AGENDA NO.

February 28, 2023

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR JANICE HAHN

Terminating the Proclamation of Local Emergency and Declaration of Local Health Emergency for COVID-19

On March 4, 2020, the Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) proclaimed, and the Board ratified, a proclamation of local emergency for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). In addition, on March 4, 2020, the County Public Health Officer, Dr. Muntu Davis, declared a local health emergency for COVID-19, which was also ratified by the Board on that same date. On March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a state of emergency for COVID-19, and on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a federal emergency for COVID-19.

As a result of these emergency proclamations and declarations, the County utilized its enhanced authorities to combat and mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. In addition, the County activated its Emergency Operations Center to support the response to COVID-19 and provided countywide coordination to protect the most vulnerable and assist the larger community. Following the proclamation of the local emergency for COVID-19, the Chair of the Board and the Board issued emergency orders for the protection of life and property relating to the COVID-19 local emergency. These emergency orders were issued to, among other things, establish vaccine and testing requirements for County employees, ensure tenant protections, advance

MOTION

SOLIS

MITCHELL

HORVATH

BARGER

HAHN

Project Roomkey, and create outdoor dining opportunities for restaurants. In addition, the County Health Officer issued Health Officer orders associated with the local health emergency, which, among other things, have aided residents in skilled nursing facilities, homeless shelters, workplaces, and other higher risk settings. The County's Department of Public Health (Public Health) was able to quickly mobilize its workforce to manage outbreaks at various sectors, perform contact tracing, provide timely information to the public, vaccinate millions of residents, provide access to therapeutics, and track and report COVID-19 trends and variant patterns.

Every County department has relied on the existence of these emergency orders and Health Officer orders in various ways to protect against COVID-19 and provide essential services to protect the public over the past several years. It is beyond dispute that these actions saved lives and protected the health of County residents.

On October 17, 2022, the Governor announced that he intends to terminate the state of emergency for COVID-19 on February 28, 2023. The Governor charted a path forward to phase out emergency activities while maintaining the State’s operational preparedness to quickly respond to future outbreaks. This announcement was also made to allow local agencies and local public health departments to prepare for the phaseout of the State’s emergency authority, so that they can continue to successfully manage the COVID-19 pandemic without the availability of the additional authorities afforded by the state of emergency. The State plans to seek statutory changes to maintain access to public health tools, particularly the ability to quickly ramp up testing capacity and access to drug therapeutics, as needed.

As a result of the availability of vaccinations, therapeutics, and other measures to combat the impacts of COVID-19, hospitalizations, and deaths due to COVID-19 have dramatically reduced. Over the last three years, the County has developed the tools to continue to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 without exclusively relying on the use of the extraordinary powers afforded by the various emergency proclamations and declarations. The County's sustained preparedness, infrastructure, and available tools in combating COVID-19 demonstrate that it is time to evaluate the County's readiness to terminate both the County's proclamation of local emergency and declaration of local health emergency for COVID-19.

Upon termination of the local emergency and local health emergency, which will be effective March 31, 2023, it will be important for Public Health to closely monitor COVID-19 and utilize its non-emergency communicable disease control authority to manage COVID-19. Additionally, all relevant County departments will need to continue to respond to and mitigate the effects of COVID-19 without the extraordinary emergency powers afforded by the proclamation of a local emergency and the declaration of a local health emergency.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Terminate the proclamation of local emergency for COVID-19, effective March 31, 2023.

2. Approve and execute the attached Resolution to terminate the proclamation of a local emergency for COVID-19, effective March 31, 2023; and forward a copy of the Resolution to the Director of the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services.

3. Terminate the declaration of local health emergency for COVID-19, effective March 31, 2023.

4. Approve and execute the attached Resolution to terminate the declared local health emergency for COVID-19, effective March 31, 2023; and forward a copy of the Resolution to the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

5. Direct the Chief Executive Office, in collaboration with County Counsel, to coordinate with Department of Public Health, Department of Health Services, Department of Social Services and other relevant County departments that will have operational changes upon the termination of the local emergency for COVID-19 and the local health emergency for COVID-19 to provide a written report within thirty days on operational implications with recommendations, communication and outreach strategies to the public regarding changes in a format that is culturally and linguistically appropriate, and any additional implications that will impact Los Angeles County operations.

# # #

JH:jm

RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO TERMINATE THE PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY FOR COVID-19

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 2.68 of the Los Angeles County Code and Government Code Section 8630, on March 4, 2020, the existence of a local emergency was proclaimed by the Chair of the Board of Supervisors (Board), and ratified by the Board, due to conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property arising as a result of the introduction of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), a novel communicable disease, which was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December 2019; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2.68 of the Los Angeles County Code and Government Code Section 8630(d) provide for the Board to terminate a proclaimed local emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant; and

WHEREAS, with respect to the above local emergency initially proclaimed and ratified on March 4, 2020, and thereafter extended, the conditions relating thereto are such that, effective March 31, 2023, it is warranted that the local proclamation of emergency for COVID-19 be terminated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles that, effective March 31, 2023, the local proclamation of emergency for COVID-19 is terminated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, effective March 31, 2023, any and all emergency orders issued by the Chair and the Board, pursuant to Chapter 2.68 of the Los Angeles County Code and Government Code Section 8634, relating to the local emergency for COVID-19 are terminated and no longer in effect.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, on or after March 31, 2023, a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Director of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

The foregoing resolution was on the *(Day)* day of *(Month)* 2023, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

CELIA ZAVALA
Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

By _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DAWYN R. HARRISON
Interim County Counsel

By *Lillian Salinger*
LILLIAN D. SALINGER
Senior Deputy County Counsel
Public Works Division

HOA.103824208.1

RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO TERMINATE THE PROCLAMATION OF A LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR COVID-19

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the County Public Health Officer, Dr. Muntu Davis, declared a local health emergency for COVID-19, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 101040, 101080, and 120175, which was also ratified by the Board of Supervisors (Board) on that same date, due to the existence of an immediate threat to the public health in the County of Los Angeles, as a result of the introduction of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), a novel communicable disease, which was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China in December 2019; and

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code Section 101080 provides that after the Board ratifies a declared local health emergency the Board shall review, at least every 30 days, the need for continuing the local health emergency and shall proclaim the termination of the local health emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant the termination; and

WHEREAS, with respect to the above local health emergency initially proclaimed by the Health Officer and ratified by the Board on March 4, 2020, and thereafter extended, the conditions relating thereto are such that, effective March 31, 2023, it is warranted that the declared local health emergency for COVID-19 be terminated; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles that, effective March 31, 2023, the declared local health emergency for COVID-19 is terminated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, effective March 31, 2023, any and all emergency orders issued by the Health Officer and ratified by the Board, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 101040 and 101080 relating to the declared local health emergency for COVID-19 are terminated and no longer in effect.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, on or after March 31, 2023, a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

The foregoing resolution was on the *(Day)* day of *(Month)* 2023, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

CELIA ZAVALA
Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

By _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DAWYN R. HARRISON
Interim County Counsel

By _____
BLAINE D. McPHILLIPS
Senior Deputy County Counsel
Health Services Division