

**CITY OF NEWPORT
EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 2020-01**

**EXERCISING AUTHORITY TO ACT TO PROTECT NEWPORT RESIDENTS
AND MINIMIZE THE EFFECTS OF THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Oregon declared a state of emergency for the state on March 8, 2020, finding that COVID-19 created a threat to the public health and safety and constituted a statewide emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City of Newport declared an emergency on March 12, 2020, which was ratified by the City Council at its March 16, 2020 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States signed a proclamation declaring a national emergency concerning COVID-19 on March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, local, state, and national public health agencies have instituted guidelines, recommendations, and actions to curb the spread of the disease in an attempt to “flatten the curve” of the disease’s progression in the United States. Many of those recommendations have been adopted by states and local governments across the country. In Oregon, the Governor has issued Executive Orders 20-3 through 20-20 to slow the spread of the virus through the closure of schools, restricting restaurants and bars to carry-out and delivery dining, limitations on public gatherings, higher education restrictions, and other requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has directed Oregonians to “stay at home to stay healthy” through social distancing actions undertaken by each Oregonian. Social distancing includes taking “staycations” (stay at home) during what is normally the spring break season in Oregon and surrounding states. This also includes voluntarily limiting trips and contact with other people; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the Governor’s social distancing order and public campaign has not proven effective on the central Oregon coast, as significant out-of-county visitors have continued to come to the coast in recent days despite the stay at home order/directive. Repeated instances of violation of the social distancing norms have placed resources and residents at much greater risk of the spread of the virus. Closure of short-term rentals in north parts of the Oregon coast threaten to move significant vacationers south to Lincoln County if no actions are taken; and

WHEREAS, numerous public and private health officials in Oregon, and beyond, have called for more stringent and aggressive social distancing measures, including stay at home/shelter at home mandates because the voluntary social distancing actions are not being followed in many areas, including Newport; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Public Health Administrator and Local Health Officer both confirm that continued influxes of visitors, turning over on a short-term basis, increases the likelihood of the spread of COVID-19 more than longer-term tenancies, and threatens the limited health care resources, and therefore recommend the city consider temporarily limiting short-term visitors to the city until the crisis ends; and

WHEREAS, in a coordinated and collaborative action, all impacted jurisdictions in Lincoln County concurred with Lincoln County Order No. 3-23-85, limiting short-term rentals in each of their entities; and

WHEREAS, based on the concurrence, by the Newport City Council at an emergency meeting held on March 23, 2020, with Lincoln County Order No. 3-23-85, the City Manager of the City of Newport, acting under emergency powers provided for in the Newport Municipal Code Section 1.70, and the declaration of emergency affirmed by the Newport City Council, at its meeting of March 16, 2020, deems it necessary to institute a temporary order limiting short-term rentals and following the provisions of the Lincoln County Order No. 3-23-85.

I, Spencer R. Nebel, City Manager of the City of Newport, hereby order:

1. City parks are closed.
2. All short-term rentals, defined as rentals of a duration of less than 30 days, in vacation rental dwellings, or short-term dwellings, and homestay lodgings, are prohibited in the City of Newport until the declared emergency ends on April 30, 2020, or this prohibition is otherwise ended or modified, whichever occurs first.
3. All hotels, motels, recreational vehicle parks, and private campgrounds, and similar lodgings or temporary housing not identified above are closed to short-term rentals of less than 30 days, except as follows:
 - a. Stays for 30 days or longer are allowed.
 - b. Local residents effecting a COVID-19 self-quarantine, or who have moved from their local residence to allow a family member or roommate or housemate to self-quarantine in their local residence.
 - c. Families or individuals residing in lodging for less than 30 days if this is their only means of shelter. This includes, but is not limited to, vouchers for stay provided by local or regional governments or nonprofit agencies.
 - d. Employees of the facility provided lodging as a requirement or benefit of their employment.
 - e. Patients or families of patients receiving medical care at local facilities.
 - f. Essential workers, including but not limited to, doctors, nurses, other health staff, home and health care workers, Coast Guard members, truck drivers and supply providers, workers in the city whose employer pays for lodging, construction workers on local projects (including public contractors), utility crews, and other persons whose work in the city requires temporary accommodations.
 - g. Other persons or categories of people who the City Manager deem consistent with the intent of the Order, after consultation with the Local Public Health Administrator.
4. All pools, spas, and other public bathing facilities are closed at lodging properties for the duration of the order.

5. Lodging property owners or managers are required to keep a log of what exception is met by current lodgers. This list will be made available upon request to city officials.
6. This Order is effective March 24, 2020. Property owners and managers of properties affected by paragraphs one through three above shall take all reasonable steps to terminate current occupancy of any guests not exempted herein by no later than noon on Wednesday, March 25, 2020. No new occupancies in violation of this order may be rented until further notice.
7. This Order may be modified, rescinded, or extended.
8. The City of Newport Police Department is charged with enforcement of this Order. Failure to comply with this Order will result in a civil penalty, and/or potential revocation of business and other licenses, and business license endorsements, issued by the city to the non-compliant business.



Spencer R. Nebel, City Manager

Dated: March 24, 2020