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ORDINANCE NO. 019438

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE RE-ENACTING EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 019035 EXTENDING A DISASTER DECLARATION DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas declared a state of disaster and the President of the United States of America declared a national emergency in relation to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Mayor signed a Local Emergency Declaration and requested the aid of the State Government pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to El Paso City Code Section 2.48.020(C), a local state of disaster declaration may not be continued or renewed for a period in excess of seven days except by or with the consent of City Council; and

WHEREAS, City Charter Section 3.10 allows for the City Council to adopt an emergency ordinance to meet a public emergency affecting life, health, property or the public peace; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the City Council adopted Emergency Ordinance No. 019035, Extending a Disaster Declaration Due to a Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, since March 2020, El Paso City Council has re-enacted Emergency Ordinance No. 019035 monthly, with the most recent re-enactment taking place on January 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, despite local COVID-19 cases continuing to decline, the risk of contracting COVID-19 remains and new variants of the virus are expected to arise; and

WHEREAS, as of February 13, 2023, the number of new COVID-19 active cases reported in El Paso is 152 and the cumulative number is 310,349; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Charter Section 3.10, every emergency ordinance shall stand repealed automatically as of the 31st day following the date on which it was adopted, but may be re-enacted to continue a Disaster Declaration; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Ordinance No. 019428 which re-enacts Emergency Ordinance No. 019035 is set to expire on March 1, 2023;

WHEREAS, the condition necessitating a declaration of a state of disaster continues to exist.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF EL PASO, TEXAS:

1. That the state of disaster proclaimed for the City of El Paso by the Mayor on March 13, 2020, and extended by Emergency Ordinance No. 019035, is hereby re-enacted and shall continue for thirty (30) days unless re-enacted in accordance with City Charter Section 3.10 or until terminated by City Council, whichever is sooner.

2. This ordinance is adopted as an emergency measure with the unanimous vote of the City Council Representatives present and the consent of the Mayor and pursuant to City Charter Section 3.10.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this 27th day of February 2023.

THE CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS

Oscar Leeser
Mayor

ATTEST:

Laura D. Prine
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Karla M. Nieman
City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Mario M. D'Agostino
Deputy City Manager
Public Health & Safety