



Salt River  
**PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY**  
10005 E. OSBORN RD. / SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85256-9722 / PHONE (480) 362-7400

# **LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

## **\*\*COVID-19\*\***

### **Fourth Directive – July 29, 2020**

#### **CLOSING OF THE VERDE RIVER/SALT RIVER (“RED MOUNTAIN RIVER AREA”) TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

**TO PROTECT AND DEFEND THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE ONK AKIMEL O’ODHAM AND XALYCHIDOM PIIPAASH, RESIDENTS, COMMUNITY EMPLOYEES, BUSINESSES AND VISITORS OF THE SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA INDIAN COMMUNITY BY CLOSING OF THE VERDE RIVER/SALT RIVER (“RED MOUNTAIN RIVER AREA”) TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19.**

**WHEREAS,** to protect the health and welfare of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community (the “Community” or “SRPMIC”) on March 18, 2020, a Local Emergency Declaration for COVID-19 was issued followed by the First Directive of April 1, 2020 and the Second Directive of June 19, 2020 (the “SRPMIC Directives”) to lessen the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS,** on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 virus a public health emergency of international concern and Arizona Governor Douglas Ducey declared a state of emergency for the State of Arizona on March 11, 2020 and has issued subsequent directives including EO 2020-43 *Pausing of Arizona’s Reopening* issued on June 29, 2020 and the EO 2020-52 the *Continuation of EO 2020-43* on July 23, 2020 (the “Arizona Directives”); and

**WHEREAS,** the COVID-19 outbreak continues to be an immediate threat to the life, public health, safety, welfare and economic viability of the Community, the state and the world and the Community shall continue its efforts to further limit potential exposure to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

**WHEREAS,** as of July 27, 2020 the Arizona Department of Health Services and local public health departments have identified 163,827 cases of COVID-19 with 3,304 deaths in the state and within the Community 229 cases of COVID-19 have been identified and 9 deaths; and

**WHEREAS,** COVID-19 poses a serious public health threat within the Community for infectious disease spread to the Onk Akimel O’Odham and Xalychidom

Piipaash, residents, Community employees, businesses and visitors if proper precautions recommended by public health officials are not followed; and

**WHEREAS,** the summer months are usually a time of family and public gatherings and celebrations in the Red Mountain River Area, but at this time the Community must limit such usual practices to reduce the spread of COVID-19 which is spread most often through direct person-to-person contact; and

**WHEREAS,** the Salt River Fire Department reports that the growth of fire fuels has reached an extreme condition, which would jeopardize the health and safety of anyone within the Red Mountain River Area, including First Responders. The forecast reveals no meaningful precipitation for an extended time frame.

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to the local emergency declaration process under Chapter 1, Article V, Section 1-500 of the Community's Code of Ordinances, additional measures are required to safeguard the Onk Akimel O'Odham and Xalychidom Piipaash, residents, Community employees, businesses and visitors of the Community from the COVID-19 pandemic by putting in place reasonable measures to maintain order and protect lives; and

**WHEREAS,** the Community, working with its combined strength, unity and commitment, will work to protect the health and welfare of the Community against COVID-19.

**NOW THEREFORE,** pursuant to the SRPMIC Local Emergency Declaration for COVID-19 of March 18, 2020, I, along with the Council, hereby issue a Fourth Directive for the Community, until further notice:

1. Effective Friday, August 7, 2020 at 8:00 p.m., the Red Mountain River Area is closed except for access by Community members to gather natural materials or for traditional religious purposes of the Onk Akimel O'Odham and Xalychidom Piipaash. The Community adopts this directive to prohibit Community members, guests or trespassers from entering, loitering, swimming, or meeting at the Community's Red Mountain River Area, and to help mitigate, slow and prevent the continued spread of the COVID-19 virus in the Community and to reduce the risk of fires.
2. The Community will continue to impose restrictions on public gatherings, meetings of any kind, services, programs, etc., require persons to wear face coverings, and impose a curfew to limit the spread of COVID-19 pursuant to the March 18, 2020, Local Emergency Declaration for COVID-1, the First Directive issued on April 1, 2020, the Second Directive issued on June 19, 2020, and the Third Directive issued on July 22, 2020 (the "Community's COVID-19 Directives").

3. Enforcement of the SRPMIC Directives within the Community shall focus first on education and providing guidance issued by the SRPMIC Health and Human Services Department, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or the Arizona Department of Health Services, in order to promote the health and safety of Onk Akimel O'Odham and Xalychidom Piipaash, residents, Community employees, businesses and visitors of this Community as well as to further contain the spread of COVID-19. Individuals shall also be given an opportunity to comply with the SRPMIC Directives before any enforcement action is taken. A continued failure to comply with a SRPMIC Directive is violation under Section 1-503 of the SRPMIC Code of Ordinances.
4. This directive shall remain in place until further notice of repeal or revision.

SALT RIVER PIMA-MARICOPA  
INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

July 28, 2020  
Date

  
Ricardo Leonard, Vice-President

Attest:

  
Erica Harvier, Secretary

