

PROCLAMATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY

TOWNSHIP OF RARITAN, NEW JERSEY

To all the citizens and persons with in the **Township of Raritan**, New Jersey, and to all departments, divisions and bureaus of the Township of Raritan;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the powers vested by Chapter 251 of the Laws of 1942 as amended and supplemented, N.J.S.A App. A: 9 30 et seq., specifically N.J.S.A. App. A:9-42.2, the Township of Raritan Management Coordinator is responsible for the development, coordination, and activation of the Township emergency management plans and for the activation of such emergency management facilities and services as are available from the resources of the Township government in the event of emergencies; and

WHEREAS, by reason of the COVID-19 pandemic as identified by the World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which resulted in the Governor of New Jersey declaring a State of Emergency and Public Health Emergency, and which is currently or will, in the immediate future, exist in and around the Township of Raritan, a local disaster emergency exists within the boundaries of the Township of Raritan which may affect the health, safety and welfare of the people of the County of the Township of Raritan; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization and Center Disease Control and Prevention has issued guidance and warnings outlining that widespread illness is possible, and; **WHEREAS**, government, private sector and non-governmental organizations are experiencing difficulty in procuring necessary supplies and equipment to safeguard personnel and facilities against this public health threat; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid situation constitutes an imminent hazard that threatens and presently endangers the health, safety, and resources of the residents of the Township of Raritan and may become in other parts of the County too large in scope to be handled by the normal local operating services warranting the implementation of the support of the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey and the Federal Government; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Raritan Emergency Operation Plan has been activated to coordinate response and recovery efforts, as a result of these impending conditions AND continue to be activated until such conditions warrant otherwise; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that these areas of the Township of Raritan should be declared a State of Emergency, and further that certain measures must be taken to ensure precautionary, temporary safety measures for the Employees of the Township of Raritan and further in order to protect the persons and property of the residents affected by the conditions and finally that governmental operations including but not limited to the conduct of public meetings shall be substantially altered; and

WHEREAS, all lands, buildings, spaces or properties owned or operated by the Township of Raritan hereby designated a State of Emergency.

WHEREAS, it has been determined by the Township of Raritan Emergency Management Coordinator, with the concurrence of the Mayor of the Township of Raritan, the Administrator of the Township of Raritan and the Committee of the Township of Raritan, that the Township of Raritan declares a State of Emergency; and, further that certain measures must be taken in order to protect the health and welfare of persons and property of the residents affected by the conditions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christopher J. Phelan , Emergency Management Coordinator for the Township of Raritan, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the State of New Jersey do hereby indicate that a State of Emergency exists and will continue to exist in the Township of Raritan, and I hereby ORDER AND DIRECT the following:

I authorize and direct the Township of Raritan, including but not limited to the duly appointed Township of Raritan Deputy Emergency Management Coordinators, to activate all of those elements of the Township of Raritan Emergency Operations Plans deemed necessary to safeguard the public security, health, and welfare, and to coordinate the recovery effort from this emergency with all governmental agencies, volunteer organizations, and the private sector.

The Township of Raritan may request via Hunterdon County, State of New Jersey and Federal Resources which are needed to assist Township of Raritan residents, visitors and their pets as there could be many homes, nursing homes and businesses requiring State and Local Governments and non-governmental agencies (such as the American Red Cross, Salvation Army) assistance, and evacuations, traffic movement and road closures could be needed to ensure public safety.

I authorize and empower the Township of Raritan, in accordance with N.J.S.A. App.A:9-33 et seq., through the Township of Raritan Police Department, to determine the control and direction of the flow of such vehicular traffic on any municipal road, including the right to detour, reroute, or divert any or all traffic and to prevent ingress or egress from any area that, in their discretion, is deemed necessary for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the public, and to remove parked or abandoned vehicles from such roadways as conditions warrant.

Furthermore, the Township of Raritan Fire Department, The Raritan Township Police Department and in concert with the Borough of Flemington Office of Emergency Management that the Flemington First Aid & Rescue Squads ensure adequate staffing until further notice. Those Departments unable to do so should notify the Township of Raritan Office of Emergency Management.

I authorize and empower the Township of Raritan for the ability to hold, and recall personnel as needed as approved by either the Township Emergency Management Coordinator, Township Administrator and/or Individual Department Heads.

I authorize and empower the Township of Raritan to utilize all facilities owned, rented, operated, and maintained by the Township of Raritan and request the State of New Jersey to house and shelter persons and their pets who may need to be evacuated from a residence, dwelling, building, structure, or vehicle during the course of this emergency.

The following regulations shall be implemented or adjusted as needed during this State of Emergency; the ability to procure additional specialized resources for rescue and recovery operations if needed, the ability to enter into agreement to share resources with neighboring municipalities, the ability to impose a township wide curfew if needed, the ability to adjust mutual aid agreements based on the specific need of the township when request is received, the ability to use personnel for any task for which they are comfortable with executing including those tasks outside of their terms of employment that would benefit the Township of Raritan and/or its residents; The ability to restrict access to certain geographic areas of the Township as deemed necessary to protect lives, property, and allow emergency work to be accomplished, the ability of Township of Raritan Police Department and or the Township of Raritan Office of Emergency Management to order mandatory evacuation and or to shelter in place of homes or businesses.

In accordance with the N.J.S.A. App.A:9-34 and N.J.S.A. App.A:9-51, I reserve the right to request all available resources of the, County, State government, whether of persons, properties, or instrumentalities, and to utilize any personal services and any privately owned property necessary to protect against this emergency.

This Order, a Disaster Emergency Proclamation, shall take effect at 1900 hours on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 and shall remain in effect until such time as it is determined by me, in consultation with the Hunterdon County Health Officer, that an emergency no longer exists.

The Township of Raritan Office of Emergency Management Declaration of Emergency via EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION For: COVID-19 Pandemic



Christopher J. Phelan
Emergency Management Coordinator

March 17, 2020



Jeff Kuhl
Mayor

March 17, 2020

ORIGINAL SIGNED COPY SHALL BE MAINTAINED AT THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE AT ONE MUNICIPAL DRIVE WITH COPIES POSTED AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING VIA THE CLERKS OFFICE AND FORWARDED TO THE HUNTERDON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANGEMENT. ELECTRONIC COPIES SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.