PROCLAMATION DECLARING AND EXTENDING A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IN INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN CONNECTION WITH COVID-19

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis, in his capacity as Governor of the State of Florida, issued Executive Order 20-51, directing the declaration of a public health emergency and establishing the State of Florida’s response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, the State Surgeon General declared a public health emergency in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020, Indian River County began making preparations to address COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis, in his capacity as Governor of the State of Florida, issued Executive Order Number 20-52, declaring that a state of emergency exists in the State of Florida by reason of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 101.10(1) of the Code of Indian River County, and Resolution 2019-55 of the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners, the County Administrator is authorized to declare a local state of emergency upon making a determination that a disaster has occurred or is imminent, requiring immediate and expeditious action; and

WHEREAS, in my capacity as County Administrator, I determined that, by reason of COVID-19, the threat of a disaster had occurred or was imminent, requiring immediate and expeditious action, and declared that a local state of emergency existed in all of Indian River County, Florida, effective as of 8:00 a.m., on March 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in my capacity as County Administrator, I determined that, by reason of COVID-19, the threat of a disaster had occurred or was imminent, requiring immediate and expeditious action, and declared that a local state of emergency existed and continued to exist in all of Indian River County, Florida, effective as of 8:00 a.m., on March 24, March 31, April 7, April 14, April 21, and at 7:00 a.m. on April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26, June 2, June 9, June 16, June 23, June 30, July 7, and on July 14, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, per Resolution 2019-55 and Resolution 2020-54, Assistant County Administrator Michael C. Zito, as my designee, determined that, by reason of COVID-19, the threat of a disaster had occurred or was imminent, requiring immediate and expeditious action, and declared that a local state of emergency existed and continued to exist in all of Indian River County, Florida, effective as of 7:00 a.m. on July 21, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in my capacity as County Administrator, I determined that, by reason of COVID-19, the threat of a disaster had occurred or was imminent, requiring immediate and expeditious action, and declared that a local state of emergency existed and continued to exist in all of Indian River County, Florida, effective as 7:00 a.m. on July 28, August 4, August 11, August 18, and again on August 25, 2020; and

WHEREAS, as of September 1, 2020, Indian River County is still suffering the effects of COVID-19, which continue to pose a threat to the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Indian River County,

NOW, THEREFORE, in my capacity as County Administrator, I hereby (1) determine that, by reason of COVID-19, the threat of a disaster has occurred, requiring immediate and expeditious action, (2) declare that a local state of emergency exists and continues in all of Indian River County, Florida, effective as of 7:00 a.m., on September 1, 2020, and (3) Indian River County Emergency Order 2020-14, regarding restaurants and food establishments is hereby extended and remain in full force and effect through the duration of this declaration and extension.

Jason E. Brown, Indian River County Administrator

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