

SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY IN AND FOR THE SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT REGARDING COVID-19

WHEREAS, the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701 *et seq.* (the "Act"), provides procedures for statewide and local prevention of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from disasters and emergencies; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Act, an "emergency" is an unexpected event that places life or property in danger and requires an immediate response through the use of state and community resources and procedures, and includes an "emergency epidemic" caused by communicable disease such as pandemic influenza or novel or highly fatal infectious agents; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, Governor Jared Polis declared a state of emergency in response to the novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, to ensure that resources are available to the state to combat the disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, acknowledging its anticipated worldwide spread; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Chair of the Board of the Adams County Commissioners declared a local disaster emergency in Adams County, Colorado, citing the occurrence of a disaster as defined in C.R.S. §24-33.5-703(3) resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, District Staff acted administratively to move to Phase 3 of the District's emergency response plan, including discontinuing contact with the public, staggered shifts for critical employees, telecommuting for those employees whose jobs are conducive to the same, and on-call status at home for other non-essential employees.

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic is causing widespread human and economic impacts within the service area of the South Adams County Water and Sanitation District ("District") and the District is suffering and has suffered a disaster emergency as defined in the Act; and

WHEREAS, the cost and magnitude of responding to and recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic may exceed the District's available resources; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709, declaration of a local disaster emergency will assist and permit access to local emergency funds; federal, state, and county assistance; and adjustments to policies, procedures, and ordinances to ensure the public's health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and in the interests of the public health and safety of the District and its residents to rapidly address community spread of COVID-19 and subsequent cascading impacts, such as economic distress, and to further protect the health and safety of the public by declaring an emergency within its service area; and

WHEREAS, the President of the District, as principal executive officer of the District, is authorized to unilaterally declare a local disaster pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709, and to activate and ratify the emergency management and operations plans of the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. There is hereby declared to be a local disaster emergency in the South Adams County Water and Sanitation District due to the occurrence of imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury or loss of life or property resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage.
2. The effect of this Declaration shall be to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to seek and authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans, and for the President, District Manager, and other appropriate District staff to exercise those functions and be vested with such authority as set forth in C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Declaration shall be effective upon the date and time given below, and shall remain in effect for a period of seven days unless rescinded or extended by the District's Board of Directors prior to expiration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District General Counsel shall forthwith:

1. Publish this Declaration to the public on the District's website; and
2. File a copy of this Declaration with the District's Board of Directors and immediately file copies of this Declaration with the Adams Office of Emergency Management and the State of Colorado Office of Emergency Management.

SIGNED and made immediately effective this 25th day of March, 2020.

**SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY WATER AND
SANITATION DISTRICT**


Mizraim Cordero, President