



**STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DIRECTIVE
2020-02**

WHEREAS, On March 9, 2020, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-52, declaring a state of emergency because of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, The Florida Department of Health (DOH) issued a Declaration of Public Health Emergency on March 1, 2020, stating that COVID-19 is a threat to public health in Florida; and

WHEREAS, The City of Key West declared a local state of emergency at 3:15 on Sunday March 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States issued Coronavirus Guidelines for America on the afternoon of March 16, 2020, which included a recommendation to avoid social gatherings of groups of more than 10 people; and

WHEREAS, operating from or within the City of Key West there are multiple facilities that attract social gatherings of groups of more than 10 people; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020 Governor DeSantis issued a subsequent order closing bars and nightclubs at 5p.m. today for a period of 30 days. The Governor also announced a reduction in occupancy for restaurants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Key West issued State of Local Emergency Directive 2020-01 on March 17, 2020, which supported and enhanced the Governors Order as well as ordered the closure of numerous public facilities;

WHEREAS, several commercial operations within the City that attract gatherings of more than 10 people have voluntarily discontinued operations in the name of public safety, including movie theaters, museums, a large-scale watersports and sunset tour operator and the City's sightseeing franchise operator.

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a threat to public health in the City of Key West; and


WHEREAS, the enactment of the local state of emergency undertaken pursuant to Florida States permits the City of Key West to take whatever action is necessary to insure the health, safety and welfare of the community;

WHEREAS, continued closure of attractions and activities that routinely attract social gatherings of 10 or more people is necessary to combat COVID-19 to ensure the health safety and welfare of the community.

NOW THEREFORE, as Mayor and City Manager of the City of Key West, we hereby declare

- I. That attractions and activities which support social gatherings of 10 or more people in a limited area and operate within or from the City of Key West shall cease operations by 12 a.m. on Friday March 20th. These include gymnasiums, fitness studios, movie theaters, museums, sightseeing vehicles carrying 10 or more passengers and/or crew, attraction tour vessels and charter boats carrying 10 or more passengers and/or crew; commercial tour motor coaches, tour buses and similar tour vehicles carrying 10 or more passengers and/or crew.

The closures specified herein shall be assessed daily and this order shall remain in effect until superseded, repealed or upon expiration of the local state of emergency, including any extensions thereof.

Signed: 
Teri Johnston, Mayor of City of Key West

Signed: 
Greg Veliz, Key West City Manager

Date: 3/19/20

Time: 11:25 A.M