April 27, 2020

Governor Jay Inslee
Office of the Governor
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee:

Washington’s cities and towns appreciate your support and leadership during this unprecedented public health emergency. Needless to say, this crisis has impacted every city and town in Washington in some form. Cities and towns are our communities’ first responders and first line of defense to help keep everyone safe and protect public health.

Like the state, all cities and towns are experiencing extraordinary increased costs in responding to the emergency for things like overtime pay, personal protective equipment, quarantine housing, and remote work technology. Additionally, like the state, cities and towns are experiencing dramatically decreased revenues and are expecting further declines due to the extreme impact this emergency is having on our economy.

We understand that the state is facing similar fiscal challenges in responding to and recovering from this emergency. We are all watching our budgets closely and adjusting as guided by new information and projections. We were grateful to see that the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) in the federal CARES Act provided much-needed funding relief to state and local governments; however, that direct funding relief was limited to jurisdictions over 500,000 in population, which means that 280 of Washington’s 281 cities and towns were left out.

We are coming together to ask you to help all of our state’s cities and towns by providing funding relief to cover the costs of responding to the public health emergency using the state’s portion of the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund as soon as possible.

With a strong continued partnership between the state and cities, Washington can emerge from this stronger than ever.

We are all in this together.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Anderson, Councilmember, Albion
Barbara Tolbert, Mayor, Arlington
Steve Cowdrey, Councilmember, Asotin
Nancy Backus, Mayor, Auburn
Philip Johnson, Deputy Mayor, Battle Ground
Jared Nieuwenhuis, Deputy Mayor, Bellevue
Lynne Robinson, Mayor, Bellevue
Seth Fleetwood, Mayor, Bellingham
Betty J Barnes, Mayor, Bingen
Catherine Kiewit, City Councilor, Bingen
Carol Benson, Mayor, Black Diamond
Erin Stout, Councilmember, Black Diamond
Tamie, Councilmember, Black Diamond
Bonnie Onyon, Mayor, Blaine
Neil Johnson Jr., Mayor, Bonney Lake
Liam Olsen, Mayor, Bothell
Greg Wheeler, Mayor, Bremerton
Arthur Smyth, Mayor, Brewster
Janet Conklin, Mayor, Bridgeport
Judy Brown, City Clerk/Treasurer, Bridgeport
Pat Johnson, Mayor, Buckley
Alan Carr, Mayor, Bucoda
Bill Aslett, Councilmember, Burlington
Keith Chaplin, City Councilor, Burlington
Steve Sexton, Mayor, Burlington
Adair Hawkins, Councilmember, Carnation
Kimberly Lisk, Mayor, Carnation
James Fletcher, Mayor, Cashmere
Laurel Waller, Councilmember, Cathlamet
Susan Luond, Mayor, Centralia
Dennis L. Dawes, Mayor, Chehalis
Chris Grover, Mayor, Cheney
Jill Weiszm ann, Councilmember, Cheney
Mark Schuller, City Administrator, Cheney
Dorothy L Knauss, Mayor, Chewelah
Nicole Norvell, Councilmember, Chewelah
Marianne Klaas, Mayor, Clyde Hill
James D Retzer, Mayor, Colfax
Michael Rizzitiello, City Administrator, College Place
Ed Stern, AWC President/Councilmember, Poulsbo
Rebecca Erickson, Mayor, Poulsbo
Mary Ruth Edwards, Councilmember, Prosser
Ann Parks, Councilmember, Pullman
Glenn A. Johnson, Mayor, Pullman
Julie Door, Mayor, Puyallup
Tony Nordin, Mayor, Raymond
Angela Birney, Mayor, Redmond
Ryan Lukson, Mayor, Richland
Don Stose, Mayor, Ridgefield
Rob Aichele, City Councilor, Ridgefield
Gary Cook, Mayor, Ritzville
Bill Bond, Mayor Pro Tem, Riverside
Sandra Schneider, Councilmember, Riverside
Carrie Roecks, Mayor, Rockford
Leah Hadfield, Councilmember, Roslyn
Carl Cole, City Manager, SeaTac
Clyde Hill, Councilmember, SeaTac
Peter Kwon, Deputy Mayor, SeaTac
Senayet Negusse, Councilmember, SeaTac
Takele Gobena, Councilmember, SeaTac
Julia Johnson, Mayor, Sedro-Woolley
Kar de Jong, Councilmember, Sedro-Woolley
William Armacost, Mayor, Sequim
Jeff Niten, City Manager, Shelton
Betsy Robertson, Councilmember, Shoreline
Keith McGlashan, Councilmember, Shoreline
Keith Scully, Deputy Mayor, Shoreline
Chris Roberts, Councilmember, Shoreline
John T. Kartak, Mayor, Snohomish
Linda Redmon, Councilmember, Snohomish
Jason Sanders, Councilmember, Snohomish
Julie Struck, Mayor, South Bend
Linda J. Thompson, Councilmember, Spokane Valley
John C. Eagleson, Mayor, Sprague
Jennifer Ferguson, City Administrator, Stanwood
Judy Williams, Councilmember, Stanwood
Rob Johnson, Councilmember, Stanwood
Sid Roberts, Councilmember, Stanwood
Steve Shepro, Councilmember, Stanwood
Roger Neal, Councilmember, Steilacoom
Scott Anderson, Mayor, Stevenson
Christina Sivewright, Councilmember, Sultan
Will Ibershof, City Administrator, Sultan
William L. Pugh, Mayor, Sumner
Jim Restucci, Councilmember, Sunnyside
John J. O’Callahan, Councilmember, Tenino
Michelle Whitten, City Clerk/Treasurer, Tenino
Steve Dobosh, Mayor, Toledo
Alice J. Atwood, City Clerk/Treasurer, Tonasket
Alisa Weddle, Councilmember, Tonasket
Allan Ekberg, Mayor, Tukwila
Cynthia DeLostrinos Johnson, Councilmember, Tukwila
Kathy Hougardy, Councilmember, Tukwila
Pete Kmet, Mayor, Tumwater
Leatta Dahlhoff, Councilmember, Tumwater
Alan Caswell, Councilmember, Twisp
Hannah Cordes, Councilmember, Twisp
Mark Easton, Councilmember, Twisp
Soo Ing-Moody, Mayor, Twisp
Arlene Fisher, City Manager, Union Gap
David Hansen, Councilmember, Union Gap
Jack Galloway, Councilmember, Union Gap
James Murr, Councilmember, Union Gap
John Hodkinson, Mayor, Union Gap
Roger Wents, Deputy Mayor, Union Gap
Sandy Dailey, Councilmember, Union Gap
Kent D. Keel, Councilmember, University Place
Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor, Vancouver
Ty Stober, Councilmember, Vancouver
Randy Hincliffe, City Administrator, Waitsburg
David Scott, City Manager, Washougal
Molly Coston, Mayor, Washougal
Ray Kutch, Mayor Pro Tem, Washougal
Jim Bailey, Councilmember, Wenatchee
Brent Gerry, Mayor/CEO, West Richland
Fred Brink, Mayor Pro Tem, West Richland
Marla Keethler, Mayor, White Salmon
Jeff Miles, Councilmember, Zillah