

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, a wildfire started on Wednesday, August 16, 2023 at Fort Steilacoom Park in the City of Lakewood; and

WHEREAS, proclamation of civil emergency will authorize city officials to take necessary extraordinary measures that are required to respond to the fire and protect life and property; and

WHEREAS, measures taken at the local level pursuant to emergency authority, will have dire impact on the city's business and municipal systems as resources are directed to the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has reviewed actions taken at the local level, as well as consulted with the city's department directors and West Pierce Fire and Rescue and based on that consultation finds a proclamation of civil emergency to be necessary and appropriate.

NOW THEREFORE, I, John J. Caulfield, City Manager of the City of Lakewood, as a result of the above-noted situation and pursuant to the provisions set forth in Chapter 8.08 of the Lakewood Municipal Code, do hereby proclaim as follows:

Section 1: Pursuant to Lakewood Municipal Code 8.80.070(A), an emergency exists in the City of Lakewood, State of Washington. Based on my review of the present circumstances, emergency measures taken at the county level and consultation with city department directors and West Pierce Fire and Rescue, I declare that an emergency exists, as defined in LMC 8.80.030, due to a wildfire at Fort Steilacoom Park, which is bounded by residential homes, Pierce College and Western State Hospital. This fire requires immediate action and the use of all available city resources as well as the swift acquisition of additional resources necessary to protect life and property. The City is coordinating with other agencies such as West Pierce Fire and Rescue and must be able to provide maximum accommodation for action taken by those agencies to protect life and property. To the degree appropriate and possible, the City may need to access state and federal resources and financial mechanisms.

Section 2: I direct that the plans and procedures in the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) for the City of Lakewood be implemented. City departments are directed to utilize city resources and to do everything reasonably possible to assist in an effort to respond to and recover from the impacts of the fire, both directly and as the result of any measures taken to control spread of the fire. I delegate to City Department Directors generally, under the authority of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP), to reassign personnel from their ordinary duties to work deemed necessary for the emergency without regard to job classifications and to require work beyond normal working hours; to purchase supplies and materials necessary to address the emergency; and to secure the assistance of volunteers and donations of supplies or the use of equipment in performing tasks that facilitate the city's emergency response.

Section 3: In accordance with RCW 39.04.280(1)(c) and (1)(e) and Lakewood Municipal Code 08.80.060, the undersigned has determined that this emergency situation requires the waiver of competitive bidding requirements and the award of necessary contracts necessary to address the emergency and to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Section 4: To the extent practical, a copy of this Proclamation shall be made available to all media outlets within Pierce County and to the general public. In order to give the widest dissemination of this Proclamation to the public, as many other practical means available shall be used, including but not limited to posting on public facilities, and posting on the City's website, <www.cityoflakewood.us>.

Section 5: This Proclamation shall, within forty eight (48) hours, or as soon as practical, be filed with the City Clerk for presentation to the City Council, for ratification and confirmation, or modification or rejection, and if rejected, this Proclamation shall be void. If the City Council rejects this Proclamation, such rejection shall not affect the City's responsibility for actions undertaken prior to such rejection, including the City's responsibilities including the actual costs incurred by those who were ordered by or entered into contracts with the City.

This proclamation shall be terminated by issuance of another proclamation when it is determined that extraordinary measures are no longer required for the protection of the public peace, safety and welfare. Before termination of this civil emergency, there will be consultation with Department Directors and West Pierce Fire and Rescue to determine whether there are any fiscal, public safety response or disaster recovery imperatives that require the continuation of emergency measures.

DONE at Lakewood, Washington this 16th day of August, 2023 at 6:08 p.m.



John J. Caulfield, City Manager