

**AN ORDER OF THE ST. LUCIE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
REGARDING
(TOLLING PERMITTING TIMEFRAMES)**

WHEREAS, the St. Lucie County Administrator has made the following determinations:

1. Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and
2. In late 2019, a new and significant outbreak of COVID-19 emerged in China; and
3. The World Health Organization previously declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and
4. In response to the recent COVID-19 outbreak in China, Iran, Italy, Japan and South Korea, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has deemed it necessary to prohibit or restrict non-essential travel to or from those countries; and
5. On March 1, 2020, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-51 directing the Florida Department of Health to issue a Public Health Emergency; and
6. On March 1, 2020, the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer declared a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19; and
7. On March 7, 2020, the Governor of the State of Florida directed the Director of the Division of Emergency Management to activate the State of Emergency Operations Center to Level 2 to provide coordination and response to the COVID-19 emergency; and
8. On March 9, 2020, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-52 declaring that a state of emergency exists in the State of Florida; and
9. As of March 13, 2020, seventeen counties in Florida have positive cases for COVID-19, and COVID-19 poses a risk to the entire state of Florida; and
10. The CDC currently recommends community preparedness and that everyday prevention measures should be taken by all individuals and families in the United States, including

voluntary home isolation when individuals are sick with respiratory symptoms, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and disposal of the tissue immediately thereafter, washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, using alcohol-based hand sanitizers with 60%-95% alcohol if soap and water are not readily available and routinely cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects to increase community resilience and readiness for responding to an outbreak; and

11. The CDC currently recommends mitigation measures for communities experiencing an outbreak including staying at home when sick, keeping away from others who are sick, limiting face-to-face contact with others as much as possible, consulting with your healthcare provider if individuals or members of a household are at high risk for COVID-19 complications, wearing a facemask if advised to do so by a healthcare provider or by a public health official, staying home when a household member is sick with respiratory disease symptoms if instructed to do so by public health officials or a health care provider; and

12. On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a proclamation of a declaration of national emergency; and

13. On March 13, 2020, the Coordinating Officer for the State of Florida Division of Emergency Management issued Emergency Order No. 20-004, authorizing the Department of Education to delay school assessments and to adjust school calendars including rescheduling, extending or cancelling spring breaks; and

14. On March 17, 2020, the St. Lucie County Public Safety Director declared a State of Local Emergency Covid-19 Public Health Emergency ("St. Lucie County Declaration of Emergency"); and

15. Formerly routine processes have been disrupted and are taking longer to accomplish due to COVID-19 precautions; and

16. Paragraph 4 of the St. Lucie County Declaration of Emergency provides that the County Administrator may suspend, toll or extend the time requirements, notice requirements and deadlines for final action on applications for permits, licenses, rates and other approvals under the St. Lucie County Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The determinations, orders, and declarations identified above are incorporated herein.
2. Tolling and Extensions. Any and all pending due dates, expiration dates, or termination dates in Zoning and Land Use applications, agreements, resolutions, ordinances, building permits; and Code Enforcement compliance dates, are hereby tolled until the current Local State of Emergency expires or is rescinded. In the event an item on the agenda has a due date, termination date or expiration date prior to the date on which the next regularly scheduled BOCC meeting is held, then that item shall be tolled until the Board is able to take official action at a public meeting on that item.
3. Additional Considerations. This Order does not apply to items within St. Lucie County's internal review processes.
4. Any provision(s) within this Emergency 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 Emergency Order, with the remainder of the Emergency Order remaining intact and in full force and effect. To the extent application of some or all of the provisions of this Emergency Order is prohibited on the sovereign land of a federally or state recognized sovereign Indian tribe, such application is expressly excluded from this Emergency Order.
5. Effective Date; Duration. This order shall be effective as of 8:00 (am) (pm) on March 19th, 2020. This order shall expire upon the expiration of the existing State of Local Emergency, as same may be extended by subsequent order or declaration, unless earlier terminated by subsequent Emergency Order.
6. This Order shall be filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

Signed this 27th day of March, 2020 at 6:00 (am) (pm).


Howard N. Tipton
County Administrator