DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a highly contagious and potentially fatal respiratory disease, the prevalence of which is increasing rapidly throughout the world, inclusive of the United States and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization designated the COVID-19 outbreak a Pandemic Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts issued a Declaration of a State of Emergency to Respond to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States announced a national declaration of emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, Governor Baker announced emergency actions to respond to the evolving COVID-19 public health emergency impacting the Commonwealth, including prohibitions on large public gatherings and prohibiting on-premises consumption of food or drink at bars and restaurants from March 17, 2020 until April 6, 2020, as well as suspension of elementary and secondary school educational operations from March 17, 2020 until April 6, 2020; and

WHEREAS, The City of Medford, by and through Her Honor the Mayor and the Board of Health, in consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, have determined that COVID-19 presents a major disaster which poses an immediate threat to public health, safety, and general welfare of people residing both within and outside of the City of Medford, and as, such additional measures must be taken at this time; and

WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, Her Honor the Mayor and the Medford Board of Health announced that that a local state of emergency exists in the City of Medford; and
WHEREAS, Her Honor the Mayor and the Medford Board of Health have determined that additional and immediate public action is needed in order to minimize the further spread and acquisition of COVID-19, a serious public health emergency, by and among the people of the City of Medford; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with local, state, and federal guidance to date, these additional steps defined below are necessary and prudent to preserve public health and safety in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Medford has been informed that there have been two presumptive positive cases for the novel coronavirus COVID-19, to date; and

WHEREAS, to minimize the further, increased threat to public health, the City requests that all residents and business owners comply with all federal, state and local Orders at this time, including, but not limited to social distancing and crowd gathering.

NOW THEREFORE, in order to lessen the spread of COVID-19 and to minimize its further impact on members of the community in light of COVID-19 testing, to date, it is hereby ordered, by Her Honor the Mayor and the Medford Board of Health, that:

(1) Effective Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 12:00 a.m., all businesses and entities, both public and private, that provide personal care services that require sustained physical contact and cannot comply with social distancing protocols are to be closed until at least April 6, 2020. This includes, but is not limited to hair salons, barber shops, nail salons, tattoo parlors, and massage parlors; this order does not apply to medical, dental, and all related ancillary services provided that all personnel continue to adhere to proper treatment protocols, use of protective medical gear, and adhere to social distancing measures as guided by the Massachusetts Department of Public and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(2) Effective Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 12:00 a.m., all gyms, health clubs, theaters, entertainment venues, social clubs are to be closed until at least April 6, 2020.

Date: 3/18/20

Breanna Lungo-Koehn
Mayor, City of Medford