RESOLUTION NO. 3 FOR 2023

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO CONSIDER SWEET HOME FOR INCLUSION IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 23-02 RELATED TO THE STATE OF EMERGENCY CAUSED BY THE EPIDEMIC OF HOMELESSNESS.

WHEREAS, The City of Sweet Home has experienced an increase of homelessness as evidenced by the number of individuals on the Coordinated Entry List; and

WHEREAS, the Homeless Point in Time Count process is controlled by the 26-county Rural Oregon Continuum of Care; made up of 26 disparate counties across Oregon and represents a substantially undercounted number of unhoused individuals in Sweet Home; and

WHEREAS, the data utilized by the Governor's Office in determining which counties are included in Executive Order 23-02 reflects a fundamental misunderstanding of the nature of homelessness in Sweet Home; and

WHEREAS, Sweet Home, community partners, and volunteers have spent and continue to spend significant resources to address the impact of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Sweet Home has experienced an inability to offer sufficient shelter and other housing options and grievous numbers of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness have perished and others continue to experience life threatening conditions; and

WHEREAS, this issue impacts the sanitation, health, and security of our community and residents; and

WHEREAS, Sweet Home was excluded from the provisions of Executive Order 23-02 in what we perceive to be an error of omission due to a lack of awareness of our current state of homelessness:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SWEET HOME:

That the City Council considers the state of homelessness in our community has been at emergency proportions and formally requests the opportunity to be covered by Executive Order 23-02.

PASSED by the Council and approved by the Mayor this 1st day of March 2023.

ATTEST:

City Manager - Ex Officio City Recorder