

RESOLUTION NO. ____-20

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARTINEZ,
AUTHORIZING THE TEMPORARY WAIVER OF LATE-PAYMENT PENALTIES AND
SUSPENSION OF DISCONNECTIONS FOR WATER UTILITIES IN RESPONSE TO
THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

WHEREAS, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency as a result of the threat of COVID-19 in the state of California on March 4, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized the COVID-19 viral outbreak as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Contra Costa Health Officer issued a shelter-in-place directive on March 16, 2020, in response to the rapid spread of the virus, which limits City of Martinez residents to only essential activities and business; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the City Manager acting as the City's Director of Emergency Services declared a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the City Council adopted a Resolution ratifying the Proclamation of a Local Declaration of State of Emergency, due to the ongoing threat to the security of public buildings, threat to essential public services and threat to the public's access to public services caused by the public health risk of the Coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of extreme economic hardship to persons within the City of Martinez due to the temporary closure or downsizing of businesses within the City; and

WHEREAS, to assist the public in dealing with potential economic hardships associated with the emergency, the City Council desires to waive certain penalties on delinquent water and waste utility accounts, and suspend water and wastewater disconnections in order to mitigate the negative consequences of that hardship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Martinez hereby resolve as follows:

1. The recitals of this Resolution are true and correct, and are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.
2. Consistent with the emergency powers per the declaration of a local emergency, the City Council does direct as follows regarding water utilities provided by the City:

- a. The City Manager, or designee, is authorized to waive late-payment penalties for water customers for payments for utility services provided between March 1, 2020, through June 1, 2020.
- b. The City Manager, or designee, is directed to suspend disconnection of water or sewer services due to a customer's failure to pay all or a part of utility services provided between March 1, 2020, through June 1, 2020.

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Martinez at a Special Meeting of said Council held on the 1st day of April, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

RICHARD HERNANDEZ, CITY CLERK
CITY OF MARTINEZ