

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BEND CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISHING THE COVID-19
CRISIS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – WATER AND SEWER BILL RELIEF FUNDS**

Findings

- A. COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020.
- B. Coronaviruses are a group of viruses that can cause respiratory disease, with the potential to cause serious illness or loss of life.
- C. On March 8, 2020, Governor Kate Brown declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak in Oregon (Executive Order No. 20-03), finding that COVID-19 has created a threat to public health and safety, and constitutes a statewide emergency under ORS 401.025(1). Governor Brown also issued guidance regarding group gatherings and social distancing to minimize potential opportunities for the COVID-19 to spread (Executive Order No. 20-05); and on March 16, 2020 Governor Brown issued guidance regarding the prohibition of on-premises consumption of food and drink, and further reduced the size of group gatherings (Executive Order No. 20-07).
- D. On March 16, 2020, the City Manager declared a Local State of Emergency in the City of Bend as a result of COVID-19 through April 15, 2020, which was ratified by the City Council on March 18, 2020, and submitted to the Deschutes County Commissioners, pursuant to Bend Municipal Code 1.60.015. The City Manager has extended this Local State of Emergency through May 6, 2020, which was ratified by Council on April 15, 2020. Further extensions may occur depending on ongoing direction from the federal government and Governor's office.
- E. On March 23, 2020, Governor Brown issued a Stay Home, Save Lives Order, which, among other things, directed individuals to minimize travel, other than essential travel to or from a home, residence, or workplace; for obtaining food, shelter, essential consumer needs, education, health care, or emergency services; for essential business and government services; for the care of family members, household members, elderly persons, minors, dependents, persons with disabilities, or other vulnerable persons, pets or livestock; travel as directed by government officials, law enforcement, or courts; and other essential travel consistent with the directives of executive orders issued by Governor Brown and guidance from the Oregon Health Authority. (Executive Order No. 20-12).
- F. The crisis resulting from the pandemic has created unprecedented economic consequences across the world, including Bend. The City's Emergency Declaration(s) include authorization to take all necessary steps authorized by law to coordinate response and recovery.

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G. Bend's businesses are in a state of uncertainty and economic strain due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This program will provide assistance to some of those businesses dealing with the disruption and economic consequences of the pandemic, and is authorized through the Emergency Declaration(s) and the authority in Bend Code 1.30 and 1.60.

Based on these findings,

THE CITY OF BEND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

- Section 1. Under the authority of the Administrative Order(s) Declaring a Local State of Emergency in Bend as a Result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, ratified by the City Council, the City Manager is authorized to create and implement a Crisis Assistance Program to provide water and sewer bill assistance to businesses in Bend, consistent with the attached Exhibit A ("COVID-19 Crisis Assistance Program—Water and Sewer Bill Relief Funds") ("Program").
- Section 2. The City Manager is authorized to make changes or amendments to the attached Program as needed to implement and administer it consistent with the intent of this Resolution.
- Section 3. The Program will be funded with \$25,000 from the water fund and \$25,000 from the sewer fund. The Program will be in effect while the Local State of Emergency due to the global pandemic, and any extension(s), continues to exist or until the funding is exhausted, whichever occurs first.

Adopted by a vote of the Bend City Council on April 15, 2020.

Sally Russell, Mayor

ATTEST:

Robyn Christie, City Recorder

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Mary A. Winters, City Attorney