



CITY OF WILDOMAR

PRESS RELEASE

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APPROVED FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BY: Gary Nordquist, City Manager

Date: March 27, 2020

WILDOMAR TEMPORARILY RELAXES AND SUSPENDS CERTAIN STANDARDS TO HELP BUSINESSES, RESIDENTS

WILDOMAR, CA - Due to the current CoronaVirus (COVID-19) situation, the City of Wildomar has issued an order to temporarily relax and/or suspend certain City enforcement activities to protect businesses and increase housing opportunities in Wildomar. The changes to the activities include relaxed standards for business signage, restrictions regarding construction hours and recreational vehicle parking. The City will also be reducing Business Registration fees.

“We are trying to help out our businesses and residents as much as we can,” said Wildomar Mayor Dustin Nigg. “Relaxing some of our fees and rules is the small part that we can play in helping our community to cope and recover from this crisis.”

The order goes into effect immediately. For a full list of the relaxed/suspended enforcement activities, please visit <http://www.cityofwildomar.org/covid19>.

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About the City of Wildomar: Wildomar is located along Interstate 15 in Southwest Riverside County. Wildomar is a growing community with a population of just over 36,000, comfortably nestled in a valley bordered by a mountain range on the west and rolling hills to the east. For more information regarding the City of Wildomar, visit www.cityofwildomar.org.

For additional information, please call Kimberly Davidson at 951-677-7751, Extension 215, or email kdavidson@cityofwildomar.org



**CITY OF WILDOMAR
DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES ORDER NO. E-2020-01
DATED: MARCH 27, 2020**

**AN ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (CITY MANAGER) OF
THE CITY OF WILDOMAR REGARDING TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN
CITY ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES TO PROTECT BUSINESSES IN THE CITY OF
WILDOMAR AND INCREASE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES**

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Wildomar Municipal Code (“WMC”) Section 2.32.050, as City Manager of the City of Wildomar (“City”), I serve as the Director of Emergency Services.

WHEREAS, In December 2019, reports began spreading worldwide about a flu-like virus first found in China that was significantly more deadly than the flu generally, with the virus becoming known as the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”).

WHEREAS, On March 4, 2020, a State of Emergency was proclaimed by Governor Gavin Newsom.

WHEREAS, On March 10, 2020, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside proclaimed the existence of a local emergency for all of Riverside County in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 in California and in Riverside County.

WHEREAS, March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) classified the spread of COVID-19 internationally as a global pandemic.

WHEREAS, On March 12, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-25-30 with orders including an order that all residents are to heed any orders and guidance of state and local public health officials.

WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, the Riverside County Dr. Cameron Kaiser, Riverside County Health Officer issued: ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE CANCELLING ALL GATHERINGS WITH EXPECTED PRESENCE ABOVE 10 INDIVIDUALS.

WHEREAS, California Government Code Section 8630 empowers the City Council to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a Local Emergency when the City is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity.

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8634 empowers the City to promulgate orders and regulations to provide for the protection of life and property.

WHEREAS, On March 17, 2020, the City Council of the City of Wildomar adopted a Resolution declaring a local state of emergency (“Local Emergency”) which now exists in the City of Wildomar due to COVID-19 which included Section 4 that reads as follows:

Section 4. That the City Manager, as the Director of Emergency Services, is hereby authorized to exercise his powers and duties as provided in section 2.32.060 of the WMC and pursuant to the City’s emergency plan.

WHEREAS, Section 2.32.060(6)(a) of the WMC reads as follows:

In the event of the proclamation of a local emergency as herein provided, the proclamation of a state of emergency by the Governor or the Secretary of California Emergency Management, or the existence of a state of war emergency, the Director is hereby empowered:

a. To make and issue rules and regulations on matter reasonable related to the protection of life and property as affected by such emergency; provided, however, such rules and regulations must be confirmed at the earliest practicable time by the City Council;

WHEREAS, On March 19, 2020 the Governor issued Executive Order N-33-20 mandating that all Californians stay home or at their place of residence except in order to maintain critical infrastructure sectors.

