



City of Bothell™

PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARING NECESSITY OF CONTINUED REMOTE MEETINGS

WHEREAS, Section 2.27.060 of the Bothell Municipal Code authorizes the Mayor of the City of Bothell to issue proclamations of local emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, former Mayor Liam Olsen issued a Proclamation of Local Emergency proclaiming that, due to COVID-19, a local emergency exists in the City of Bothell; and

WHEREAS, new subvariants of COVID-19, such as BA.2 continue to be detected in Washington State; and

WHEREAS, newer subvariants have caused multiple surges in case counts and hospitalizations throughout the Puget Sound region; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health: Seattle and King County has confirmed COVID-19 subvariants within the Bothell City Limits; and

WHEREAS, both King and Snohomish Counties continue to identify persons testing positive for and dying from COVID-19 subvariants; and

WHEREAS, the surge in cases reduces the ability for City staff and members of the public to attend in-person meetings safely, and

WHEREAS, the City of Bothell is committed to safely providing access to vital City services and public meetings; and

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2022, the City Council discussed whether, if held in-person, meetings of the City Council and meetings of City Advisory Groups would be reasonably safe for attendees given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2022, a majority of the City Council indicated that they had insufficient information regarding whether such in-person meetings would be reasonably safe and directed the City Manager to solicit feedback from each City Advisory Group such that the City Council would then have more complete information to act on; and

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2022, a majority of the City Council determined that, based on the information available on May 17, 2022, continuing to hold meetings of the City Council and of City Advisory Groups remotely through June 30, 2022, was the best way to ensure that each meeting was reasonably safe for attendees.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BOTHELL that an emergency continues to exist in the City of Bothell as a result of the aforementioned conditions and, therefore:

Section 1. As used in this Proclamation, the terms listed in this section shall have the meanings indicated below:

- A. “City Advisory Group” means the Arts Commission, the Civil Service Commission, the Council Salary Commission, the Landmark Preservation Board, the LEOFF 1 Disability Board, the Library Board, the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee, the Parks & Recreation Board, the Planning Commission, the Shorelines Board, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee, and any other board, committee, or commission convened, formed, or established by action of the City Council subsequent to the date of this Proclamation.
- B. “Meeting” shall have the same meaning as provided for the term in RCW 42.30.020.
- B. “OPMA” means the Washington State Open Public Meetings Act as codified in Chapter 42.30 RCW.
- C. “Remotely” means that the meeting will be held without a physical location and with members of the City Council, City Advisory Group, or the public attending via phone or other some other electronic means allowing real-time verbal communication without being in the same physical location, in the manner allowed under Section 5 of ESHB 1329, Chapter 115, Laws of 2022.

Section 2. All meetings of the City Council held from the date of this Proclamation through June 30, 2022, shall be held remotely in a manner that complies with the requirements of the OPMA.

Section 3. All meetings of every City Advisory Group held from the date of this Proclamation through June 30, 2022, shall be held remotely in a manner that complies with the requirements of the OPMA.

Section 4. Nothing in this Proclamation affects the continued validity of the March 5, 2020 Proclamation of Local Emergency issued by former Mayor Liam Olsen, which shall continue to remain in full force and effect until terminated.

Section 5. A copy of this proclamation, to the extent practicable, shall be posted at the City's regular locations for official notices and shall be made available to members of the local news media and general public.

Dated this 31st day of May, 2022.

Mason Thompson
Signed: [Mason Thompson \(May 31, 2022 16:08 PDT\)](#)

MASON THOMPSON, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BOTHELL