PRESS RELEASE

ATTENTION: EDITORS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 19, 2020

Contact:
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Mayor Andrea Wood
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PROCLAMATION

BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF PATAGONIA, ARIZONA

DECLARING AN EMERGENCY IN THE TOWN OF PATAGONIA TO ADDRESS COVID-19

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on January 30, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak on January 31, 2020, the World Health Organization officially declared a pandemic due to COVID-19 on March 11, 2020, and the Governor of Arizona declared an emergency due to COVID-19 and issued Executive Order 2020-07 providing Proactive Measures to Protect Against COVID-19 on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, Governor Doug Ducey and School Superintendent Kathy Hoffman announced a statewide closure of Arizona schools from Monday, March 16, 2020 through Friday, March 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in accordance with its guidance for large events and mass gatherings, recommended that for the next 8 weeks, organizers (whether groups or individuals) cancel or postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States, and today adjusted that directive to 10 people or more; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the President of the United States of America, Donald J. Trump, issued "The President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America: 15 Days to Slow the Spread," which recommends that all individuals avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people; and

WHEREAS, I sincerely encourage our community to come together and follow the guidelines provided by the CDC and the President of the United States, and I am optimistic that as we come together as a community, we can reduce the risk of our residents contracting and spreading the COVID-19 virus.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to A.R.S. § 26-311 and Patagonia Town Code Section 2-2-4 (E), the Mayor of the Town of Patagonia, Andrea Wood, hereby declares a local emergency in the Town of Patagonia, Arizona.
IT IS PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that in order to flatten the curve of the spread of the COVID-19 virus, keep our hospitals from becoming overwhelmed, and maximize available funding, as follows:

1. Public gathering places, such as bars, clubs, libraries, gyms, and other places where groups in excess of 10 congregate, are asked to take measures to implement social distancing; and

2. All restaurants, food courts, cafes, coffeehouses, retail food facilities, and other similar businesses and establishments are asked to take measures to implement social distancing, and increase the use of delivery service, window service, drive through service, or drive-up service, and to use precautions in doing so to mitigate the potential transmission of COVID-19, including social distancing; and

3. Members of the public are urged to

   a. use social distancing and avoid groups of ten or more people;

   b. avoid contact with those with elevated risks associated with COVID-19; and

   c. stay home and contact your medical provider if you or others in your household feel sick; and

   d. stay home and away from other people if you are an older person and/or you have a serious underlying condition that can put you at increased risk (for example, a condition that impairs your lung or heart function or weakens your immune system); and

   e. practice good personal hygiene, such as regularly washing your hands, avoid touching your face, sneezing into a tissue or the inside of your elbow, and frequently disinfecting.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the Town of Patagonia on this 19th day of March, 2020.

Andrea Wood, Mayor

Attest:  

Ron Robinson, Town Clerk