

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 2020-01

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 117 countries and territories throughout the World, including the United States, and more specifically Broward County and 18 other counties in the State of Florida;

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

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, the City of Isle of Palms 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 City of Isle of Palms;

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, the City of Isle of Palms is working with other government agencies in an effort to prevent the spread of disease;

WHEREAS, Governor Henry McMaster issued an executive order that closed all dine-in services at restaurants and bars beginning on Wednesday, March 18, and limiting all business to to-go/take out services only;

WHEREAS, limitations on take-out packaging by the City's Plastic Ban and the lack of products available have prohibited local businesses to provide needed food and beverage services during the state of emergency;

WHEREAS, Section 5-7-250 of the South Carolina Code of Laws empowers Council to enact emergency ordinances affecting life, health, or safety; and

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing, the City of Isle of Palms deems it proper and necessary to adopt this emergency ordinance in order to, among other things: (a) authorize businesses to purchase, use and distribute containers that do not comply with the City's plastic ban

during this state of emergency; and (b) allow City Council and any appointed Board or Commission to meet by telephone or other means of electronic communication provided that the provisions of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act are complied with.

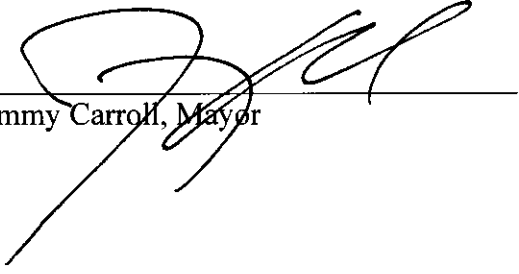
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Isle of Palms, in Council assembled, that:

1. The City of Isle of Palms temporarily suspends the normal operating procedures of City Council meetings and hereby allows for the Mayor and Councilmembers to remotely participate in voting and operational procedures by telephone or other means of electronic communication provided that the provisions of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act are complied with.
2. Local businesses on the island are authorized to purchase, use and distribute containers that do not comply with the City's plastic ban during this state of emergency.
3. All deadlines imposed by City Ordinance, applicable to the municipality or applicant, shall be suspended until July 15, 2020.
4. The City Administrator is authorized to develop and enact a plan in order to ensure continuity in the delivery of government services in light of the COVID-19 outbreak.
5. The City Administrator is authorized to cancel and revoke any special events permits issued prior to the date of this ordinance for events taking place until April 30, 2020.
6. All public gatherings of any type, whether organized or otherwise, of greater than 10 persons are prohibited.
7. Access to the island will be restricted for the next fourteen (14) days beginning March 21, 2020 at 7:00 a.m. to the following: (1) residents of the island with a current parking decal or proof of residency readily visible on or near the vehicle without the need for physical interaction with officers; (2) service workers with current decals readily visible on or near the vehicle without the need for physical interaction with officers; (3) holders of a current short term rental contract readily visible on or near the vehicle without the need for physical interaction with officers; (4) relatives and/or friends of residents only in presence of a current resident in a vehicle with a current parking decal or proof of residency readily visible on or near the vehicle without the need for physical interaction with officers; (5) residents and guests of Wild Dunes with a proper and current QR Code or proof of residency readily visible on or near the vehicle without the need for physical interaction with officers; and (6) delivery personnel, including but not limited to pharmacy, Fedex, UPS, Amazon, USPS; (7) any delivery of essential medical services, including caregivers; and (8) employees of local business, including but not limited to, grocery stores, restaurants, contractors, Short Term Rentals and property managers. Access will be restricted subject to the above from 7am to 7pm during this period.

8. As is necessary to slow the outbreak of COVID-19, City Administrator is authorized to implement additional restrictive requirements, upon notice to Council.
9. Any violation of any rule or regulation issued and set forth herein shall be punishable as provided in Title 9, Chapter 3, Section 2: Disorderly Conduct of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Isle of Palms.

SECTION 4. That this Ordinance take effect immediately upon second reading.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF ISLE OF PALMS, ON THE 20 DAY OF March, 2020.



Jimmy Carroll, Mayor