



**EMERGENCY ORDER**  
**IN AND FOR THE CITY OF SEQUIM, WASHINGTON**

No. 2020-31

**Regarding temporary changes to enforcement of the City's sign code (SMC 18.58) to allow limited signage to be placed to promote 2020 Lavender Weekend farm tours after cancellation of main Lavender Weekend events due to COVID-19 emergency.**

Policy/Budget  (Council)      **City Clerk use only:** Presented to Council \_\_\_\_\_  
Administrative (City Manager)

On March 16, 2020, at a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Sequim, the City Council issued a Proclamation of Civil Emergency due to the novel corona virus (COVID-19) outbreak that was identified as a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020.

The Proclamation of Civil Emergency was issued pursuant to Sequim Municipal Code 2.60, RCW 35A.38.010, and RCW 38.52.070(2) based on the public health threat posed by COVID-19, and is consistent with concurrent emergency declarations issued by the President of the United States and the Governor of the State of Washington.

Beginning on March 23, 2020, with Governor Inslee's issuance of Proclamation 20-25 "Stay Home Stay Healthy", state and local governments began to issue orders designed to stop the spread of the virus. The orders established shelter-in-place and social distancing guidelines, described essential activities, and closed businesses and schools. Over the ensuing weeks, new or revised emergency proclamations and orders have been issued by state and local governments, including the City of Sequim, allowing phased reopening of some businesses and facilities, and establishing programs to ameliorate the impact of the pandemic on the public.

On June 9, 2020, the City Manager signed Emergency Order 2020-24 temporarily modifying the City's regulation of its sign code, SMC Chapter 18.58, to assist local businesses with their economic activity during the height of the crisis.

On or about June 12, 2020, the Sequim Lavender Growers Association ("SLGA") -- the organization that contracts with the City of Sequim for holding the annual Lavender Festival, part of the larger Lavender Weekend -- cancelled most of its scheduled events due to federal guidelines and State mandates prohibiting large public gatherings. Historically, those contracts required SLGA to apply for and receive a permit for the Festival, which was incorporated into and an essential element of the contract. SLGA did not complete the Special Event Permit application that was a necessary component of their 2020 contract with the City, voiding that contract.

On June 12, 2020, SLGA contacted the City for permission to place some directional signs within the city limits promoting limited farm tours over Lavender Weekend. In the interest of assisting local



businesses through the pandemic-caused economic crisis, the City decided to allow placement of the signage as an expansion of its discretion under Emergency Order 2020-24.

On June 30, 2020, City staff determined that other lavender farms and groups that are non-SLGA members should be afforded the same discretion in enforcement of sign placement as SLGA.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED THAT:**

**Section 1. Temporary modification of enforcement of SMC 18.58 for Lavender Weekend farm tours.** The City will modify its enforcement of SMC 18.58 specifically with regard to Lavender Weekend as follows:

The City will allow the Sequim Lavender Growers Association to place the signage shown on Attachment 1 to promote the farm tours associated with the otherwise cancelled 2020 Lavender Festival event. The City will also allow directional signs to non-SLGA member farms who traditionally participate in the Sequim Lavender Weekend event upon submittal of a completed sign plan. (The final language of the signs may be different than what appears on the sign plan(s) but the type and location of signs must be as approved in writing by the City.)

**Section 2. Presentation, Ratification, Termination.** Emergency Orders issued under the March 16, 2020 Proclamation of Civil Emergency will be filed with the Legal Department and presented by the City Clerk as soon as practicable to the City Council for ratification and confirmation, modification, or rejection, if applicable.

Rejected orders will be void after the Council vote rejecting them.

Until such time as Council acts, Emergency Orders will be considered in full force and effect.

**Section 3. Duration.** Unless modified, extended, or terminated by the Sequim City Council or Sequim City Manager as applicable, this Emergency Order is effective immediately and remains in effect until such time as the Lavender Weekend farm tours have concluded.

SIGNED this 23rd day of July, 2020, at \_\_\_\_\_ hours.

CITY OF SEQUIM

Charles P. Bush, City Manager

Approved as to form:

Kristina Nelson-Gross, City Attorney

Attest:

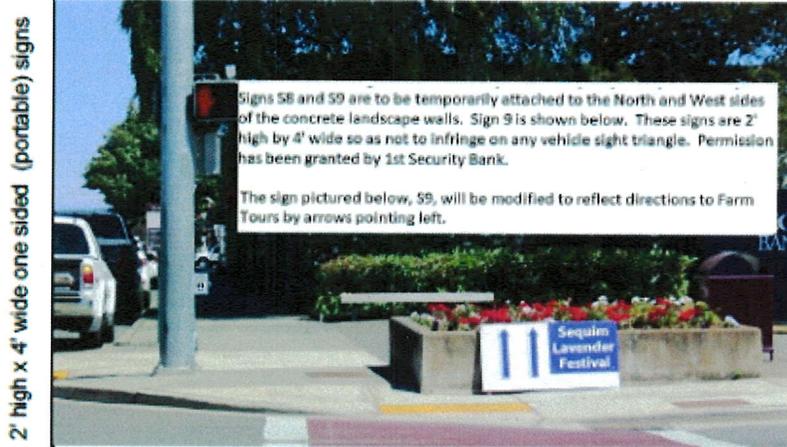
Sara McMillon, City Clerk

2020 Sequim Lavender Festival Signage Text prepared by Sequim Lavender Growers Association for the City of Sequim. Since there will be no Street Fair @ Carrie Blake Park due to the Covid-19 threat, signs this year are directional signs for Farm Tours only. Of the 8 signs this year, where a sign is specifically for an individual farm, that farm name will be listed on the sign. Most signs are double sided with the same text on both sides with arrow directions varying according to orientation

Signs  
1, 13-17 & 20



Signs 8 & 9



Signs 1, 8 & 9, 13 through 16 & 20 are all within the public street right-of-ways, off of the public sidewalks, in the abutting landscape areas. Sign 17 on the north side of Washington east of Sequim Ave is on public sidewalk between a fire hydrant and a street light pole (location approved by City staff since 2017).

