

EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION PRESS RELEASE

On March 16, City of Clarkston Mayor Monika Lawrence signed an Emergency Proclamation in response to COVID-19 giving her the authority to exercise emergency powers pursuant to RCW Chapter 38.52.070.

Here is some background on what that means. This is a precautionary measure and should not be alarming to anyone. It allows the Mayor and designated staff members to amend established rules and procedures as needed to run the city. It's one mechanism to help the city be more flexible and responsive to the needs of our city and its citizens during a quickly developing situation.

By issuing this declaration, City officials can assure the City of Clarkston has the tools in place and is ready to take appropriate actions quickly, as needed, to protect the health and safety of the community. It also allows the City to waive competitive bidding requirements to secure supplies and make other necessary expenditures quickly without going through the usual time-consuming bidding procedures.

The Revised Code of Washington allows exemptions to noticing requirements of the "Open Public Meeting Act."

The Mayoral Emergency Proclamation is scheduled to be presented to the Clarkston City Council on Monday, March 23 but is considered to be in full force and effect until Council ratifies and confirms, modifies or rejects the proclamation.

The emergency will be terminated when Mayor Lawrence determines the "extraordinary measures are no longer required" or by council vote.

It is not possible for our City Hall Staff to work from home. Therefore, we are closing City Hall to keep our employees safe.

Please drop your utility payments in the Drop Box at the back of the of the building in the alley, pay online, or call City Hall to make other arrangements.

If you require a building permit, the instructions and permit is online at the city web site: <https://www.clarkston-wa.com/> Click on the link Forms. You will be able to make your payment online.

Rest assured that city staff has been meeting regularly with county health and state health officials to put protocols in place to protect Clarkston residents during the COVID-19 health emergency.

We will continue to work in partnership with county and state officials to meet the needs of our community.

Thank you for your patience during this emergency.