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NEWS RELEASE

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Beaumont City Council Scheduled to Consider Declaration of a Local Public Health Emergency

Beaumont, CA— On Tuesday, March 17, 2020 the Beaumont City Council is scheduled to consider authorizing the declaration of a local public health emergency amid concerns over the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The declaration allows, among other things, the City Manager, or his designee, the authority to enforce orders of other governmental agencies and qualify for financial assistance for costs associated with responses to the coronavirus epidemic. The declaration of local emergency will not affect the work schedules of police, fire, and utilities employees whose work is required to provide basic and emergency services.

“The health and safety of our community remains our top priority. We have a strong team in place that will continue to monitor the situation and ensure we are taking the proper steps moving forward”, stated Mayor Rey Santos. “The best way to protect yourself and others is by washing your hands, covering your sneeze or cough, staying away from others who are sick, and staying home if you are sick”.

The declaration of local emergency follows precautionary actions taken over the weekend which include the closure of all City buildings, reduction in transit schedules and suspension of all recreation programs in Beaumont.

Future public meetings could be cancelled or delayed in the near future, including City Council meetings. At meetings that do occur, attendees will be encouraged to stay at least six feet away from another person. All public meetings will be streamed via the City’s official YouTube at [BeaumontCa.gov/livestream](https://www.beaumontca.gov/livestream). Residents who do not wish to attend in-person but want to participate in Public Comment are encouraged to email comments to the Deputy City Clerk at nicolew@beaumontca.gov.

The City is encouraging residents to educate themselves about the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), including how to protect themselves and their families, by reviewing resources available at:

Riverside County Public Health: <https://www.rivcoph.org/coronavirus>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>