



**EMERGENCY ORDER NO. 2020-17**

**ORDER RELATING TO TEMPORARY BUSINESS SIGNS IN THE COMMERCIAL GENERAL,  
LIGHT INDUSTRIAL AND WAREHOUSING, AND NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL  
DISTRICTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) epidemic may cause life threatening conditions for the residents of the City of North Port; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, pursuant to Florida Statutes Chapter 252, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-52, declaring a state of emergency in the State of Florida; directing the Division of Emergency Management to execute the State's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan; and authorizing each political subdivision within the State of Florida, pursuant to Florida Statutes Section 252.38(3)(a), to waive certain procedures and formalities otherwise required by law that are in the interest of the public health, safety, and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 4, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-213, extending for 60 days the state of emergency declared in Executive Order Number 20-52, as extended by Executive Order Numbers 20-114 and 20-166, and as amended by Executive Order Number 20-192; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, the City Commission adopted Ordinance No. 2020-18, declaring a state of local emergency caused by the threat posed by COVID-19, and granted the City Manager or designee the authority to take actions in accordance with Florida Statutes Section 252.38(3)(a) including extending the state of local emergency in seven-day increments; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Ordinance No. 2020-18, the City Manager issued twenty-four administrative declarations, each extending the state of local emergency for an additional seven days; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 1, 2020, the Acting City Manager issued his Administrative Declaration of Twenty-Fourth Extension of the Local State of Emergency Pursuant to Ordinance No. 2020-18, and the actions therein expired by operation of law on September 8, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 9, 2020, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida adopted Ordinance No. 2020-38, declaring a state of local emergency due to the COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance No. 2020-38 conferred on the City Manager or designee the power and authority set forth in Florida Statutes Section 252.38(3)(a); and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Florida Statutes Section 252.46, the City Manager has the power to issue emergency orders with the force of the law; and

**WHEREAS**, this order is necessary for emergency management purposes and to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 29 of the Unified Land Development Code regulates signs in the City of North Port, Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, many businesses have modified their business activity in order to protect the health of employees, customers, and the public and in order to comply with the governor's executive orders restricting certain business activity; and

**WHEREAS**, allowing temporary signage for businesses will aid in communicating the availability of goods and services, thereby benefitting the local economy and the public who may need the goods and services.

**IN HIS EMERGENCY AUTHORITY, THE CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA ORDERS:**

1. The following signs are temporarily permitted in the CG Commercial General, the ILW Light Industrial and Warehousing, and the NC Neighborhood Commercial Districts without obtaining a permit or paying a fee, notwithstanding any other signs on the property:
  - a. One temporary sign per business with a maximum total sign area of four square feet, including the advertising surface and any framing, trim, or molding, but not including the support structure, and setback at least two feet from the property line;
  - b. Temporary window signs at businesses; and
  - c. Temporary wall signs at businesses.
2. To the extent this order conflicts with any provision of the Unified Land Development Code, this order controls. All signs erected in accordance with this order must comply with all non-conflicting provisions of Chapters 29 and 61 of the Unified Land Development Code.
3. This order does not apply to snipe signs.
4. All signs erected in accordance with this order must be removed no later than five business days after the expiration or termination of this order.

**This order is effective immediately. Unless otherwise terminated, this order expires simultaneously with the expiration of the state of local emergency.**

ORDERED ON AND FILED WITH THE CLERK OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA ON  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 AT 11:30 A.M./P.M. BY

  
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Jason Yarborough, ICMA-CM  
Acting City Manager

