

# **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY REGULATIONS**

**(COVID-19 State of Emergency - March 18, 2020)**

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and other potential methods, and presents symptoms similar to those of influenza;

WHEREAS, in December of 2019, a new and substantial outbreak of COVID-19 emerged in Wuhan, China, and has since spread rapidly to 150 countries and territories throughout the World, including the United States, and more specifically Broward County and 30 other counties in the State of Florida;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic;

WHEREAS, as of March 18, 2020, there are 214,894 confirmed cases of COVID-19 globally, and 8,732 deaths, with 13,903 new cases and 862 new deaths, and 4 new countries reporting cases of COVID-19, in the preceding 24 hours;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is predicting that it is likely that widespread transmission of COVID-19 will also occur in the United States;

WHEREAS, no vaccine or drug is currently available to cure or combat COVID-19;

WHEREAS, as of March 18, 2020, at least 80 persons in Broward County and 289 persons in the State of Florida have tested positive for COVID-19, with an unknown number of persons awaiting testing or awaiting test results;

WHEREAS, the Town of Pembroke Park is threatened by COVID-19 because of the apparent ability of the virus to spread rapidly among humans, and COVID-19 thereby constitutes a clear and present threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens and visitors of the Town of Pembroke Park;

WHEREAS, the CDC has issued guidelines for "community mitigation strategies" to limit the spread of COVID-19, including recommendations for social distancing, which has proven to be an effective method for containing COVID-19;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, the Governor of Florida issued Executive Order 20-52, declaring a State of Emergency due to COVID-19 on March 9, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Section 252.36, Florida Statutes, provides that a gubernatorial emergency declaration activates the emergency management plans of affected Florida municipalities; and

WHEREAS, Section 252.38(2), Florida Statutes, permits a municipality to declare a local State of Emergency when conditions such as those described above are found to exist and there is a danger of loss of life; and

WHEREAS, Section 252.38(2), Florida Statutes, empowers a municipality to exercise extraordinary powers during the existence of a State of Emergency, activate emergency management plans, and take prudent action necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of residents of Pembroke Park.

WHEREAS, Section 870.045, Florida Statutes, grants discretionary emergency measures to close places of public assemblage, prohibit the sale of alcohol and the establishment of curfews.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Ashira A. Mohammed, Mayor of Pembroke Park, Florida, do hereby find for the reasons set forth above that a local State of Emergency exists within Pembroke Park, Florida.

Pursuant to pertinent legal authorities, my office is vested with all powers and authority granted to said position during the existence of the State of Emergency proclaimed hereby.

My office shall issue such Emergency Orders as are required to conduct Town business and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of people within Pembroke Park, including, without limitation and to the extent permitted under applicable law or emergency authority, to institute a curfew, order the closure of Town facilities, restrict travel and movement within Pembroke Park, order evacuations, and such other actions deemed necessary for public safety.

All public officials and employees of Pembroke Park are hereby directed to exercise the utmost diligence in the discharge of their duties for the duration of this emergency and in the execution of State and local emergency orders, regulations, and directives.

All people of Pembroke Park are called upon and directed to comply with all necessary emergency measures, to cooperate with public officials and civil emergency/disaster service forces in executing emergency operational plans, and to obey and comply with the lawful direction of all properly identified public officers.

The State of Emergency declared hereby shall continue for a period of 30 days hereafter, up through and including April 16, 2020.

1. The following events and activities within the Town of Pembroke Park are postponed, cancelled, or suspended:
  - A. All meetings of the Town Commission. Code Enforcement, DRC, Town boards, including all advisory and statutory boards, Town committees and Town working groups;
  - B. All homeowner association and civic association meetings conducted or held on Town property;
  - C. All Town recreational programs and facilities. facility rentals will be canceled. Town parks will remain open, however, park buildings/restrooms will be closed until further notice.
  - D. Town hall will be closed to the public. Town hall will remain fully operational, however starting Monday, March 23, 2020, all non-essential personal will work remotely from home. Key personnel will continue to function normally and in person.
  - E. Building department functions will be determined by the building official.
2. Grocery stores, gas stations, convenience stores, banks, credit unions, financial institutions, hardware stores, auto supply stores, hospital, healthcare and medical facilities, pharmacies, drug stores, medical supply companies, land or facilities owned and managed by Broward County, the Broward County School Board, the North Broward Hospital District, the State of Florida, and the Federal Government, are exempt from this regulation .
3. All bars, nightclubs, taverns, pubs, cocktail lounges, dance halls, halls for hire, and other like entertainment facilities and businesses shall close.
4. All gyms, fitness centers, fitness studios, dance studios, and gymnasiums shall limit their capacity to allow for social spacing of 6 feet or more apart and no more than 50% of its current building occupancy. This regulation shall not apply to gymnasiums, fitness centers, and fitness studios which: (a) are amenities of office buildings or residential and which have a capacity of 10 persons or less.
5. All restaurants, and cafeterias are mandated to reduce occupancy to 50% of its current building occupancy. We encourage all food establishments to operate their kitchens for

drive-thru, delivery, take-out, and exterior pick-up food services.

6. All businesses shall have alcohol-based hand sanitizer at every entrance for use by persons upon entering and exiting.
7. All daily code enforcement fine accruals are cancelled. There will be no utility shut offs during this period.
8. All citizens and visitors of the Town of Pembroke Park are directed to comply with these emergency regulations and necessary measures, which shall be strictly enforced, and to cooperate with public officials and public safety personnel in executing any emergency operational plans, and to obey and comply with the lawful direction of all properly identified public officers.
9. Any violation of any rule or regulation issued and set forth herein shall be punishable as provided in Florida Statutes Chapter 870 and or in Chapter 1, Section 1-13(a), Code of Ordinances, Town of Pembroke Park.

Dated, in the Town of Pembroke Park, Florida, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



Ashira Mohammed, Mayor  
Town of Pembroke Park, Florida

Attest:

Geoffrey Jacobs Clerk Commissioner