to meet essential needs, installing IT infrastructure for staff to work remotely, and enhancing remote programming and access to resources for our most vulnerable residents; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Grandview Heights, the COVID-19 pandemic has already impacted the daily lives of residents and continues to threaten the capacity of City government and its ability to protect the lives and property of residents and to keep the public peace;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greta M. Kearns, Mayor of the City of Grandview Heights, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Ohio Constitution, the Charter of the City of Grandview Heights, and Section 121.01 of the Ordinances of the City of Grandview Heights, do hereby order and proclaim that:

SECTION 1. A State of Civil Emergency is declared for the entire City of Grandview Heights to protect the lives and well-being of residents and those within our borders from the dangerous effects of COVID-19.

SECTION 2: I hereby suspend all purchasing and contracting requirements during this Civil Emergency pursuant to Section 161.01 of the Ordinances of the City of Grandview Heights to allow for entering into contracts for the procurement of materials, supplies, equipment, construction or service in order to procure any necessary resources or supplies to protect the health, safety and welfare of residents of the City of Grandview Heights and those within its borders.

SECTION 3: I further suspend all regulatory requirements of the Ordinances of the City of Grandview Heights as necessary to allow the City to meet payroll, process benefits, and pay vendors during this time of Civil Emergency.

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SECTION 4: I hereby direct all residents who have a fever and/or other symptoms consistent with COVID-19 to remain at home and self-quarantine, with the exception of traveling to obtain necessary medical care, until cleared by a medical professional, and to prohibit visitors other than those who have an essential need to visit.

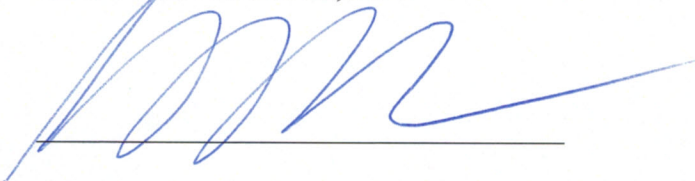
SECTION 5: I hereby direct all residents to strictly curtail non-essential outings, conserve resources, and follow the orders and guidance of Governor DeWine and the Director of the Ohio Department of Health including staying at home and social distancing.

SECTION 6: I hereby encourage all residents to remain calm while following the guidance of Ohio Department of Health officials, and to do everything within their power to protect the public health and to assist those most vulnerable in our community and region, including those of advanced age and with pre-existing health conditions.

This Proclamation has been filed with the Clerk of Council and posted at the Municipal Building pursuant to Section 121.01 of the Ordinances of the City of Grandview Heights, and shall take effect immediately, remain in full force and effect and not expire until the emergency no longer exists, such time to be determined by the Governor of the State of Ohio as determined by the Director of Health of the State of Ohio and the Executive Director of the Emergency Management Agency of the State of Ohio.

This order shall be in full force and effect after my signature is affixed to this document.

ADOPTED: March 23, 2020



Greta M. Kearns, Mayor of Grandview Heights