DECLARATION OF A LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY
POUDRE FIRE AUTHORITY
LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO

WHEREAS, Poudre Fire Authority ("PFA") is a governmental entity established through an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Fort Collins ("City") and the Poudre Valley Fire Protection District ("District"), both of which are political subdivisions of the State of Colorado. On behalf of the City and the District, PFA provides fire, life safety and emergency medical services (collectively, "Emergency Services") to the citizens and property within the combined jurisdictional boundaries of the City and the District ("Service Area"), and individuals passing through PFA’s Service Area;

WHEREAS, C.R.S. § 24-33.5-709 authorizes the principal executive officer of a political subdivision to declare a local disaster, which local disaster declaration shall not continue or be renewed for a period in excess of seven days, except with the consent of the governing board of the political subdivision;

WHEREAS, the effect of any such local disaster declaration is to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local and interjurisdictional disaster emergency plans and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under such plans;

WHEREAS, the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, commonly referred to as COVID-19, is highly infectious and can cause severe and potentially fatal respiratory symptoms in infected individuals. The spread of COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic, its presence has been detected in the State of Colorado, and residents and visitors within PFA’s Service Area are at risk of contracting COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the risks posed by this threat require PFA to prepare its emergency response personnel and services as necessary to respond to the potentially rapid and severe spread of COVID-19 within its Service Area, the County of Larimer, and the State of Colorado, and to coordinate its response with other State and local emergency response agencies and other governmental entities, in order to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 and to recover from this local disaster emergency; and

WHEREAS, the financial, administrative, and operational resources necessary to respond to the COVID-19 local disaster emergency impose a significant and potentially detrimental burden on PFA’s capabilities and resources.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Tom DeMint, Fire Chief, being the principal executive officer of the Poudre Fire Authority, hereby declare a local disaster emergency within PFA’s Service Area due to the imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property from the presence and spread of COVID-19.

This declaration of local disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed with (1) the Clerk and Recorder of Larimer County; (2) the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Local Government; and (3) the Office of Emergency Management. This declaration shall expire if not continued or renewed by the Poudre Fire Authority’s Board of Directors within a period of seven days.

3/17/2020
Tom DeMint, Fire Chief

THIS DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY IS HEREBY CONTINUED AND RENEWED BY THE POUDRE FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT A PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON MARCH 24, 2020.

ATTESTED:

Kristin Stephens, Chairperson

Kirsten Howard, Secretary