

**CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2021-12**

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR EXTENDING THE STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARED FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESPONDING TO COVID-19 THROUGH MARCH 25, 2021.

THE FOLLOWING PROCLAMATION is hereby made by Rick Kriseman, in his capacity as Mayor of the City of St. Petersburg, Florida (the “**City**”):

SECTION 1—FINDINGS: I hereby make the following findings in support of the extension of the state of local emergency proclaimed by this order:

- (a) According to the Centers for Disease Control (the “**CDC**”), 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.
- (b) On March 9, 2020, pursuant to executive order 20-52, the Governor of the state of Florida declared a state of emergency throughout the state for the purpose of responding to COVID-19. That statewide emergency has been extended by subsequent order of the Governor (most recently, executive order 21-46), and it remains in effect at this time.
- (c) On March 13, 2020, the Pinellas County Board of Commissioners (“**BCC**”) adopted resolution 20-16 to declare a seven-day state of emergency in Pinellas County, Florida, (the “**County**”) for the purpose of responding to COVID-19. That countywide state of emergency has been extended in seven-day increments by subsequent resolutions of BCC or orders of the County Administrator, and it remains in effect at this time.
- (d) On March 12, 2020, pursuant to Florida Statutes section 252.38 and St. Petersburg City Code chapter 2, article VIII, division 2 (with respect to that division, the “**Emergency Code**”), I issued executive order 2020-01, which contained a proclamation declaring a seven-day state of local emergency in the City for the purpose of responding to COVID-19. That state of local emergency for the City has been extended for consecutive seven-day periods by subsequent proclamations (most recently in executive order 2021-11), and it remains in effect at this time (collectively, the “**Emergency**”).
- (e) To respond to the immediate danger to the public health, safety, and welfare of the City posed by COVID-19, I have taken a variety of emergency actions authorized by the Florida

Statutes (including sections 252.32, 252.38, and 252.46) and the Emergency Code during the Emergency. These actions include enacting a prohibition on price-gouging, waiving certain administrative procedures and formalities, and requiring COVID-19 mitigation planning to be conducted by businesses in the City and by individuals and entities who hold certain events pursuant to a City-issued permit or a facility use agreement (or similar contractual arrangement) with the City.

- (f) The Florida Department of Health (“DOH”) issues regular reports on the status of COVID-19 throughout the state, including a Data and Surveillance Dashboard that is updated daily with information on a state-wide and per-county basis. According to the data available on this dashboard, as of March 17, at approximately 11:00 AM, there have been, in the state as a whole, a total of 1,989,024 cases (regardless of residency), 32,504 deaths of Florida residents, and 616 non-resident deaths.
- (g) The DOH dashboard also provides county-level data related to two of the three key metrics established by the Governor as part of his “Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. plan to re-open Florida.” These are the “Syndromic Surveillance” metric (with respect to both influenza-like illnesses and COVID-19-like illnesses) and the “Epidemiology & Outbreak Decline” metric (with respect to both documented COVID-19 cases and the trajectory of positive tests as a percent of total tests). Taken together, the March 17, 2021 data for these metrics indicates that Pinellas County continues to be at risk for community spread of COVID-19.
- (h) The County also provides an online dashboard that uses DOH data to illustrate the status of COVID-19 in the County. Data on that County dashboard dated March 17, 2021, at 10:38 PM, indicates that Pinellas County has experienced a total of 67,762 confirmed cases and 1,522 deaths. This dashboard also provides a 14-day rolling average for daily new positive cases as an illustration of current trends. As of March 16, 2021, the 14-day rolling average for daily new positive cases in the County was 172.64.
- (i) DOH also issues a daily report with information about COVID-19 cases on a per-city basis, based on ZIP code. According to this report, as of March 16, 2021, there have been a total of 24,813 cases of Florida residents with a St. Petersburg ZIP code. This represents an additional 391 cases recorded in the City over the preceding seven-day period.
- (j) COVID-19 vaccines are now being administered throughout the state, and DOH data concerning vaccinations indicates that, as of March 16, 2021, a total of 117,596 vaccination series have been completed in Pinellas County. CDC recently released guidance entitled “Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People,” and the March 8, 2021, version of that guidance states that “fully vaccinated people should continue to . . . [t]ake precautions in public like wearing a well-fitted mask and physical distancing.”

- (k) Taken together, data cited in the preceding findings and guidance from various public health officials indicate that current mitigation measures (including requirements for face-covering in indoor public places and mitigation planning for businesses and certain events) remain necessary to limit the community spread of COVID-19 in the City and prevent a widespread outbreak of COVID-19 that could cause unprecedented sickness and death in the City that overwhelms critical and limited healthcare capacity and that could cause unprecedented economic damage within the City.
- (l) Accordingly, COVID-19 continues to pose an immediate danger to the public health, safety, and welfare of the City, and it remains necessary to protect the public interest to continue the emergency actions currently in effect and to maintain the authority to take additional emergency actions. Accordingly, the Emergency should be extended for an additional seven days pursuant to the Florida Statutes and the Emergency Code.
- (m) This proclamation is made in consideration of these findings, and the procedure used to make this proclamation is fair under the circumstances.

SECTION 2—EXTENSION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY: Pursuant to Florida Statutes section 252.38(3)(a)5. and City Code section 2-425(c), I hereby extend the Emergency for an additional seven-day period, to run through March 25, 2021, at 5:00 PM, unless terminated or extended in accordance with applicable law.

This proclamation is executed by the Mayor and filed with the City Clerk on the date and time stated below and will have full force and effect of law when filed with the City Clerk.



Sign: _____
Rick Kriseman, Mayor

Filed with the City Clerk:

Sign: _____

Name: Chan Srinivasa

Title: City Clerk

Date: March 18, 2021

Time: 9:41 A.M.

