



Legislation Text

File #: 22-0698, Version: 1

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 4, 2022

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: MARK B. JINKS, CITY MANAGER /s/

DOCKET TITLE:

Consideration of Declaration of Local Emergency Extension Through June 30, 2022

ISSUE: Confirmation of the extension of Local Emergency Declaration for COVID-19.

RECOMMENDATION: (1) Adopt the attached amendment to Resolution 2928, Declaration of Local Emergency to extend the emergency through June 30, 2022; and (2) Authorize the Director of Emergency Management to enter into contracts and incur obligations as enumerated in section 44-146.21 of the Code of Virginia.

DISCUSSION: As a result of COVID-19, on March 9, 2020, I issued a Declaration of Local Emergency, so that the City can utilize any State or federal assistance that might become available to address the emergency. The City Council confirmed that Declaration in Resolution 2928 on March 14, 2020, extending the declaration through June 10, 2020. Resolution 2928 was amended on June 9, 2020, to extend the declaration through September 30, 2020. On September 22, 2020, City Council again amended Resolution 2928 to extend the declaration through March 31, 2021, and then again extended it through September 30, 2021. On September 14, 2021, City Council again amended Resolution 2928 to extend the declaration through January 31, 2022. Due to the going severity of the COVID-19 pandemic and its continued impact on the community, I believe it is necessary to again extend the Declaration of Local Emergency. Although the State has terminated its Declaration of State Emergency, Alexandria remains in a very high record-level transmission status in accordance with the measurements used by the CDC. We have seen some of the highest number of new cases in a day than we have seen since the beginning of the pandemic. The variants of the virus continue to make the virus difficult to address and have shown to be much more contagious causing the need for continued mask wearing and social distancing.

I therefore recommend that the Declaration be extended until June 30, 2022, unless sooner amended or rescinded.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Declaration of Local Emergency Extension

STAFF:

Joanna Anderson, City Attorney

Ray Whatley, Acting Emergency Management Coordinator