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City of Long Beach

Legislation Text

File #: 20-0530, Version: 1

Recommendation to adopt resolution ratifying the Director of Civil Defense's proclamation of the existence of a local emergency and confirming the Director's regulations proclaiming local emergency curfews. (Citywide)

On May 25, 2020, George Floyd tragically died in Minneapolis, Minnesota, shortly after his detention and arrest by the Minneapolis Police Department resulting in nationwide grief and demonstrations. These demonstrations resulted in civil unrest in many areas around the country including in Los Angeles County. On May 30, 2020, due to ongoing acts of civil unrest and limited local resources, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency for all of Los Angeles County in accordance with the California Emergency Services Act, and directed all residents to heed the advice of local emergency officials with respect to the emergency existing by virtue of said civil unrest.

Section 2.69.060 of the Long Beach Municipal Code (LBMC) empowers the Director of Civil Defense (City Manager) to proclaim, when the City Council is not in session, the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when the City is affected or is likely to be affected by a public calamity. On May 31, 2020, it was found that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property were threatened to and did arise within the City as a result of civil unrest.

Accordingly, the City Manager proclaimed the existence of a local emergency within the City on May 31, 2020 (Attachment A). The City Manager also issued a citywide curfew commencing on May 31, 2020, at 8:00 p.m., exempting certain individuals including but not limited to law enforcement and firefighter personnel, persons providing or seeking emergency care, and persons traveling to and from their place of employment (Attachment B). That emergency curfew expired on June 1, 2020, at 5:00 a.m.

On June 1, 2020, the City Manager issued two additional curfews: a citywide curfew commencing at 4:00 p.m., and a curfew specifically for business districts, including but not limited to Business Improvement Districts (BIDs), commencing at 1:00 p.m. (Attachment C). Both of these curfews expired on June 2, 2020, at 5:00 a.m.

Today's action requests that the City Council pass a Resolution to ratify the City Manager's proclamation of the existence of a local emergency and confirm the City Manager's local emergency curfew regulations. This Resolution would further declare that the local emergency will continue until it is terminated by the City Council, and that the City Council will continue to review the need for this local emergency at least every fourteen (14) days.

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Approve recommendation.

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