

RESOLUTION NO. 597

A RESOLUTION of the Town Council of the Town of Yacolt Requesting the Governor to Move Clark County and the Town of Yacolt to Phase 3 of the “Safe Start Washington” Plan as Expeditiously as Possible.

WHEREAS, Washington State was the first state to experience the coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has issued a number of orders to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s and other State and local responses have resulted in Washington State “flattening the curve” and actually experiencing fewer cases and deaths in proportion to our population when compared to other states; and

WHEREAS, the new coronavirus cases have generally fallen statewide; and

WHEREAS, as a result the Governor allowed his “Stay Home – Stay Healthy” proclamation to expire on May 31, 2020, replacing it with the “Safe Start – Stay Healthy” proclamation effective June 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of the mitigation measures he ordered remain in place in Clark County and Yacolt; and

WHEREAS, these mitigation measures are causing a great deal of physical, psychological and economic pain to residents of Yacolt; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council understands that it is subordinate to the rules of the State of Washington and has no intention to be outside of compliance with state law; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has presented a plan for Washington to reopen from the lockdown orders he has issued over the last three months; and

WHEREAS, that plan includes four phases with Yacolt and Clark County currently in Phase 2 as of June 5, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Clark County’s application to move into Phase 2 was placed in abeyance because of one outbreak of positive coronavirus (COVID-19) tests at a food processing plant in Vancouver; and

WHEREAS, the Clark County Department of Health’s response to recent outbreaks was excellent with thorough contract tracing, demonstrating its capacity to handle outbreaks, while other counties currently in Phase 2 or Phase 3 have not yet been similarly tested by an outbreak to similarly demonstrate contract tracing success; and

WHEREAS, Clark County should not be penalized for recent outbreaks in light of its proven ability to respond; and

WHEREAS, Clark County was approved to go into Phase 2 after a nearly a two-week delay; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has required in his reopening plan that at least three weeks pass between phases; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has also suggested that counties have more flexibility and authority over their reopening plans which should allow an expedited move to Phase 3 for Clark County; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council acknowledges and appreciates the Governor's introduction of more local flexibility and authority; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Yacolt requests that the Governor expedite the acceptance of an application for Clark County to move to Phase 3 and count the time Clark County's application was in abeyance as time in Phase 2 for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the application..

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Yacolt, Washington, as follows:

Section I

The Town Council of the Town of Yacolt, respectfully requests that the Governor expedite the acceptance of an application for Clark County to move to Phase 3 and count the time Clark County's application was in abeyance as time in Phase 2 for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the application, on or about June 13.

Section II


The Town Clerk is directed to forward this Resolution to the Governor and other appropriate state executive officials, the Clark County legislative delegation, Clark County and other cities in Clark County.

PASSED by the Town Council for the Town of Yacolt, Washington, and approved by the Mayor at the regular meeting of said council held this 15th day of June 2020.

Town of Yacolt, Washington

By: 
Katelyn Listek, Mayor

ATTEST:


Dawn Salisbury, Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

David Ridenour, Town Attorney

Town of Yacolt, Washington

By: _____
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Town Attorney