WHEREAS, Many businesses and commercial establishments do not constitute critical infrastructure sectors and therefore these businesses have been ordered to close to the public and cease or drastically reduce operations during the effective period of Executive Order N-33-20.

WHEREAS, With the mandatory closure of so many businesses and commercial establishments to the public, such businesses will be unable to conduct business which may render them unable to pay City fees or take City-required action that involve the expenditure of resources, and compliance with certain City requirements may result in increased financial hardship for these businesses.

WHEREAS, Individuals who are in high-risk categories for COVID-19 or who need to isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19 may face difficulties separating themselves from others who reside in the same home, and occupying an accessory dwelling unit or recreational vehicle may protect the health of those individuals and their family members.

WHEREAS, As affected by the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, it is necessary to issue and implement this Director of Emergency Services Order (“Order”) to protect property which I am issuing this Order pursuant to the authority granted to me by all applicable laws including, but not limited to, Government Code Section 38791 and WMC Chapter 2.32.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES OF THE CITY OF WILDOMAR DOES HEREBY ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Signage. No action shall be taken by the City to enforce the following WMC sections pertaining to temporary signs from the date of this Order until this Order is repealed or rescinded:

A. Section 17.254.030.A.2, prohibiting the placement of temporary signs in the public right of way.

B. Section 17.252.030.A, prohibiting outdoor advertising displays, and Section 17.252.060.B, prohibiting off-site signs of any kind, to the extent that these sections prohibit temporary off-site signs.

C. Sections 17.252.060.A and 17.254.070.A, prohibiting commercial inflatable devices and feather banners/signs.

D. Sections 17.252.060.C and D and 17.254.070.C and D, prohibiting commercial signs affixed to fences/walls and roofs.

E. Section 17.252.040.F, requiring on-site signs for public hearing notifications.

SECTION 2. Fees. The following fees shall be waived or reduced, as indicated below, from the date of this Order until this Order is repealed or rescinded:

A. Business registration fees required by Section 5.68.100 are reduced by 50%.

B. Development impact fees required by Section 3.44.060.B for accessory dwelling units are waived.

C. City staff costs associated with application processing fees for General Plan Initiation Process (GPIPs) under Section 17.08.010 and Pre-Application Reviews (PARs) under Chapter 17.214 are waived.

SECTION 3. Stormwater Inspections. Order No. R9-2013-0001, as amended by Orders R9-2015-0001 and R9-2015-0100, of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (“MS4 permit”) requires stormwater inspections to be conducted annually for “Priority Development Projects” (as defined in Provision E.3.b of the MS4 permit) and every 5-years for other development. The City’s practice has been to require annual inspections for all businesses at the time of business registration and renewal.

From the date of this Order until this Order is repealed or rescinded, the City will not require stormwater inspections for a business unless the inspection is required by the MS4 permit.

SECTION 4. Construction Activities. Notwithstanding Sections 15.04.010 and 9.48.020.1 of the WMC, construction activity may occur Monday through Saturday between 6 am and 8 pm unless approval is obtained from the City Engineer or Building Official for construction activities to occur outside of these days and hours. This Section shall not be construed as permitting construction activity to occur in violation of any mitigation measure imposed upon a project to mitigate a potentially significant environmental impact, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act.

SECTION 5. Recreational Vehicle Parking. No action shall be taken by the City to enforce Section 10.20.160 of the WMC placing time limits on recreational vehicle parking on City streets. This section shall not be construed as limiting the City's ability to issue a citation to a recreational vehicle parked on a City street that is in violation of any other provision of the WMC or that constitutes a public nuisance.

SECTION 6. Effective Date. This Order shall take effect immediately and remain in effect until repealed, rescinded or superseded by action of the City Council.

SECTION 7. Certification. The City Clerk shall certify the adoption of this Order and shall cause a certified Order to be filed in the Office of the City Clerk.

ADOPTED this 27th day of March, 2020.



Gary Nordquist,
Director of Emergency Services
City Manager

Attest:



Janet Morales
Acting City Clerk

