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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Fremont Declares Local Emergency in Response to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic

Fremont, Calif. –March 13, 2020– City Manager Mark Danaj has proclaimed a local emergency for the City of Fremont today in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of this emergency declaration is to give the City legal authority and flexibility to mobilize resources in response to this unprecedented public health threat for the protection of the community. The action will also help ensure critical services and operations continue. Additionally, it allows the City to request mutual aid from regional, State, and other governmental entities.

Prior to the World Health Organization’s (WHO) escalation of COVID-19 to a global pandemic, the City of Fremont activated the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on March 3, 2020, and has been actively monitoring the spread of COVID-19. The City has taken measures to limit the number of people in the same room of a public meeting, cancelled or postponed City-sponsored events and community meetings, as well as canceled or postponed all non-essential work-related travel and attendance at meetings and conferences for City employees. Social distancing measures are also now in place at various public counters throughout City Hall and City buildings.

“Given the challenges this disease is causing, we are working to organize resources, implement best practices to reduce the spread of the pathogen, and inform the community, said City Manager Danaj. “Our EOC activation status has expanded to include daily virtual meetings and coordination with City leadership and EOC Staff. We are in close contact with regional and state officials to ensure the health and safety of Fremont community members and our employees is protected.”

“The City continues to monitor this rapidly changing situation and working with our local, schools, hospitals, and County officials,” said Mayor Lily Mei. “In this current environment, we will continue evaluating the way in which we provide City services to the public and will assess and review actions on a rolling 30-day basis. The community should be prepared for any adjustments, postponements, and cancellations that go into effect as we work together as a community to keep everyone safe. I thank you for your patience and anticipated cooperation.”

The proclamation, which will be published at www.Fremont.gov/AgendaCenter/City-Council-4 on March 13, 2020, will be heard for ratification during the March 17, 2020, regularly scheduled Council meeting at 7 p.m. at Fremont City Hall, 3300 Capitol Ave. (Note, while the City maintains continuity of providing government services, City Council meetings, as well as City Board and Commission meetings, are still being held. However, if a meeting has a large volume of attendees, additional measures may be taken to limit the number of people in the same room. In addition, measures will be taken to create more social distancing in all meeting rooms.)

For more information about resources available to minimize the spread of COVID-19, visit www.Fremont.gov/Coronavirus and follow the City on its social media channels at www.Fremont.gov/SocialMedia.

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