

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-_____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF MERCED, CALIFORNIA,
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO
PROVIDE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE RELATED
TO THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF COVID-19**

WHEREAS, international, national, state, and local health and governmental authorities are responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus, (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California declared a state of emergency to make additional resources available, formalize emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments, and help the state prepare for broader spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States of America declared a national emergency and announced that the federal government would make emergency funding available to assist state and local governments in preventing the spread of and addressing the effects of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager proclaimed the existence of a local emergency on March 13, 2020, which was ratified and affirmed by the City Council at its March 16, 2020 meeting; and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2020, the City Council, at the request of the Director of Emergency Services, adopted resolution 2020-23, continuing the declaration of a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the California Department of Health, and the Merced County Health Officer have all issued shelter in place orders to enforce social distancing, prohibited group events, and taken other precautions to protect public health and prevent transmission of this communicable virus; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the public health emergency and the precautions recommended by health authorities, businesses in Merced will experience sudden and unexpected income loss.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCED DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE, FIND, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to provide the following economic assistance related to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 emergency:

- A. Work with qualified local hotels to allow for deferment of payment of transient occupancy tax ("TOT"), as follows:
 - (1) The first calendar quarter of TOT (January, February and March) will be reported no later than April 30, 2020 and shall be paid no later than July 31, 2020; and
 - (2) The penalty and interest provisions of the Merced Municipal Code, Section 3.08.070, are suspended for the first quarter of TOT, if the first quarter of TOT is paid on or before July 31, 2020.
- B. To qualify for participation in the TOT economic assistance deferral program the property and the owner/operator/hotelier:
 - (1) Must be current on all of its fiscal obligations to the City; and
 - (2) Must be in compliance with all local, state, and federal statutes, rules, regulations including, but not limited to, the California fire code and the California building code during the term of the program; and
 - (3) Must not be the subject of any regulatory or enforcement action of the City.

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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Merced at a regular meeting held on the ____ day of _____ 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: Council Members:

NOES: Council Members:

ABSENT: Council Members:

ABSTAIN: Council Members:

APPROVED:


Mayor

ATTEST:
STEVE CARRIGAN, CITY CLERK

BY: _____
Assistant/Deputy City Clerk

(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

 5-11-2020
City Attorney Date