

**EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION NO. 2020-20**

**A PROCLAMATION EXTENDING EXPIRATION DATES OF CERTAIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT ORDERS DUE TO COMPLICATIONS CAUSED BY COVID-19 AS PROVIDED BY CHAPTER 252, PART I, FLORIDA STATUTES, AND BY ST. JOHNS COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 2019-40**

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of the State of Florida declared a state of emergency exists in the State of Florida in regards to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, ST. JOHNS COUNTY EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION NO. 2020-1 declared a state of local emergency due to the threat of the COVID-19 to spread among humans, which may pose a threat to public health and safety and cause a threat to the entire State of Florida, including St. Johns County, which state of emergency was extended by various Emergency Proclamations; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 continues to cause extensive concerns to the citizens, health care providers, businesses, property owners, and public sectors in St. Johns County; and

**WHEREAS**, as elsewhere in the country, the citizens and businesses of St. Johns County are suffering severe economic impacts stemming in part from national, state and local measures closing certain businesses, public schools, public beaches, imposing emergency work-at-home requirements and limiting public gatherings (the "Emergency Measures") in an effort to slow the infection rate of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, many business owners, manufacturers, farmers, homeowners and other property owners have experienced delays in being able to act upon certain permits and approvals issued by St. Johns County related to their businesses and properties due to changes in market demand for goods and services and to labor and supply shortages, which impacts are expected to continue for some time; and

**WHEREAS**, the affected permits and approvals include those involving improvements to real property, such as construction of buildings and other facilities; installation of utilities, sidewalks, irrigation, landscaping and other improvements; and other similar activities stemming in part from the Emergency Measures and related hardships in obtaining labor and materials; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Johns County continues to exert efforts to address emergency conditions and assist affected citizens, health care providers, businesses, and property owners; and

**WHEREAS**, St. Johns County desires to extend expiration dates of local government development orders for property improvements to lessen the economic impacts of COVID-19 to businesses and property owners in St. Johns County and to assist in the economic recovery of St. Johns County from the impacts of COVID-19.

**NOW THEREFORE**, in accordance with the emergency power vested in the County pursuant to Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and St. Johns County Ordinance No. 2019-40, it is hereby declared that:

1. The expiration dates for St. Johns County permits and similar approvals related to real property improvements, such as construction of buildings and other facilities; installation of utilities, sidewalks, irrigation, landscaping and other improvements shall be eligible for extension as follows:

a. Building permits and approvals issued through the St. Johns County Building Department: a period of one (1) year from the date hereof.

b. Construction permits issued through the St. Johns County Utility Department: a period of six (6) months from the date hereof.

c. Development orders and permits (except for transportation facility construction), authorized or approved by the St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners ("BCC"), or BCC appointed board or agency: a period of six (6) months from the date hereof.

d. Major Road Network transportation facility construction (includes dedication of or construction of roadways and associated improvements including but not limited to drainage roadway facilities: no automatic extension; however, the County Administrator is authorized to provide up to six (6) months extension upon request and provision of evidence satisfactory to the County Administrator of specific COVID-19 related time restraints causing project delay.

2. If the State of Florida, through the Governor's Office, Office of the Attorney General, or Department of Emergency Management finds or declares that the COVID-19 pandemic constitutes a "natural emergency" for the purposes of Section 252.363, then the provisions of that statute shall govern over any extension granted through this Proclamation.

3. This Proclamation shall be effective as of June 23, 2020.

DONE and ORDERED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ST. JOHNS COUNTY FLORIDA

By: Jeb S. Smith  
Jeb S. Smith, Chairman

Attest: Brandon Patty, Clerk

By: Ram Halterman  
Deputy Clerk

