

**EMERGENCY ORDER OF THE CITY MANAGER**  
**CLOSING BOAT RAMPS ON CITY PROPERTY**  
**AND THE PARKING LOT IN BIRD KEY PARK**

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

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order No. 20-52 in which the Governor declared a State of Emergency exists in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the City of Sarasota declared a City-wide Public Health Emergency pursuant to Chapter 13 of the Sarasota City Code; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020 President Donald J. Trump and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued the 15 Days to Slow the Spread Guidance advising individuals to adopt far-reaching social distancing measures, such as working from home and avoiding gatherings of more than 10 people; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order No. 20-68 in which the Governor, among other things, directed parties accessing public beaches in the State of Florida to follow the CDC guidance by limiting their gatherings to no more than 10 persons and distancing themselves from other parties by six feet and directed restaurants (which, at that time, were still open for eating in) to follow the CDC guidance by ensuring a minimum six-foot distance between any group of patrons and limiting parties to no more than 10 individuals; and

WHEREAS, effective March 20, 2020, and March 27, 2020, the City Manager extended the City-wide Public Health Emergency Declaration for an additional period of seven (7) days; and

WHEREAS, mitigating the effects of COVID-19 and protecting the health of its citizens and visitors is a high priority of the City of Sarasota; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus has the propensity to attach to surfaces for prolonged periods of time, thus causing property damage and continuing the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-83 directing the Surgeon General and State Health Officer, among other things, to issue a public health advisory urging certain at risk persons to stay at home and against all social or recreational gatherings of 10 or more persons; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has learned that members of the general public have been using public boat ramps so as to facilitate gatherings at off-shore locations

which are inconsistent with the above guidance and executive orders thereby jeopardizing public health; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the direction from the CDC, as well as the Governor in Executive Orders 20-68 and 20-83, and with the City-wide declaration of a Public Health Emergency as extended, the City Manager on March 28, 2020, as stated with more specificity below, directed that all boat ramps on City of Sarasota property and the parking lot in Bird Key Park be closed to the general public; and

WHEREAS, this Emergency Order is issued pursuant to the home rule and police powers of the City of Sarasota and is issued pursuant to the powers and authority conferred by Chapter 252, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, Section 13-3, Sarasota City Code, provides that Emergency Orders issued by the City Manager shall become effective immediately upon issuance and shall be reduced to writing as soon as practical thereafter; and

WHEREAS, this Emergency Order is hereby reduced to writing and will be filed with the City Auditor and Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THOMAS BARWIN, CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA, BASED UPON THE FOREGOING RECITATIONS, HEREBY ISSUE THIS EMERGENCY ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** In light of the foregoing conditions, I hereby order that all boat ramps on property owned by the City of Sarasota, such as the 10<sup>th</sup> Street Boat Ramps and the City Island Boat Ramps, are closed to the general public effective at 6:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 29, 2020. I further order that the parking lot in Bird Key Park also be closed to the general public effective at 6:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 29, 2020. The Sarasota Police Department is authorized to enforce this emergency order and treat violations of this emergency order as a second degree misdemeanor punishable in accordance with Section 252.50, Florida Statutes.

**Section 2.** As soon as feasible after issuance and filing with the City Auditor and Clerk this Emergency Order shall be published on the web site of the City of Sarasota.

DONE AND ORDERED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

**CITY OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA**

By: 

Thomas Barwin  
City Manager