



Office of the Mayor
City of Tukwila, Washington
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 38.52 authorizes the Mayor to exercise emergency powers; and

WHEREAS, Tukwila Municipal Code (TMC) Section 2.57.030 (1) empowers the Mayor to proclaim a state of emergency when an incident, whether natural or man-made, requires immediate responsive action to protect life and property; and

WHEREAS, the killing of George Floyd by a police officer in Minneapolis on May 25, 2020, has generated anger and outrage across the United States, resulting in mass demonstrations;

WHEREAS, the City of Tukwila supports the peoples' right to lawful assembly guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of the State of Washington. Due to the current State of Emergency and the Governor's Stay Home Stay Healthy Order, the City was unable to issue a parade and/or demonstration permits to groups who wished to lawfully assemble to voice their opinions, and plans to escort parades and otherwise assist in the safe and lawful right of speech and assembly; and

WHEREAS, the City regularly facilitates and supports unpermitted demonstrations and events to ensure public safety while preserving free speech and assembly; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that parades and demonstrations which will travel upon public streets and sidewalks, will disrupt and impair pedestrians, motorists and transit, and the City recognizes that some disruption is part of the rights of free speech and lawful assembly which the City will safeguard; and

WHEREAS, in cities across the country, including Seattle, Atlanta, Phoenix, New York, Houston, San Jose, Los Angeles, Dallas, Portland, and Minneapolis, demonstrations over the killing of George Floyd have turned violent and led to property destruction, injuries to demonstrators, significant uses of force by police, and injuries to both demonstrators and police officers; and

WHEREAS, in Detroit, MI, on May 28, 2020, a 19-year old man was killed by gunfire at a related demonstration; and

WHEREAS, in many cities, including Minneapolis, St. Paul, Louisville, Milwaukee, Columbus, Atlanta, Portland, Cincinnati, and Denver declared states of emergency and established mandatory curfews; and

WHEREAS, the National Guard has been mobilized in Minnesota, Georgia, Oregon; and


WHEREAS, the protests and demonstrations have also led to looting activities, vandalism, and the destruction of property in the Southcenter area of Tukwila; and

WHEREAS, the presence of large numbers in a limited space combined with the clear and present, and escalating, threat of violence, presents an unacceptably high risk of serious injury to innocent people including lawful protesters and police, as well as the significant potential for property damage to businesses and other structures in the City of Tukwila; and

WHEREAS, these events are rapidly evolving and police responses are escalating even during the drafting of this order and the ability of the police to effectively control the situation is rapidly being compromised;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Allan Ekberg, Mayor of the City of Tukwila, do hereby proclaim a declaration of emergency within the City of Tukwila; and that during the existence of said emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Management and the emergency organization of this city shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, and resolutions of this city and approved by the Mayor on May 31, 2020. Said local emergency shall be deemed to continue to exist until its termination is proclaimed by the Mayor of the City of Tukwila, State of Washington.

Executed this 31st day of May, 2020.



Mayor