Mayoral Proclamation and Executive Orders
Amended July 13, 2020

Whereas: In December 2019, a novel (new) coronavirus known as COVID-19 (“the virus”) was first detected in Wuhan, Hubei Province, People’s Republic of China; and

Whereas: The State of Ohio government, under the leadership of Governor Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Health Director Dr. Amy Acton, has adopted necessary and bold preventive and proactive measures to slow the spread of the virus and treat those affected; and

Whereas: On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization announced that the COVID-19 outbreak can be characterized as a pandemic, as the rates of infection continue to rise in many locations around the world and across the United States; and

Whereas: The spread of COVID-19 within our community threatens to strain our local and regional healthcare systems; and

Whereas: As of the date of enactment of this proclamation, hundreds of individuals within Franklin County have tested positive for COVID-19; and

Whereas: Additional measures are deemed necessary, above and beyond those instituted by the State and Federal government, in order to help slow the outbreak of COVID-19 in our community; and

Whereas: In the event of a “.... disaster affecting life and property and which substantially impairs the functioning of the City government and its ability to protect the lives and property of the people,” the Mayor is authorized to proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency in the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENJAMIN J. KESSLER, Mayor of the City of Bexley, by the authority vested in me by the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bexley, including Section 648.09 (Mayor’s Emergency Powers), and consistent with Section 660.02 (Spreading Contagion), do hereby find and proclaim that the threat of a COVID-19 outbreak in the City of Bexley constitutes a State of Emergency, beginning March 15, 2020. Pursuant to this amended proclamation, I hereby issue the following executive orders:
Section 1. Guidance regarding individual daily health checks.
All residents are guided to perform daily temperature checks and daily checks for symptoms consistent with COVID-19. Symptoms commonly include fever, a dry cough, and shortness of breath. Residents without access to a thermometer are exempt from the temperature check requirement, but are encouraged to take reasonable and safe steps to procure a thermometer at home.

Section 2. Order regarding single-use plastics ban.
The Single-use plastics ban is hereby lifted for the duration of the effect of this proclamation. Residents are encouraged to use reusable bags which have been washed or otherwise fully sanitized between uses, or to use and properly recycle single use bags provided at the point of sale.

Section 3. Enforcement of state and federal orders.
All state and federal orders relating to the containment of COVID-19 contagion shall be enforceable via Section 648.09 and Section 660.02.

Section 4. Order Regarding Temporary Signage at Commercially Zoned Properties.
Restrictions on temporary signage at commercially zoned properties are hereby lifted for the duration of this order.

Section 5. Order Regarding Water/Sewer/Refuse Bill Due Dates and Water Shut Offs
The due date for the January through March water, sewer, and refuse bill (received by residents in early April, 2020), shall be extended until June 30, 2020. Water shut-offs shall not be administered through June 30, 2020.

Section 6. Temporary Expansion of Restaurant Patios
In order to accommodate safe distancing at restaurant patios, restaurants may apply for expedited approval for temporary expansion of patio space through the Building Department.

Section 7. Solicitors Permits
Door-to-door solicitation with the exception of solicitation protected by the First Amendment shall be discouraged during the duration of these orders. Permit holders shall be advised to wear face coverings at all times when on private property; to stand a minimum of 10’ clear of any doorways after knocking/ringing the doorbell; and to maintain a distance from any individual of a minimum of 10’ at all times while on private property and engaged in solicitation.

Section 8. Order Regarding Public Tennis Courts
Tennis courts may be open to the public. Public health guidance posters shall be posted at entry points to tennis courts. Doubles play is discouraged; doubles partners from outside of the same household are strongly discouraged.
Section 9. Order Regarding Basketball Courts
Basketball courts which are otherwise open to the public shall be closed off to the public, with signage on premises indicating that the facility is closed per public health orders.

Section 10. Order Regarding Block Party permits
Block party permits are suspended, in light of the Governor’s prohibition of gatherings in excess of 10 individuals, and pending further guidance from state and local health authorities.

Section 11. Prohibition Against Refusing Service on the Basis of Face Coverings
The City of Bexley strongly encourages the use of face coverings and masks in public spaces. Owners and operators of places of public accommodation may not require the removal of face coverings or masks in public spaces.

Section 12. Public Parks and rights of way
The carrying of masks and face coverings while in outdoor public spaces is highly encouraged, and individuals are highly encouraged to wear masks in outdoor settings where adequate social distancing is difficult.

Section 13. Duration of orders.
This proclamation shall be in full force and effect until July 31, 2020, and may be modified or extended at any time if public health conditions warrant.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Bexley, Ohio, to be hereto affixed this 13th day of July, 2020.

Mayor Benjamin J. Kessler