RESOLUTION R2020-55
DECLARATION OF STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

A RESOLUTION OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, EXTENDING THE DECLARATION OF A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY RELATED TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) raised its assessment of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") threat from high to very high and declared a public health emergency of international concern related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has declared the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 as “high”, both in the United States and throughout the world; and

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

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a State of Emergency in the State of Florida regarding the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Escambia County has a duty to take protective measures to support the public health and safety of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners of Escambia County has been informed by its emergency management staff of the continued threat posed by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 and infectious diseases have the capacity to pose a significant, imminent, and dangerous threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of Escambia County, Florida, visitors and tourists in Escambia County, Florida, as well as to their real and personal property; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus has the propensity to attach to surfaces for prolonged periods of time, thus causing property damage and continuing the spread of the virus; and
WHEREAS, previous States of Local Emergency were established by Resolutions R2020-24, R2020-25, R2020-26, R2020-35, R2020-36, R2020-37, R2020-38, R2020-39 and R2020-52 declaring a state of local emergency that shall expire at 1:59 p.m. on the 18th day of May 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners has been informed of risks facing Escambia County and considered whether or not to continue a state of local emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to ch. 252, Fla. Stat., and Escambia County Code Section 37-35(a)(1), the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners hereby resolves, finds, and declares:

1. The above recitals are true and are incorporated herein.

2. A state of local emergency hereby continues to exist in Escambia County, Florida, effective for seven (7) additional days beginning at 2:00 p.m., central daylight time, on the 18th day of May, 2020, and to expire at 1:59 p.m., central daylight time, on the 25th day of May, 2020.

3. The Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, hereby waives the procedures and formalities otherwise required of Escambia County pertaining to:
   a. Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to insure the health, safety, and welfare of the community.
   b. Entering into contracts.
   c. Incurring obligations.
   d. Employment of permanent and temporary workers.
   e. Utilization of volunteer workers.
   f. Rental of equipment.
   g. Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities.
   h. Appropriation and expenditure of public funds.

4. The County Administrator, or her designee, is hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to exercise, on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, such emergency powers necessary to carry out the provisions of Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, including, but not limited to, the powers to
direct and compel evacuation of all or part of the population from stricken or threatened areas within
the County, if such action is deemed necessary to reduce the vulnerability of people in communities
of Escambia County to damage, injury, and loss of life and property resulting from the imminent
threat, as well as any other powers expressly or implicitly conferred pursuant to Chapters 125 and
252, Florida Statutes, and any other provision of law or county ordinance.

5. The Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) is hereby activated.

6. This authority shall extend only for the period of the state of local emergency, as determined by the
County Administrator or her designee, or until further action by the Board of County Commissioners,
or until the Board terminates such authority or declares that the state of local emergency has ended.

7. This Resolution shall be transmitted to the Secretary of State upon adoption.

Adopted this 12th day of May, 2020.
May 12, 2020

Honorable Pam Childers  
Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller  
Escambia County  
Suite 130  
221 Palafox Place  
Pensacola, Florida 32502-5843

Attention: Krykyt Fisher

Dear Ms. Childers:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 125.66, Florida Statutes, this will acknowledge receipt of your electronic copy of Escambia County Resolution R2020-55, which was filed in this office on May 12, 2020.

Sincerely,

Ernest L. Reddick  
Program Administrator  

ELR/lb