

PROCLAMATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (HALF MOON BAY CITY MANAGER) OF LOCAL EMERGENCY RELATED TO CZU COMPLEX FIRES

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code Sections 8680.9 and 8558(c), a local emergency is a condition of extreme peril to persons or property proclaimed as such by the local agency affected by a natural or manmade disaster;

WHEREAS, the purpose of a local emergency proclamation is to provide extraordinary police powers, immunity for emergency actions, authorize issuance of orders and regulations, request state or federal assistance, and activate pre-established emergency provisions;

WHEREAS, Half Moon Bay Municipal Code Section 2.25.060.A.1 empowers the City Manager, as the Director of Emergency Services, to proclaim (subject to ratification by the City Council within seven days) the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the City, based on the following:

- 1) On August 19, 2020, the CZU Lightning Complex Fire in San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties forced evacuations of many residents of communities in the unincorporated coastside, many of which are being evacuated to Half Moon Bay;
- 2) Portions of Highways 1, 84 and 35 south of Half Moon Bay have been closed due to the fire, leaving only northbound Highway 1 and eastbound Highway 92 as evacuation routes from Half Moon Bay and the coast; and
- 3) The San Mateo County Board of Supervisors unanimously declared a local emergency on Aug. 19, 2020 to aid in providing resources needed to fight the CZU Lightning Complex Fire, which it deemed the largest fire San Mateo County has seen in a century;
- 4) Half Moon Bay High School has been designated an evacuation check in point for residents forced to evacuate from Pescadero, Loma Mar, and other parts of unincorporated San Mateo and Santa Cruz, where they may obtain water, food and other resources, information and hotel vouchers, as available;
- 5) The City is assisting in the support of wildfire evacuees, lending City staff as well as property and other resources;
- 6) The emergency related to the CZU Lightning Complex fires are compounded by the simultaneous state of local emergency based on the novel coronavirus (named "COVID-19" by the World Health Organization). On March 17, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution No. C-2020-16 proclaiming that a local emergency now exists throughout Half Moon Bay as a result of COVID-19; and

- 7) On August 20, 2020, the Director of Emergency Services (Half Moon Bay City Manager) issued an emergency order temporarily closing City beaches from sunrise August 21 to sunrise August 24, 2020 to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to protect evacuation routes related to the CZU Lightning Complex Fire.

WHEREAS, the above facts give rise to conditions of extreme peril to the safety and health of persons within the City; and

WHEREAS, these conditions are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the City; and the efforts required to prepare for, respond to, mitigate, and recover from the CZU Lightening Complex fires have and will continue to impose extraordinary requirements and expenses on the City, requiring diversion of resources from day-to-day operations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Half Moon Bay is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency now exists throughout the City related to the CZU Lightening Complex fires; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of this City shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinance, and resolutions of this City; and that this emergency proclamation shall expire in seven (7) days after issuance unless confirmed and ratified by the City Council of the City of Half Moon Bay.

DATED this 26th day of August, 2020

By: _____



Bob Nisbet

Director of Emergency Services
City of Half Moon Bay

ATTEST:



Jessica Blair, City Clerk