

**TOWN OF RIDGWAY, COLORADO**  
**ORDER DECLARING A LOCAL DISASTER IN AND FOR THE TOWN OF RIDGWAY**

**WHEREAS**, the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-701, et. seq. (the "Act"), provides procedures for statewide and local prevention of, preparation for, response to, and recovery from disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709, a local disaster emergency may be declared unilaterally by the principal executive officer of a political subdivision; for the Town of Ridgway, Colorado (the "Town"), the principal executive officer is the Town Manager; and

**WHEREAS**, this Declaration is issued pursuant to the authority granted to the Town Manager, and issued with the approval and support of the Mayor for the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Act, an "emergency" is an unexpected event that places life or property in danger and requires an immediate response through the use of state and community resources and procedures, and an "emergency epidemic" is cases of an illness or condition, communicable or noncommunicable, caused by bioterrorism, pandemic influenza, or novel and highly fatal infectious agents or biological toxins; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709, this Declaration activates the response and recovery aspects of any applicable disaster emergency plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1), the declaration of a local emergency shall not be continued beyond a period of seven (7) days or removed except by action of the governing board of the political subdivision for the Town, the Town Council; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709(1), any order declaring, continuing, or terminating a local disaster "shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the county clerk and recorder, the [Town] clerk ... and with the office of emergency management"; and

**WHEREAS**, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which was recognized by the Governor of the State of Colorado on March 10, 2020, the Town is suffering and has suffered a disaster emergency as defined in the Act.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, that a disaster emergency is declared in and for the Town of Ridgway, beginning on March 17, 2020, and ending on March 23, 2020, unless extended or amended by action of the Town Council for the Town.

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that this Declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity, filed immediately with the office of the Ouray County Emergency Manager and a copy filed with the Ouray County Clerk and Recorder, as well as to the Colorado Office of Emergency Management.

  
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Preston Neil, Town Manager

ATTEST:  
  
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Pam Kraft, Town Clerk