

NASSAU COUNTY
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 5
(Emergency Management – COVID-19)

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is under a declared State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County is utilizing employee shifts that include staff working in offices and from home; and

WHEREAS, the Governor issued a stay-in-place order, except for essential activities; and

WHEREAS, the Governor has also issued an executive order providing for county commission meetings to be conducted remotely; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's executive order does not appear to allow other Boards to conduct meetings remotely; and

WHEREAS, quasi-judicial hearings have procedural requirements in order to afford due process; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County does not have the capability to provide for remote participation that allows all aspects of quasi-judicial hearings to be accomplished; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners has reduced the occupancy of its boardroom, by half, in order to meet C.D.C. guidelines; and

WHEREAS, based on the Governor's stay-at-home order and concerns by the general public, the attendance at the Board of County Commission meetings has averaged 3-4 citizens; and

WHEREAS, legislative hearings that deal with land use issues should afford the broadest attendance and participation; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic inhibits attendance and participation that affect procedural issues and due process issues; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County does not have the capability to provide for full citizen participation for legislative hearings remotely; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County, based on the inability to conduct quasi-judicial hearings and legislative hearings, has not accepted land use applications; and

WHEREAS, Nassau County Land Development Code and associated ordinances have deadlines as to review, approval and hearing dates.

NOW, THEREFORE, MICHAEL S. MULLIN, as Nassau County Manager, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Local State of Emergency and County Emergency Management Plan, promulgate the following Executive Order:

SECTION 1. Quasi-Judicial and legislative hearings conducted by the Board of County Commissioners, Planning and Zoning Board, Conditional Use and Variance Board and the Code Enforcement Board are canceled through the month of May, 2020.

SECTION 2. Quasi-Judicial and legislative hearings, by all Boards, is anticipated to resume in June, 2020, subject to the appropriate Governor's Order.

SECTION 3. The planning staff shall, effective immediately, begin accepting land use applications.

SECTION 4. During the term of the local state of emergency, the timeline requirements as to staff review and hearing time frames as set forth in the Nassau County Land Development Code are extended by ninety (90) days.

SECTION 5. This Executive Order shall expire at the expiration of the declaration of the Local State of Emergency.

DATED this 24 day of April, 2020.

NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA



MICHAEL S. MULLIN
County Manager

CONSENT:

/s/ Greg Foster

GREG FOSTER
Emergency Management Director