

EMERGENCY DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have declared COVID-19 a public health and pandemic emergency and the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary has declared that COVID-19 creates a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States of America declared a National Emergency on March 13, 2020;

WHEREAS, people affected by COVID-19 experience influenza-like symptoms, sometimes severe and even causing loss of life, particularly to high-risk individuals, i.e. people over sixty (60) and those individuals with certain pre-existing conditions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Scranton is home to a particularly high population of those who meet the Center for Disease Control and Prevention definition of high risk persons who are more vulnerable to the effects of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 6, 2020, the Office of the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania issued a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency; and

WHEREAS, this threat of imminent disaster and emergency has the potential to cause significant adverse impacts upon the population of the City of Scranton; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to prepare for and respond to suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the City of Scranton and to implement measures to mitigate its spread; and

WHEREAS, the City will, during the period of this emergency, need to procure goods, property, and services to continue its operations and to respond rapidly to this health crisis; and

WHEREAS, Section 6-14(a) of the Administrative Code of the City of Scranton requires bidding for the purchase, leasing or renting of goods, properties, services or supplies, for all contracts in the amount of \$21,000.00 or in excess thereof; and

WHEREAS, upon application of Section 6-14(e)(1) of the Code, the aforesaid advertising and bidding requirements for the purchasing, leasing, maintenance, or renting of goods, properties, services, or supplies may be waived; and

NOW THEREFORE, I do hereby declare that on Sunday, March 15, 2020 for a period of thirty (30) days, or until rescinded or extended, due to the pandemic affecting the health, welfare and safety of residents of the City of Scranton, that a public health emergency exists and hereby

authorize the Mayor, and/or her designees, to take all appropriate action needed to alleviate the effects of the public health emergency, and to provide essential services deemed necessary to respond to this emergency requiring personnel, equipment, property, services, and supplies. In accordance with the Administrative Code of the City of Scranton and this Emergency Declaration, the bidding requirements are hereby waived and thereby payment may be made for any other emergency services performed as is necessary.



Mayor Paige G. Cognetti

I hereby certify and concur in the above emergency.



John J. Murray, City Controller