AMENDMENT TO THE DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY IN ORANGE COUNTY

Sec. 1. The undersigned declared the existence of a state of emergency in Orange County on March 13, 2020 and revised said declaration of emergency on March 25, 2020, April 23, 2020, and May 6, 2020 (hereinafter the “Declarations”).

Sec. 2. The Governor of North Carolina, through Executive Order 138 (“EO 138”), began moving the state into Phase 1 of the state’s planned COVID-19 recovery on May 8, 2020 and through Executive Order 141 (“EO 141” will begin moving the state into Phase 2 on May 22, 2020.

Sec. 3. In consideration of all available data related to the impacts of COVID-19 in Orange County the undersigned has determined it is in the best interest of the residents of Orange County to adopt and incorporate EO 141 into the Declarations subject to the conditions set forth herein.

a. EO 141, issued by Governor Roy Cooper on May 20, 2020, with an effective date of May 22, 2020 is incorporated herein by reference and fully applicable in Orange County and the municipalities within Orange County that have adopted the Declarations.

b. All restrictions, prohibitions, conditions, and permissions of the Declarations inconsistent with EO 141 are superseded by EO 141 with the following exceptions;

i. Prohibited “Mass Gatherings” as defined in EO 141 shall include all indoor meetings of more than 10 people including meetings of public bodies (Pursuant to EO 141 worship services, spiritual gatherings, weddings, and funerals are exempt from this restriction), and

ii. The mandatory mitigation measures set out in EO 138, Section 7B.2. shall apply to all long-term care facilities described in Section 7A.3., which are situated in Orange County, and

iii. All restaurant, personal care, grooming, tattoo, and retail employees and staff shall wear a face covering while on duty, however notwithstanding this general requirement, people whose religious beliefs prevent them from wearing a Face Covering, people who cannot wear a Face Covering due to a medical or behavioral condition, and people who are under twelve (12) years of age are excepted from the requirement to wear a Face Covering. Children under two (2) years of age shall not wear a Face Covering so that their breathing may not be inhibited, and
iv. It is recommended that all businesses require customers to wear a face covering while inside the business, and

v. Pursuant to the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services guidelines, restaurants shall limit customers at tables so that no more than six (6) people shall be seated together at the same table. However, more than six (6) people may sit together at the same table if they are members of the same household.

c. Should EO 141 be modified or terminated prior to June 30, 2020 its terms shall remain in effect in Orange County until this Amendment is modified or amended by the undersigned.

Sec. 4. Pursuant to the authority granted by Chapter 14 of the Orange County Code of General Ordinances and Chapter 166A of the N.C. General Statutes, the prohibitions and restrictions specified in the Declarations, and the terms pursuant to which such prohibitions and restrictions apply, shall continue to remain in full force and effect during the ongoing state of emergency.

Sec. 5. A copy of this Amendment to Declaration shall be provided to the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners. Reports of the substance of its prohibitions and restrictions shall be sent immediately to the mass communications media serving Orange County. As soon as practicable, the full text of this Amendment to Declaration shall be distributed to the mass communications media serving Orange County.

Sec. 6. This Amendment is effective at 5:00 p.m. on May 22, 2020.

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Penny Rich, Chair        Date
Orange County Board of Commissioners

5/21/2020