

**DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY
BY THE CITY OF STAUNTON
LOCAL DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared novel coronavirus a public health emergency of international concern;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the WHO characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Governor of Virginia declared a state of emergency, to prepare and coordinate Virginia's response to the potential spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a proclamation declaring a national emergency concerning the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak;

WHEREAS, exigent circumstances exist;

WHEREAS, the occurrence and/or threat of COVID-19 virus will or may result in substantial injury or harm to the population and/or substantial damage to or loss of property and/or natural resources, all as broadly construed, and may involve governmental action beyond that authorized or contemplated by existing law because governmental inaction for the period required to amend the law to meet the exigency would work immediate and irrevocable harm upon the citizens or the environment of the Commonwealth or some clearly defined portion or portions thereof, such as the City of Staunton, including but not limited to injury and/or harm to the public health or safety of persons in the City of Staunton, the fiscal, financial, and/or budgetary interests of the City of Staunton, and of the City of Staunton's constituents or of affiliated or associated personnel of other public bodies of the City of Staunton, public services in the City of Staunton, and operational and decision-making functions in the City of Staunton, all constituting an emergency under the application of the provisions of Virginia Code § 44-146.16;

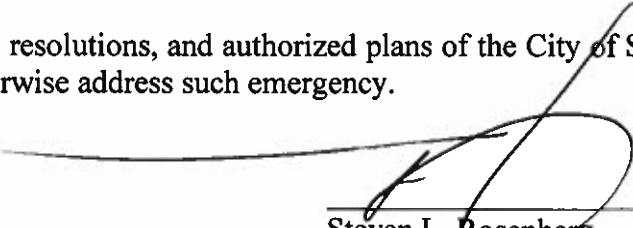
WHEREAS, such conditions and considerations necessitate the declaration of the existence of a local emergency, to the fullest extent permitted by law; and

WHEREAS, these recitals are an integral part of this declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to Virginia Code § 44-146.21, subject to confirmation by the Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting or at a special meeting within fourteen (14) days of this declaration, whichever occurs first, Steven L. Rosenberg, City Manager and Emergency Management Director for the City of Staunton, Virginia, **DECLARES** the existence of a **LOCAL EMERGENCY** in the City of Staunton, to the fullest extent permitted by law; and

IT IS FURTHER DECLARED AND ORDERED that, to the fullest extent permitted by law, during the existence of such emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the Local Emergency Management Director and local emergency services planning organization or committee and City of Staunton staff and others shall be those prescribed by state and other law

and the ordinances, resolutions, and authorized plans of the City of Staunton in order to mitigate the effects and otherwise address such emergency.



Steven L. Rosenberg,
City Manager and
Emergency Management Director

Date: March 16, 2020

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Attest: 

Suzanne F. Simmons, Clerk of Council