



Mayor Louis Bonaguidi
Councilor Linda Garcia, District 1
Councilor Michael Schaaf, District 2
Councilor Yogash Kumar, District 3
Councilor Fran Palochak, District 4

Maryann Ustick, City Manager
Curtis Hayes, City Attorney

May 1, 2020

Dear Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham,


Pursuant to NMSA 1978 §§ 12-10-16 through 12-10-21 (“the Riot Control Act”), I respectfully ask that you declare a state of emergency pursuant within the boundaries of the City of Gallup. This request is being made as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak in our community, which constitutes an unprecedented health crisis. The virus has caused many deaths, stretched our medical facilities and resources to their capacity, and adversely impacted the welfare of the City of Gallup. Our community is unable to adequately address the outbreak without the imposition of certain restrictions necessary to regulate social distancing, public gatherings, sales of good, and the use of public streets. See generally, NMSA 1978, § 12-10-18 (2005).

I recognize this request is unusual and constitutes a drastic measure, and the emergency powers set out under the Riot Control Act should be invoked sparingly. However, the COVID-19 outbreak in the City of Gallup is a crisis of the highest order. Immediate action is necessary. Only through the invocation of your authority under the Riot Control Act can our community impose the measures necessary to stem transmission of COVID-19. Your support with law enforcement agencies, NMDOT, and the National Guard unit are requested.

We will collaborate with your office to craft the specific restrictions necessary to address this crisis. See generally, NMSA 1978, § 12-10-18 (2005). Further, we recognize that an emergency declaration under the Riot Control Act expires after three days, and that additional requests will need to be made if the situation warrants your continued exercise of authority.

Please continue to use the mayor@gallupnm.gov as your contact and I can be reached at (505) 863-1221.

Respectfully submitted,



Louis Bonaguidi, Mayor
City of Gallup