



PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN SPECIAL USE PERMITS AND ELIMINATION OF ENCROACHMENT PERMIT FEES FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACILITATING COMMERCE DURING THE GOVERNOR'S "SAFE START – STAY HEALTHY" ORDER

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Mayor of the City Gig Harbor issued a Proclamation of Emergency declaring that an emergency exists within the City of Gig Harbor due to the outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Governor Inslee issued a proclamation closing restaurants, bars, entertainment and recreation venues, and certain service businesses in order to promote social distancing and self-isolation and therefore slow the spread of COVID-19. The closure does not affect grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations, and convenience stores; and

WHEREAS, as people self-isolate and social distance, access to groceries, pharmaceuticals, and other retail goods is imperative and should be facilitated; and

WHEREAS, many local businesses have been closed since March due to the health emergency which has affected local jobs and economy; and

WHEREAS, on May 29, 2020, Washington Governor Jay Inslee issued Order 20-25.4 "Safe Start – Stay Healthy" Phased Reopening Plan,

WHEREAS, in order to further commerce while allowing for social distancing, the City will temporarily suspend certain use regulations to allow for "Sidewalk Sales" and commerce approved common areas and in the public Right-of-Way,

WHEREAS, Chapter 17.65 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code (GHMC) requires a Special Use permit to be obtained by a business or entity to temporarily locate a use in an unapproved area; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 12.02 of the Gig Harbor Municipal Code (GHMC) requires an Encroachment Permit be obtained before work is commenced on any public right-of-way or easement in the City; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor has determined that it is necessary to take action under the authority of Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 38.52.070 and GHMC 9.12.020 to temporarily suspend GHMC 17.65.020, GHMC 17.65.050 and temporarily waive fees associated with 12.02 GHMC only for retail businesses with a physical location within the City of Gig Harbor with an existing approved Gig Harbor Business License;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kit Kuhn, Mayor of the City of Gig Harbor, do hereby proclaim:

In order to address the civil emergency in the City caused by the spread of COVID-19, the provisions of Chapter 17.65.020 GHMC, Chapter 17.65.050 GHMC (Special Use Permits) and fees associated with Chapter 12.02 GHMC (Encroachment Permits) are temporarily suspended for temporary outdoor retail, pick up and drop off associated with product sales consistent "Safe Start Washington". Businesses taking advantage of these suspensions will be required to meet all other State and Local regulations, including consistency with the Governor's "Safe Start – Stay Healthy", must have a physical location within the City of Gig Harbor, must have an approved City of Gig Harbor Business License, and must have a legally established use.

This declaration shall immediately upon issuance, or as soon as practicable, be filed with the City Clerk for presentation to the City Council for ratification and confirmation, modification, or rejection, and if rejected, shall be void. This proclamation shall be considered in full force and effective until the Council acts, and shall remain in effect until the State of Washington moves Pierce County into Phase 3 of the Governor's Safe Start – Stay Healthy Order or August 1, 2020, whichever comes first.

SIGNED by the Mayor of the City of Gig Harbor, this 5th day of June, 2020.

CITY OF GIG HARBOR



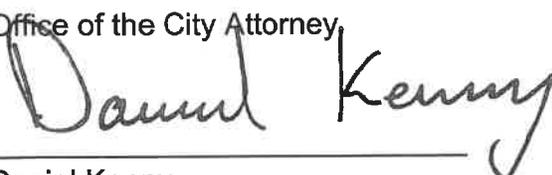
Mayor Kit Kuhn

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:



Molly M. Towslee, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Office of the City Attorney,


Daniel Kenny