

**LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP
DECLARATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY**

DECLARATION 20-01

WHEREAS, on or about **March 18, 2020**, the **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic** (Disaster) threatens to cause injury, damage, and suffering to the persons and property of the Township of Lower Paxton; and

WHEREAS, the Disaster has threatened to endanger the health, safety, and welfare of a substantial number of persons residing in the Township of Lower Paxton, and threatens to create problems greater in scope than the Township of Lower Paxton may be able to resolve through traditional statutory measures; and

WHEREAS, emergency management measures are required to reduce the severity of this disaster and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of affected residents of the Township of Lower Paxton and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, this Declaration will allow the Township to take advantage of a number of administrative functions that otherwise would be restricted per various Commonwealth statutes; namely, providing an avenue by which the Township may have expenditures related to pandemic response reimbursed by the federal government, the lifting of restrictions on certain bidding requirements, and the easing of certain advertising requirements with regard to special public meetings.

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lower Paxton Township has, by Chapter 23, Section 6, paragraph 17, of the Codified Ordinance of Lower Paxton Township, authorized the Township Manager to declare a local disaster emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, the undersigned Manager of Lower Paxton Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, pursuant to the provisions of Section 7501 of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code, (35 PA C.S., Section 7501), as amended, and Chapter 23, Section 6, paragraph 17, of the Codified Ordinances of Lower Paxton Township, do hereby declare the existence of a local disaster emergency in the Township of Lower Paxton;

FURTHER, I direct the Lower Paxton Township Emergency Management Coordinator and response team to coordinate the activities of the emergency response, to take all appropriate action needed to alleviate the effects of this disaster, to aid in the restoration of essential public services, and to take any other emergency response action deemed necessary to respond to this emergency.

FURTHER, I direct Administrative Staff and officials of the Township of Lower Paxton to act as necessary to meet the current exigencies of this emergency, namely Lower Paxton Township Departments may implement emergency assignments without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law, exempting mandatory constitutional requirements, pertaining to the performance of public work, entering into contracts, the incurring of obligations, the employment of temporary workers, the rental of equipment, the purchase of supplies and materials, the levying of taxes, and the appropriation and expenditure of public funds as such actions are necessary to mitigate this emergency.

FURTHER, I hereby suspend the provisions of any regulatory ordinance prescribing procedures for the conduct of Lower Paxton Township business, or the orders, rules, and regulations of any Lower Paxton Township Department, if strict compliance therewith would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary actions in coping with this emergency.

This Declaration shall take effect immediately.

LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP



Bradley Gotshall, Township Manager



Date

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
County of Dauphin

On this 18th day of March, 2020, before me, Bradley Gotshall, Township Manager, Lower Paxton Township, personally appeared and swore that the above information was true and correct. In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand and official seals.



Shellie Rae Smith, Notary Public

