

Proclamation Declaring Macon County a Disaster Area For Coronavirus Response

April 16, 2020

WHEREAS, Macon County must take actions to contain and mitigate the local impact of the expanding global outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) to provide for the continuity of government, activation of community mitigation plans, and to allow for expedited response without circumventing constitutional protections for citizens; and

WHEREAS, currently, the only remedy allowed by statute that will enable Macon County to achieve these goals is to issue a local disaster proclamation; and

WHEREAS, this proclamation will assist Macon County, by and through its Emergency Management Agency and Health Department, to coordinate county and municipal resources and response activities and suspend certain provisions and procedures for the conduct of county business in an effort to protect the health and safety of persons, and provide emergency assistance pursuant to Illinois law; and

WHEREAS, certain populations are at higher risk of experiencing more severe illness as a result of COVID-19, including older adults and people who have serious chronic medical conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, or lung disease; and

WHEREAS, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) considers the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 to be high, both globally and to the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Department of State and Department of Homeland Security has deemed it necessary to impose restrictions on international travel to contain the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has advised older travelers and those with chronic medical conditions to avoid nonessential travel, and has advised all travelers to exercise enhanced precautions; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19 and no medications approved to treat it; and

WHEREAS, the CDC currently recommends all communities take measures to both prepare for and mitigate community transmission of COVID-19 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, despite efforts to contain COVID-19, the CDC indicates that more cases of COVID-19 are expected in the United States in the coming days, including more instances of community spread, and as the outbreak continues, widespread transmission of COVID-19 in the United States is expected occur; and