EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY EMERGENCY POLICY GROUP EXTENDING THE WEARING OF PROTECTIVE FACE COVERINGS ORDER AS AMENDED AT ITS JULY 6, 2020 MEETING

Upon motion by Commissioner Kimberly Overman seconded by Mayor Jane Castor, the following Executive Order was adopted by the Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group by a vote of 5 to 3; Sheriff Chad Chronister, Mayor Rick Lott, School Board Chair Melissa Snively voting NO:

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group issued an Executive Order declaring a local state of emergency for all of Hillsborough County due to the county wide threat from the COVID-19 virus, which order has been continuously extended by the Executive Policy Group as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida and Hillsborough County are continuing to experience reports of illnesses and persons testing positive for the virus; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-51 (EO 20-51), declaring that a public health emergency exists throughout the State of Florida as a result of the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-52, as extended by EO 20-114, declaring that a state of emergency exists throughout the State of Florida as a result of the spread of the COVID-19 virus and its imminent threat to health and welfare of the citizens of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-68, as extended by EO 20-112, placing restrictions on certain businesses and public gathering locations throughout the State of Florida as a result of the spread of the COVID-19 virus and its imminent threat to health and welfare of the citizens of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-112, as amended by EO 20-114, EO 20-120, and EO 20-123, providing a path to re-opening Florida and promoting business operations and economic recovery by implementing Phase 1: Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida’s Recovery; and

WHEREAS, on June 3, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-139, providing a path to re-opening Florida and promoting business operations and economic recovery by implementing Phase 2: Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida’s Recovery; and

WHEREAS, even though the Governor is providing a plan for the re-opening of businesses, as well as recreational and other activities, individuals and businesses have been advised to follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) guidelines; and

WHEREAS, all Executive Orders of the Governor not rescinded or otherwise terminated remain in effect, as modified or amended, and are forecast to remain so for the foreseeable future; and
WHEREAS, on June 22, 2020, the Hillsborough County Emergency Policy Group issued an Executive Order requiring the wearing of protective face coverings, which it extended and amended at its June 29, 2020, and July 6, 2020 meetings; and

WHEREAS, the said ongoing threat of COVID-19, poses a serious threat to the health and welfare of the people of Hillsborough County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough County is experiencing an increase in both the number of documented COVID-19 cases and the trajectory of positive tests as a percent of total tests; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough County must continue to take emergency action to lessen the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the CDC has indicated cloth face coverings may slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others; and

WHEREAS, the CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (but the CDC cautions the following persons should not wear cloth face coverings: children under age 2 and anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance); and

WHEREAS, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Hillsborough County Ordinance 06-13 (Hillsborough County Code of Laws and Ordinances, Part A, Chapter 22, Article II, Sections 22-19 through 22-30), authorizes the Emergency Policy Group to declare a state of local emergency and to take further reasonable action to provide for the health and safety of persons in Hillsborough County; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, requires that any order of the Emergency Policy Group expires after seven days, unless extended.

NOW THEREFORE, THE EMERGENCY POLICY GROUP OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN A MEETING ASSEMBLED THIS 20th DAY OF JULY 2020, ISSUES THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER RESOLVING THAT:

1. The Executive Order of the Emergency Policy Group Requiring the Wearing of Protective Face Coverings of June 22, 2020, as amended by the Emergency Policy Group on June 29, 2020, July 6, 2020 and July 13, 2020, is hereby extended for a seven-day period, effective immediately for the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Hillsborough County.

EXECUTED this 20th day of July 2020.

Lesley “Les” Miller, Jr.
Emergency Policy Group, Chair
STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

I, PAT FRANK, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Ex Officio Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Executive Order is a true and correct copy of the Executive Order adopted by the Emergency Policy Group of Hillsborough County, Florida, in its regular meeting of July 20, 2020.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 20th day of July 2020.

PAT FRANK
Clerk of Circuit Court

Deputy Clerk

APPROVED BY THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

BY: Paul D. Johnston
Approved as to form and legal sufficiency