

RESOLUTION NO. 20-1128

A RESOLUTION OF THE WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (“WRD”) DECLARING A LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY REGARDING THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (“COVID-19”)

WHEREAS, a severe acute respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”) was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, People’s Republic of China in December 2019; and

WHEREAS, the U.S Center for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) considers the virus to be a serious public health threat, based on current information; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020 the Governor of California declared a State of Emergency due to the outbreak and spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020 the Los Angeles Unified School District (“LAUSD”) and school districts across Los Angeles County adopted emergency Resolutions closing down the schools; and

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

WHEREAS, as of March 16, 2020, there are 94 reported cases of COVID-19 in LA County, and officials expect the number of cases to increase; and

WHEREAS, strict compliance with various statutes and regulations would prevent, hinder or delay appropriate actions to prevent and mitigate the effects of the COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to prepare for and implement measures to respond to the potential spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative during this time that employees minimize their exposure to group settings in order to attempt to contain the coronavirus outbreak; and

WHEREAS, Section 1102 of the Public Contract Code defines “emergency” to mean a “sudden unexpected occurrence that poses a clear and imminent danger, requiring immediate action to prevent or mitigate the loss or impairment of life, health, property, or essential public services,” and section 21060.3 of the Public Resources Code and California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines 14 CCR section 15269(c) defines “emergency” to mean “a sudden, unexpected occurrence, involving a clear and imminent danger, demanding immediate action to prevent or mitigate loss of, or damage to, life, health, property, or essential public services.”

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of the Water Replenishment District:

- (1) Determines that the circumstances described in the Resolution herein constitute an emergency condition;
- (2) By unanimous vote pursuant to section 20168 of the Public Contract Code authorizes the execution of contracts without advertising or inviting bids; and, notwithstanding competitive bid requirements, authorizes flexibility of Materials and Operations (M & O), in order to respond to emergency conditions; and
- (3) Authorizes the General Manager and/or his designee to take any and all actions necessary to ensure the continuation of WRD's operations, and the health and safety of its staff, including but not limited to provision of leave of absence to employees with pay during this COVID-19 health care emergency.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED by the Board of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California on March 19, 2020 by the following votes:

AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

APPROVED:



Vera Robles DeWitt
President, Board of Directors

ATTEST:


Secretary, Board of Directors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Leal, Trejo LLP, Attorneys for the Water
Replenishment District of Southern California