

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2153**

### **A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THAT THE CITY OF HERMISTON IS ESSENTIAL: IN SUPPORT OF FAIR, DIRECT FEDERAL EMERGENCY SUPPORT TO REOPEN AND REBUILD LOCAL AMERICAN ECONOMIES.**

WHEREAS, America's cities, towns and villages face unprecedented threats due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic emergency; and

WHEREAS, municipalities are essential to America's economic recovery and without funding support for local governments, municipalities may go from being a critical part of the economic solution, to becoming a major obstacle to long-term stabilization and recovery; and

WHEREAS, America's cities, towns and villages will experience budgetary shortfalls of up \$134 billion in fiscal year 2020 alone, and the negative effects of the pandemic emergency on local communities will continue long after this year; and

WHEREAS, three million critical municipal worker jobs are at risk, threatening cuts to basic community services, including 9-1-1 response, sanitation, and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, communities have taken extraordinary measures to protect health, safety, and the continuation of essential services throughout the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hermiston has been supporting public health response with maintaining basic services and assisting businesses in staying open through financial grants; and

WHEREAS, America's rural communities and small towns are struggling just as much as big cities and risk being left behind or wiped out entirely.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Hermiston calls on Congress and the State of Oregon to allocate fair and direct federal support to all of America's communities, regardless of population size; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this funding must be flexible and address not only the additional expenses incurred by communities to respond to the pandemic emergency, but also the dramatic budgetary shortfalls resulting from pauses in commerce, tourism, other economic engines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local governments will ensure federal funds are immediately used to rebuild and reopen the national economy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding will keep middle class workers employed and critical services operating; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Hermiston has been part of the emergency response and now calls on Congress to build a united national partnership for a safe, healthy, prosperous life.

PASSED by the Common Council this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.  
APPROVED by the Mayor this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

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Dr. David Drotzmann, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder