



## DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN THE TOWN OF FOUR OAKS

**WHEREAS**, Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV) and zoonotic, meaning they are transmitted between animals and people; and

**WHEREAS**, Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is a new strain that was discovered in 2019 and has not been previously identified in humans; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and which can spread from person to person; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the global spread of the virus and the disease it causes, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has warned of the high public health threat posed by COVID-19 globally and in the United States and has deemed it necessary to prohibit or restrict travel to areas designated by the CDC; the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency in the United States for COVID-19; and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services ("NCDHHS") confirmed multiple cases of COVID-19 in North Carolina as of March 10, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, the State of North Carolina, through the Office of the Governor, Roy Cooper, issued Executive Order No. 116 titled "Declaration of a State of Emergency to Coordinate Response and Protective Actions to Prevent the Spread of Covid-19"; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization ("WHO") declared the rapidly spreading COVID-19 a Pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, in consultation with health care professionals and based upon guidance from the CDC and NCDHHS, arrangements must be made immediately to take such actions as are deemed necessary and appropriate to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors in Johnston County and the Town of Four Oaks will remain safe and secure.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the Town of Four Oaks under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and Chapter 10, Article II, State of Emergency of the Town of Four Oaks, NC Code of Ordinances:

**Section 1.** A State of Emergency is hereby declared within the jurisdiction of the Town of Four Oaks.

**Section 2.** The emergency area covered by this state of emergency shall be within the entire Town of Four Oaks.

**Section 3.** Restrictions and prohibitions under Chapter 10, Article II, Sec. 10-23 – Restrictions during a State of Emergency may be later proclaimed during the continued or threaten existence of a State of Emergency.

**Section 4.** I hereby order all Town of Four Oaks employees and all other emergency management personnel subject to our control to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this Declaration, all applicable local ordinances, state and federal laws, and the Johnston County Emergency Operations Plan.

**Section 5.** I hereby order this declaration: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with Clerk of the Four Oaks Town Council and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

**Section 6.** This declaration shall take effect on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded.

**SO DECLARED:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Linwood Parker, Mayor

**ATTEST:**



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Martha L. Garris, Town Clerk

