

City Council Agenda Memo

From: Paul M. Briseno, City Manager
Council Meeting: April 8, 2020
Subject: Extension of COVID-19 Ordinance
Person(s) Responsible: Paul M. Briseno, City Manager

Summary:

The City of Brookings enacted emergency legislation March 23rd until April 8th as a response to the current public health crisis. Staff recommends the extension of this ordinance to May 6th based on new projections that places the peak for South Dakota in August. An amendment is requested to address groups containing ten (10) or more people loitering.

Background:

March 23rd City Council enacted an emergency ordinance with provisions that would expire April 8th. The legislation was in response to the current public health crisis. The passage of the ordinance implements certain measures which have been deemed necessary to slow community spread of the coronavirus. This impacted bars, restaurants, theaters, indoor recreation facilities, salons, barbers, spas, health clubs, and other similar businesses.

Since the implementation of the existing ordinance, Brookings had two cases that were both recovered. Additionally, these cases were not community spread. Across the state, there are over 180 cases with multiple counties within proximity with moderate and substantial community spread.

Item Details:

Recent communication from the Governor's office details modeling that extends South Dakota's COVID-19 peak from May/June to August. Prior projections estimated higher rates of infections. Current efforts across the state are augmenting the rate of growth in coronavirus cases.

The medical profession and other community leaders have been engaged and recommend extending the existing ordinance to mitigate infection rates and continue essential social distancing.

Staff further recommends the following amendments to the existing ordinance:

- Extend the existing ordinance to May 6th

- Amend the ordinance to address groups with 10 or more loitering

Legal Consideration:

None.

Financial Consideration:

The extension of this ordinance impacts revenues, but is necessary to protect the health and well-being of the community.

Options and Recommendation:

The City Council has the following options:

1. Approve as presented
2. Make alternative changes
3. Deny
4. Do nothing

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance as presented.

Supporting Documentation:

1. Proposed REVISED Ordinance 20-005 – Clean
2. Proposed REVISED Ordinance 20-005 – Marked
3. Ordinance 20-005 – approved 03/23/2020