

STAFF REPORT

City of Lancaster

ED 2
07/27/21

JC

Date: July 27, 2021

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Jason Caudle, City Manager

Subject: **Resolution Confirming the Continued Existence of a Local Emergency**

Recommendation:

Adopt **Resolution No. 21-45**, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, confirming the continued existence of a local emergency in the City of Lancaster, California.

Fiscal Impact:

Staff will return to Council with future revenue, expense, or cost reimbursement appropriations recommendations.

Background:

On January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee of the World Health Organization (“WHO”) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a public health emergency of international concern, and subsequently characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic. The United States Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak on January 31, 2020. On March 4, 2020, the Governor of California declared a state of emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health declared a local and public health emergency related to the COVID-19 outbreak on March 4, 2020. The President of the United States declared a national emergency resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak on March 13, 2020.

On March 17, 2020, the City Council affirmed and ratified a Proclamation of the existence of a local emergency resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The State and Los Angeles County Health Officers issued orders intended to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, including mandating people to stay home except as needed to perform essential services, ordering businesses deemed non-essential to close, and requiring the wearing of face masks. On May 26, July 14, September 8, October 27, and December 8, 2020, and again on January 26, March 23, and May 25, 2021, the City Council adopted Resolutions 20-17, 20-37, 20-46, 20-54, 20-62, 21-01, 21-13, and 21-25, respectively, which confirmed the continued existence of a local emergency.

The number of COVID-19 cases in Los Angeles County is still on the rise. The percentage of residents in the Antelope Valley who have received vaccinations has not yet reached a level that is expected to create “herd immunity,” and as a result, the local public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic remains in effect, and the virus continues to pose a threat to the health and safety of residents in the City of Lancaster.

Staff recommends that City Council adopt **Resolution No. 21-45**, to again confirm the continued existence of the local emergency, as required by the California Emergency Services Act (the “Act,” set forth at Cal. Gov’t. Code §§8550-8668), and, in accordance with the Act, to regularly review the need for continuing the local emergency.

Attachment:

Resolution No. 21-45