

PROCLAMATION OF EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY FOR MONKEYPOX BY THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS, Chapter 2.68 of the Los Angeles County Code provides that the Chair of the Board of Supervisors (Chair) may proclaim the existence of a local emergency, pursuant to Government Code section 8558(c), when the Board of Supervisors (Board) is not in session; and

WHEREAS, a "local emergency," is defined (in pertinent part) in Government Code section 8558(c), as follows: "[l]ocal emergency' means the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county . . . caused by conditions such as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, cyberterrorism sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease . . . or other conditions . . . which, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat"; and

WHEREAS, monkeypox can lead to significant acute health impacts, including severe pain, hospitalization, long term symptoms, and, in rare instances, death; the World Health Organization determined that the multi-country outbreak of monkeypox constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and, as of August 1, 2022, there are more than 20,000 cases of monkeypox globally and more than 4,000 confirmed probable cases in the United States, with California experiencing nearly 800 confirmed probable cases in 27 local health jurisdictions; and accordingly, on August 1, 2022, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed the existence of a state of emergency for monkeypox (State of Emergency); and

WHEREAS, as of August 1, 2022, there have been over 400 confirmed cases of monkeypox among Los Angeles County (County) residents; the County Department of Public Health continues to respond to this monkeypox outbreak, redirecting staff for incident command response, conducting extensive contact tracing, community outreach and education, and implementing a vaccination strategy, working with community providers and impacted communities to administer JYNNEOS vaccines to those most at risk; and vaccine supplies remain limited, with the County only receiving 24,042 doses and of which 14,215 have been administered; and

WHEREAS, the Chair finds that as of August 1, 2022, there exists conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property caused by the monkeypox in the County, which are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the County, and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat; and

WHEREAS, the mobilization of local resources, the ability to coordinate interagency response, accelerate procurement of vital supplies, use mutual aid, and allow for future reimbursement by the State and federal governments will be critical to successfully responding to monkeypox; and

WHEREAS, these conditions warrant and necessitate that the County proclaim the existence of a local emergency for monkeypox.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED by the Chair that a local emergency exists for monkeypox in the County, and that the local emergency shall not remain in effect for a period in excess of seven days unless it has been ratified by the Board; and

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

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED that a copy of this proclamation be forwarded to the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services requesting that the Director find it acceptable in accordance with State law; and that on August 1, 2022, the Governor of California, pursuant to the Emergency Services Act, has issued a State of Emergency, which includes a waiver of regulations that may hinder response and recovery efforts; and that recovery assistance be made available under the California Disaster Assistance Act; and that the State expedite access to State and federal resources and any other appropriate federal disaster relief programs.

Date: August 1, 2022



HOLLY J. MITCHELL
Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors