



**King County**

## **PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, Public Health—Seattle & King County reported to me that Public Health activated the Public Health Departmental Emergency Operations Center on January 21, 2020 for a significant health emergency caused by novel coronavirus, or COVID-19, which is new to humans and can cause serious infections, including pneumonia; and

**WHEREAS**, in the world as of 03/01/20 there are 87,470 cases, 2,990 fatalities as a result of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, in King County as of 03/01/20 there have been 21 people under investigation (PUI), 6 cases and 1 fatality as a result of COVID-19 and

**WHEREAS**, Public Health – Seattle & King County has been responding to the COVID-19 outbreak since January 21, 2020 including: assessing possible cases of novel coronavirus and providing services to help people awaiting testing to remain in isolation; monitoring people in quarantine who are at elevated risk of developing COVID-19 due to travel or close contact with confirmed cases of coronavirus; tracing contacts of people who are under investigation for possible coronavirus infection; and providing wrap-around services.

**WHEREAS**, Public Health – Seattle & King County has been collaborating closely with experts from the CDC and colleagues at the Washington Department of Health to share the latest information and guidance for healthcare providers and the public regarding the risk to travelers, and contacts of known cases, the identification and management of possible cases, and prevention recommendations.

**WHEREAS**, Seattle-Tacoma International Airport is one of the eleven airports in the United States to receive and process travelers from the affected region where the COVID-19 outbreak originated.

**WHEREAS**, this emergency may become a pandemic.

**WHEREAS**, Governor Jay Inslee declared a state of emergency in response to the new cases of COVID-19 in Washington state on February 29, 2020.

**WHEREAS**, as described in SECTION 2 of this Proclamation, the situation is sufficiently serious that it is necessary that I proclaim an emergency within King County and exercise the Executive's emergency powers; and

**WHEREAS**, I have reviewed the situation, consulted with Executive branch agencies and personnel and verified the emergency cited below, and the necessity for me to take immediate, extraordinary action as outlined in this Proclamation.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, DOW CONSTANTINE, AS KING COUNTY EXECUTIVE, DO PROCLAIM AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:**

## **SECTION 1: EMERGENCY POWERS**

A. As described in SECTION 2, an emergency exists requiring and authorizing me to exercise the emergency powers vested in me as King County Executive by RCW chapter 38.52, and King County Code chapters 2.56 and 12.52, as described in this Proclamation; and

B. Effective upon my signing this Proclamation, I will exercise that authority through the use and direction of County personnel, services and equipment and additional acts necessary to the management of this emergency.

## **SECTION 2: PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY**

A. Based on my review of the present circumstances, the report of Public Health—Seattle & King County, and my consultations with Executive branch agencies and personnel, I find and proclaim that an emergency exists, as defined in K.C.C. 12.52.010.A, due to novel coronavirus, or COVID19, which is new to humans and can cause serious infections, including pneumonia, and that these conditions demand that I exercise the authority assumed in SECTION 1 and take the extraordinary measures stated in SECTION 3, for the immediate preservation of public health and to relieve loss, hardship and suffering.

## **SECTION 3: ORDER**

A. Pursuant to K.C.C. 12.52.030.C.2, I hereby order that the public advertising and competitive procurement requirements of state law and K.C.C. chapter 2.93, and all applicable Executive policies and procedures, and the requirements of K.C.C. chapter 12.19, are waived relating to County contracts for the following purchases or leases:

1. Tangible personal property;
2. Public works as defined by RCW 39.04.010; and
3. Services, including professional or technical services.

B. Pursuant to K.C.C. 12.52.030.C.1, I hereby order that King County Staff may authorize overtime for personnel in positions requiring overtime to adequately respond to the emergency.

C. Pursuant to K.C.C. 12.52.030.C.10, I hereby order that King County staff have the authority to make temporary (up to one year or the duration of the emergency) appointments of personnel to positions that directly respond to the emergency, when the urgency of filling positions prohibits examining applicants through the competitive process, and is imminently necessary for the protection of life and property.

I further reserve the right to issue such further orders as authorized by K.C.C. chapter 12.52 as may be necessary to respond to the emergency proclaimed in SECTION 2.

## **SECTION 4: NOTICE**

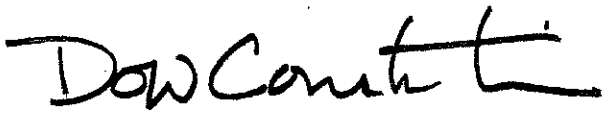
A. A copy of this Proclamation and any order(s) issued hereunder shall be delivered to the Clerk of the Council and each King County Councilmember by email before the execution of any contract or lease authorized under SECTION 3. A copy of this Proclamation and any order(s) issued

hereunder shall also be filed with the Clerk of the Council by no later than 10:00 a.m. on the second business day after issuance. To the extent practicable, a copy of this Proclamation and all emergency orders issued hereunder shall be delivered to all news media within King County and made available to the general public.

**SECTION 5: EXPIRATION AND TERMINATION**

A. This Proclamation shall continue in force and effect until terminated by order of the Executive or action by the County Council by ordinance. However, the orders in SECTION 3.A shall expire twenty-one (21) calendar days after issuance, unless terminated sooner by order of the Executive or action by the County Council by motion, or extended by the County Council by motion.

**DATED this 1st day of March, 2020.**



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DOW CONSTANTINE, Executive  
King County, Washington



## King County

**Dow Constantine**  
King County Executive

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Seattle, WA 98104

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March 1, 2020

The Honorable Claudia Balducci  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

On 03/01/2020, I issued a Proclamation of Emergency in response to the significant health emergency caused by novel coronavirus, or COVID-19. This declaration is in accordance to K.C.C. 12.52.030.

I am hereby forwarding the attached document to be filed with the clerk.

Thank you for your attention. If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Duchin, Health Officer, Public Health--Seattle & King County at 206-263-8171.

Sincerely,

Dow Constantine  
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers  
ATTN: Carolyn Busch, Chief of Staff  
Melani Pedroza, Acting Clerk of the Council  
Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget  
Patty Hayes, Director, Public Health – Seattle & King County  
Jeffrey Duchin, Health Officer, Public Health – Seattle & King County

Caroline Whalen, County Administrative Officer, Department of Executive Services  
(DES)  
Brendan McCluskey, Director, Office of Emergency Management, DES