

RESOLUTION NO. 20 - 28
ORDER EXTENDING STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, in response to the emergence of a novel coronavirus and the respiratory disease it causes (“COVID-19”), the World Health Organization (WHO) has officially characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic that constitutes a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-51, declaring that appropriate measures to control the spread of COVID-19 in the State of Florida are necessary, and accordingly the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer declared that a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-52 declaring a State of Emergency for the state of Florida in furtherance of efforts to respond to and mitigate the effects of COVID-19 throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, in addition to other subsequent Executive Orders issued by the Governor, the Governor found it necessary and appropriate to take action to slow the spread of COVID-19, and accordingly issued Executive Order 20-91 (EO 20-91) on April 1, 2020, restricting the movements and activities of people throughout the State of Florida as provided therein; and

WHEREAS, in order to fully and effectively respond to the developing threats posed by the novel coronavirus and its associated disease (COVID-19), and in coordination with ongoing emergency actions by the state and federal governments, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners (Board) passed Resolution 20-16 declaring a local state of emergency in Pinellas County (Resolution), and subsequently extensions and orders have been issued continuing the state of local emergency based on ongoing threats and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, reported cases of COVID-19 within Pinellas County and serious complications and deaths related thereto have continued to rise; and

WHEREAS, in order to support and accomplish the public health goals of the Governor’s orders and to implement the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as fully as possible, an order reestablishing and extending the ongoing emergency order provisions will aid both public compliance therewith as well as the burden on the law enforcement personnel and others charged with enforcing its terms; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to §252.38(1), Florida Statutes, and Pinellas County Charter section 2.04 (k), the County has jurisdictional authority over the entire county for emergency management purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DECLARED by the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County, Florida, this 16th day of April 2020:

- 1) That based on the facts and circumstances as outlined above there exists a legal and factual basis for the County to remain under a State of Local Emergency until 3:00 P.M. Friday April 24, 2020 and the State of Local Emergency is hereby extended until such time.
- 2) That all previous resolutions and orders of the Board of County Commissioners, the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners, or the County Administrator issued in furtherance of emergency response to COVID-19, are hereby ratified, restated, readopted, and extended throughout the State of Local Emergency.
- 3) All persons within Pinellas County must comply with the emergency orders of the Governor and the County.

Severability.

Any provision(s) within this Order that conflict(s) with any State or Federal law or constitutional provision, or conflict(s) with or are superseded by a current or subsequently-issued Executive Order of the Governor or the President of the United States, shall be deemed inapplicable and deemed to be severed from this Order, with the remainder of the Order remaining intact and in full force and effect. To the extent application of some or all of the provisions of this Order is prohibited on the sovereign land of a federally or state recognized sovereign Indian tribe, such application is expressly excluded from this Order.

Effective Date; Duration.

This Order is effective immediately upon filing with the Clerk of the Circuit Court which will happen at the close of this meeting.

This Order is in addition to the Executive Orders issued by Governor DeSantis.

This Order applies to incorporated and unincorporated areas within Pinellas County, but has no application outside of Pinellas County.

This order and prior resolutions and emergency orders remain in force and effect unless modified or superseded.

Commissioner Welch offered the foregoing Resolution and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Commissioner Seel, and upon roll call the vote was:

AYES: Gerard, Eggers, Justice, Long, Peters, Seel, and Welch.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING: None.

Donald S. Crowell, Chief Asst. County Attorney: APPROVED AS TO FORM