

# City Council Agenda Memo

**From:** Paul M. Briseno, City Manager

**Council Meeting:** April 14, 2020

**Subject:** Stay-at-Home Emergency Ordinance

**Person(s) Responsible:** Paul M. Briseno, City Manager

## **Summary:**

The City of Brookings has numerous plans in place for operational and community response. In March, the City Council passed the existing emergency ordinance that details what residents cannot do. A Stay-at-Home ordinance was requested by Council as the next progression of response to the COVID-19 spread. An ordinance is presented for discussion and potential first reading. Council has the option of tabling the ordinance to a future date when such action is warranted. The specific language detailing what residents **can do** is detailed in the attached ordinance and federal guidelines.

## **Background:**

On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, the City Council enacted the existing Emergency Ordinance 20-005, which was set to expire April 8<sup>th</sup>. This ordinance limited the operation of bars, restaurants, theaters, gyms, casinos, indoor recreational facilities, salons, and barber shops. More recently, the ordinance was revised on April 8<sup>th</sup> to address CDC social distancing recommendations and extended until May 6<sup>th</sup>. These efforts were put into place for the best interests of public health for the Brookings community and designed to reduce the potential spread of the COVID-19 virus. The existing ordinance defines what residents **cannot do**.

A Stay-at-Home Ordinance is requested for implementation should City Council feel existing conditions warrant such measures. The Stay-at-Home Ordinance is more restrictive and limits activity outside of the home to what is absolutely necessary. The first reading of the ordinance would occur April 14<sup>th</sup>; however, rather than placing a second reading five (5) days later, a tabling can occur. The final reading date would be determined by Council decision.

## **Item Details:**

The drafted Stay-at-Home Ordinance was developed utilizing municipal model ordinances and state orders from across the nation. The language is augmented by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

The ordinance would help prevent the spread of COVID-19 by limiting non-essential activities and contact with individuals outside of a person's household. The legislation details what residents **can do**. It outlines which activities, services, and businesses are deemed essential and provides guidelines for what is allowed.

Residents can continue to shop at grocery stores, convenience stores and pharmacies for essential items such as food and medication. Residents may also attend necessary or urgent medical appointments. Residents are encouraged to go outside but must practice social-distancing when visiting trails or other outdoor recreation areas. If social distancing is not possible in these areas, they should be avoided.

Keys to remember while a Stay-at-Home Ordinance is in effect:

- Stay home as much as possible unless completing essential activities.
- You can shop for medicine, gas, repairs, and other essential goods and services.
- You can go to a restaurant for takeout or delivery.
- You can go to the doctor and take care of other essential needs.
- You can exercise outside, including on sidewalks, trails and in public parks. You can enjoy outdoor activities like long walks, bike rides and fishing. Green spaces in parks are open, but City-owned playgrounds and other park equipment like sport courts (basketball, etc.) are closed.
- You can go to work in an essential job. Those jobs are defined the ordinance and CISA List. No special letter or permit is needed to complete these activities.
- You can drive, bike and walk. You don't need special ID or a permit. The Police will not be asking people to prove why they're outside their home.
- You can work from home if you work in a job defined as non-essential. Even if it's an essential job, employers are encouraged to allow employees to work from home if possible.
- Staff are allowed on site even at closed non-essential businesses for basic tasks like maintenance and security.
- You can check on someone in need.
- Stay six (6) feet away from others, for your safety and theirs.

Full descriptions and additional details can be found in the attached Stay-at-Home ordinance and CISA guidance on the essential workforce.

**Legal Consideration:**

None.

**Financial Consideration:**

None.

**Options and Recommendation:**

The City Council has the following options:

1. Approve as presented
2. Deny

3. Do nothing

This item was requested by Council. There is no recommendation by staff as the implementation would be directed by the City Council.

**Supporting Documentation:**

1. Ordinance
2. CISA Guidelines
3. Stay-at-Home Talking Points