LOCAL EMERGENCY ORDER

Pursuant to the Proclamation of a State of Emergency in California Governor by Gavin Newsom on March 4, 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; the Governor's Executive Orders (including but not limited to N-33-20); the City Manager's Proclamation of a Local Emergency dated March 12, 2020, and subsequent ratification by the Stockton City Council on March 17, 2020; the Orders of the San Joaquin Director of Emergency Services dated March 19, 2020, March 21, 2020, April 14, 2020, April 24, 2020 and May 8, 2020; and Government Code Section 8634, I hereby issue the following Order:

1. Once sit-down dining is permitted by the San Joaquin County Health Officer, certain City-owned public properties may be used temporarily for outdoor dining during the pendency of the local emergency. In lieu of obtaining a revocable permit per SMC 16.72.127, a no-fee temporary outdoor dining permit shall be required, subject to the following requirements:

   A. Restaurants desiring to use public property for outdoor dining shall submit an application, on forms approved by the Community Development Department, with photographs, drawing or depiction of the proposed location and layout, and such restaurants shall obtain a temporary, no-cost permit from the Community Development Department, which permit may be granted or denied in the City’s discretion.

   B. The City reserves the right to determine on a case-by-case basis the suitability and appropriateness of the public property requested by the restaurant for outdoor dining.

   C. The use of City property (public space) shall not interfere with vehicular and pedestrian traffic, or access under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

   D. No permanent item or structure shall be installed on City property.

   E. Any temporary outdoor dining area fencing shall be provided in a safe manner and not exceed three (3) feet in height.

   F. Dining tables shall be placed as required by the Public Health Officer or the CDC.

   G. A minimum four (4' 0") foot wide path of travel shall be provided and maintained along all pedestrian walkways from the public right-of-way and/or parking lot to all
public building entrances. No outdoor use may obstruct this required pedestrian clearance in any manner, regardless of the width of the sidewalk.

H. Hours of operation for outdoor uses shall coincide with the hours of operation for the corresponding business with which the outdoor use is granted.

I. All forms of speaker amplification associated with the outdoor dining provided under this order shall be prohibited.

J. Restaurants shall comply with all applicable State and County laws and regulations pertaining to outdoor dining (including but not limited to sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages) under this provision.

K. No real property right is provided, given, or otherwise conveyed to any person or entity using public property for outdoor dining purpose. Any such use permitted hereunder shall cease not later than termination of the City local emergency, and the permittee shall return public property to the condition existing at the time of permit issuance. The City reserves the right, in its sole discretion during the pendency of the City local emergency, to terminate or extend any use permit issued hereunder, with or without cause. Upon termination of any use permit granted hereunder, the permittee shall return City-owned public property to the condition existing at the time of permit issuance.

2. Once sit-down dining is permitted by the San Joaquin County Health Officer, the requirement to obtain approval for outdoor dining on private property is suspended during the pendency of the local emergency, subject to the following requirements:

A. No permanent item or structure may be installed in association with outdoor seating provided under this order.

B. Dining tables shall be placed in a manner that observes six-foot (6'-0") social distancing between groups of customers. Customers in the same household dining together are counted as one group and are exempt from this requirement while sitting at the same table(s).

C. A minimum four (4' 0") foot wide path of travel shall be provided and maintained along all pedestrian walkways from the public right-of-way and/or parking lot to all public building entrances. No outdoor use may obstruct this required pedestrian clearance in any manner, regardless of the width of the sidewalk.

D. Outdoor dining areas shall not encroach on vehicular path of travel (i.e. site access and/or fire lanes)
E. Hours of operation for outdoor dining on private property uses shall coincide with the hours of operation for the corresponding business with which the outdoor use is granted.

F. All forms of speaker amplification associated with the outdoor dining provided under this order shall be prohibited.

G. Restaurants shall comply with all applicable State and County laws and regulations pertaining to outdoor dining (including but not limited to sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages) under this provision.

3. The provisions in the Stockton Municipal Code limiting temporary signage such as, for example, A-frame, window signs or banner signs, for business advertisement and promotion are suspended during the pendency of the local emergency, provided that such signs do not block, impede or otherwise interfere with the public rights-of-way and the safe travel of vehicles and pedestrians, including access under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Failure of any person to comply with this Order and any order issued by a law enforcement officer pursuant to this Order constitutes an imminent threat to public health.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the City of Stockton, its departments, officers, employees, or any other person.

If any provision of this Order or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held to be invalid, the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

This order shall remain in effect until the Proclamation of a State of Emergency is rescinded.

This Order shall be filed in the City Clerk’s Office and given widespread publicity and notice as is reasonably practicable.

Dated: May 26, 2020

By: 

Harry Black, City Manager/ 
Director of Emergency Services 
City of Stockton