

**A PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY BY THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY
SERVICES OF THE CITY OF VALLEJO**

WHEREAS, Charter Section 502 of the City of Vallejo and Ordinance No. 179 of the City of Vallejo codified at Chapter 2.50 of the Vallejo Municipal Code authorizes extensive emergency powers to the City Manager and empowers the City Manager, acting as the Director of Emergency Services, to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency when said City is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity and the City Council is not in session; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 and 2018 the counties of Solano, Lake, Mendocino, Shasta, Napa, and Sonoma (the “Impacted Counties”) faced unprecedented wildfires causing widespread destruction and displacement of persons; and

WHEREAS, as a result of those wildfires, the County of Solano, which includes the City of Vallejo, was subjected to significant economic impact, not only because of the wildfires but also because of the displacement of residents from other counties who lost their homes in the wildfires; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vallejo has been subjected to an influx of displaced residents and other related impacts resulting in a reduction of available rental housing stock from 3.35 percent to 1.7 percent meaning there is essentially no rental housing available in the City of Vallejo; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of these severe economic impacts, Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-51-18 extending the protections of California Penal Code section 396 to the Impacted Counties and to the City of Vallejo; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order B-51-18 expired in December 2018 and was not extended thereby aggravating the housing crisis in the City of Vallejo; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that nearly 21,000 residents in the City of Vallejo live in poverty and depend upon the availability of affordable housing for survival; and

WHEREAS, many of the people living in poverty are seniors and children; and

WHEREAS, homelessness is at record levels within the City of Vallejo because of a diminishing level of available affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the decrease in available rental housing, the cost of rents is skyrocketing with at least two properties raising rents by amounts exceeding 100 percent resulting in the potential immediate displacement of approximately 600 residents of the City of Vallejo many of whom could become homeless; and

WHEREAS, the City of Vallejo is aware that other property owners may increase rental rates by similar amounts resulting in the further displacement of City of Vallejo citizens and resulting in further displacement of residents as well as an increase in homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services of the City of Vallejo does hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the City of Vallejo, caused by a housing crisis precipitated by the aforementioned wildfires as well as the lack of available affordable housing; and

That the City Council of the City of Vallejo is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session.


NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency now exists throughout the City of Vallejo, and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of this City shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and resolutions of this City; and

That the prohibitions on price gouging in time of emergency set forth in Penal Code section 396, including the prohibitions against raising rental rates for real property, shall be in effect in the City; and

That this emergency proclamation shall expire in seven (7) days after issuance unless confirmed and ratified by the governing body of the City of Vallejo.

Dated: June 27, 2019

By: 

Greg Nyhoff
City Manager, Director of Emergency Services