

**City of Westwood Hills, Kansas
Resolution 2020–3**

Resolution of the City of Westwood Hills, Kansas: Cities Are Essential

**In Support of Fair and Direct Federal Emergency Support to Reopen and Rebuild
Local American Economies**

WHEREAS, America’s cities, towns, and villages face unprecedented threats due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic emergency; and

WHEREAS, municipalities are essential to America’s economic recovery, and, without funding support for local governments, municipalities may go from being a critical part of the economic solution, to becoming a major obstacle to long term stabilization and recovery; and

WHEREAS, municipalities provide a host of basic services including law enforcement, infrastructure, and public health and safety services that are critical to the continued well-being, safety, and prosperity of our nation; and

WHEREAS, America’s cities, towns, and villages will experience budgetary shortfalls of up to \$134 billion in fiscal year 2020 alone, and the negative effects of the pandemic emergency on local communities will continue long after this year; and

WHEREAS, nationwide, three million critical municipal worker jobs are at risk, threatening cuts to basic community services, including 911 response, public safety, sanitation, and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, communities have taken extraordinary measures to protect health, safety, and the continuation of essential services throughout the emergency; and

WHEREAS, compliance with sound health and safety orders and modification of existing practices occasioned by COVID-19 have themselves increased the cost to local communities of providing basic and essential local services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Westwood Hills, Kansas, has begun to realize a substantial decrease in the amount of sales tax revenues received by the City and has begun investigating areas of expenditure which can be reduced or eliminated in this current budget year and in its planning for the 2021 budget year; and

WHEREAS, America’s rural communities and small cities and towns are struggling just as much as the major cities and are at risk of being left behind or wiped out entirely.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF WESTWOOD HILLS, KANSAS:

Section 1. The City of Westwood Hills, Kansas, calls on Congress to allocate fair and direct federal support to all of America's communities, regardless of population size.

Section 2. The requested federal funding must be flexible and address not only the additional expenses incurred by communities to respond to the pandemic emergency but also the dramatic budgetary shortfalls resulting from pauses in commerce, tourism, and other economic engines.

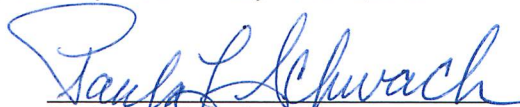
Section 3. The City of Westwood Hills, Kansas, and other local governments will ensure that federal funds are immediately used to rebuild and reopen the national economy.

Section 4. The requested federal funding will keep middle class workers employed and will keep critical local municipal services operating, including services such as police protection and infrastructure, upon which commerce and the economy depend.

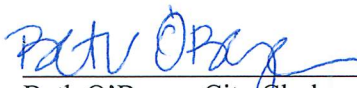
Section 5. The City of Westwood Hills, Kansas, has been part of the emergency response and now calls on Congress to build a united national partnership for a safe, healthy, and prosperous life for all residents.

Section 6. This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption.

Passed by the Governing Body and signed by the Mayor this 8th day of June, 2020.


Paula L. Schwach, Mayor

Attest:


Beth O'Bryan, City Clerk

Approved as to form:


James R. Orr, City Attorney