

Ruth Stellmacher

From: SARAH OWENS <hlowens2@msn.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 20, 2020 12:38 PM
To: Cara Kaser
Cc: CityRecorder; Salem Homeless Coalition (not the "Homeless Coalition")
Subject: Item 5.f. on Monday 6/22 City Council Agenda

Dear Councilor Kaser:

With regard to Item 5.f., staff recommend Council adopt resolution no. 2020-32, extending the declaration of a state of emergency within the city of Salem related to the COVID-19 Pandemic through August 31, 2020. The reason given in the staff report is that the declaration is necessary because Marion and Polk counties had not entered Phase 2 reopening.

On March 17, 2020, the City Council extended the Declaration through June 30, 2020. While both Marion and Polk Counties [*sic*] have entered Phase I reopening, infection trends throughout Oregon, including both counties, have caused Governor Brown to delay any additional reopening. Therefore it is necessary to extend the City's emergency declaration to protect public health and safety.

With Marion and Polk counties having entered reopening Phase 2, there would seem to be no basis for prohibiting public gatherings in public spaces. Does staff continue to recommend adoption of resolution no. 2020-32 as it is written? If so, what is your position on retaining the prohibition on public gatherings in public spaces?

We would agree that there is a continuing need to suspend the public camping prohibition (SRC 95.720) in all unimproved areas in Wallace Marine and Cascade Gateway parks.

Sarah Owens and Michael Livingston
CANDO