1. The recent Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19") pandemic now includes more than 7900 positive cases of COVID-19 in Sarasota County. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to pose a significant risk to the health and safety of the population.

2. The COVID-19 pandemic’s potential for transmission throughout the population, attachment to surfaces for prolonged periods of time thereby causing property damage and increasing the potential for transmission, and increased strain on existing health care resources creates the threat of significant public and private financial loss and poses an immediate and present danger to the health and safety of the citizens of Sarasota County, necessitating the exercise of all reasonable preparatory, precautionary, and remedial measures.


4. It is the intent of Sarasota County that by declaration of this extended state of emergency, Sarasota County may invoke the powers granted to it pursuant to Section 252.38, Florida Statutes, and its adopted emergency management plan. It is further the intent of Sarasota County that by declaration of this extended state of emergency, Sarasota County, its citizens and municipalities may be eligible for financial assistance available through the state or federal government.

6. Pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Board of County Commissioners in the Sarasota County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and under Sarasota County Code Section 2-217(h)(1), I may declare the existence of an emergency procurement condition and suspend any or all of the provisions of the Procurement Code and authorize emergency procurement.

7. Pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Board of County Commissioners in the Sarasota County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan together with the authority granted to Sarasota County under Section 252.38(3)(a)(5), Florida Statutes, I promulgate the following Declaration, to take immediate effect:


SECTION 2. Authorization to Apply for Federal and State Assistance.

Sarasota County is hereby authorized to apply for any federal or state financial assistance to assist in responding to and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic including financial losses and illnesses as a result of the impacts sustained to Sarasota County and its residents.


Sarasota County hereby declares an emergency procurement condition continues to exist and suspends all the provisions of the Procurement Code and Procurement Manual and authorizes emergency procurements. The County Administrator hereby delegates his procurement authority under this Declaration to the Sarasota County Procurement Official.
SECTION 4. Effective Date, Duration and Area.

This Declaration shall take effect immediately and shall be effective throughout Sarasota County, including its municipalities. The state of emergency declared herein shall remain in force for seven days from the date hereof, unless extended pursuant to Section 252.38, Florida Statutes.

Approved:

Jonathan R. Lewis
County Administrator

Date 9/24/2020