News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Virginia Beach Declares State of Emergency

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (March 13, 2020) — Acting City Manager Tom Leahy issued a declaration of local emergency for the City of Virginia Beach, effective at 3 p.m. today, due to the coronavirus or COVID-19.

The Declaration allows for the City to implement the following:
- Enable emergency procurement for necessary supplies
- Access resources reserved for emergency response
- Activate a virtual Emergency Operations Center/Joint Operation Center

City facilities are open for business. Should that change, notifications will be made public.

The latest information is available at https://emergency.vbgov.com/coronavirus. Follow us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/CityofVaBeach and Twitter http://twitter.com/cityofvabeach, or call VB311 Citizen Services by dialing 311, or visit www.VBgov.com for online assistance.

City Council and other Official City Meetings
Members of the City Council are keenly sensitive to the challenges of continuing to hold City Council and other official meetings during this public health emergency. While we plan to continue with the current City Council meeting schedule, we encourage residents who do not have to attend to stay home. People can email comments on particular agenda items to members of the City Council at citycouncil@vbgov.com. The meetings can be viewed on VBTV (Cox channel 48 & Verizon channel 45), online at www.vbgov.com and on Facebook.com/CityofVaBeach.

An applicant who prefers not to have to attend a meeting at this time can request a deferral. "Given these extraordinary circumstances, I believe the Council would be favorably disposed to granting any deferrals we can," said Mayor Robert M. "Bobby" Dyer.

If you must attend a meeting because you are a petitioner or are required to speak on a scheduled agenda item, we encourage everyone to follow the CDC guidelines for preventing the spread of this virus as well as other illnesses: wash your hands for at least 20 seconds; use hand sanitizer; avoid shaking hands; keep from touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands; and leave seats between you and other people to support social distancing. If the City Council Chamber is full, please wait outside the room until your agenda item is announced.

###

News Releases: VBgov.com/News