

RESOLUTION 20-87

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA, EXTENDING THE SANDY GULF BEACH CLOSURE AND ASSOCIATED PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE 1519-E AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATELY EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Panama City Beach (“City”) is a municipality granted home rule authority pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Florida and may exercise its governmental, corporate, and proprietary powers for municipal purposes, including to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary, President of the United States, Governor of the State of Florida, and Bay County have all declared the outbreak of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, to be an international, national, state, and local emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-52 authorizing, among other things, local governments to execute their authority under the State Emergency Management Act; and

WHEREAS, section 252.44, Florida Statutes, directs the Governor to make recommendations to local governments for the mitigation of the harmful consequences of emergencies; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-68, directing “parties accessing public beaches to follow the CDC guidance by limiting their gatherings to no more than 10 persons, distance themselves from other parties by 6 feet, and support beach closures at the discretion of local authorities”; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, the City Council adopted Ordinance 1519-E closing the sandy gulf beach and all beach accesses until 12:00 p.m. on March 26, 2020 unless otherwise extended by Resolution of the Council.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that Ordinance 1519-E has been effective in reducing large congregations of people drawn to socialize along the sandy gulf beach and that continuing these mitigation strategies should continue; and

WHEREAS, as of March 25, 2020, the State of Florida has confirmed 1,977 cases of COVID-19, suffered 110 related deaths and continues to face additional positive cases confirmed each day; and

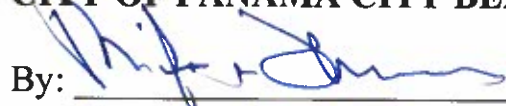
WHEREAS, considering the continuing and growing emergency facing the City and surrounding community, including the apparent rapid spread of COVID-19, the City Council deems it necessary and appropriate to extend the beach closure in order to meet and address the emergency presented by COVID-19 to ensure the public health, safety, and welfare of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida that Ordinance 1519-E is hereby extended until 12:00 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2020, unless such date is extended by Resolution of the City Council.

THIS RESOLUTION shall be effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED in regular session this 26th day of March, 2020.

CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH

By: 
Mike Thomas, Mayor

ATTEST:


Jo Smith, Interim City Clerk