RESOLUTION 20-93

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA, EXTENDING THE SANDY GULF BEACH CLOSURE AND ASSOCIATED PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE 1519-E; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATELY EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Panama City Beach ("City") is a municipality granted home rule authority pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Florida and may exercise its governmental, corporate, and proprietary powers for municipal purposes, including to regulate for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary, President of the United States, Governor of the State of Florida, and Bay County have all declared the outbreak of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, to be an international, national, state, and local emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-52 authorizing, among other things, local governments to execute their authority under the State Emergency Management Act; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-68, directing "parties accessing public beaches to follow the CDC guidance by limiting their gatherings to no more than 10 persons, distance themselves from other parties by 6 feet, and support beach closures at the discretion of local authorities"; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, the City Council adopted Ordinance 1519-E closing the sandy gulf beach and all beach accesses until 12:00 p.m. on March 26, 2020 which was extended until March 10 by Resolution 20-87; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 20-91 issuing a "Stay at Home" Order to all persons in Florida to stay home unless they are obtaining or providing essential services or carrying out essential activities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that Ordinance 1519-E has been effective measures to protect the public health, safety and welfare for the City’s residents and visitors; and
WHEREAS, the State of Florida continues to see a significant rise in COVID-19 cases throughout the State and within Bay County justifying continued extraordinary measures; and

WHEREAS, considering the continuing and growing emergency facing the City and surrounding community, including the apparent rapid spread of COVID-19, the City Council deems it necessary and appropriate to extend the closure described herein necessary in order to meet and address the emergency presented by COVID-19 to ensure the public health, safety, and welfare of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, that Ordinance 1519-E, related to closure of the sandy Gulf beach, is hereby extended until noon on April 23, 2020, unless such date is extended by Resolution of the City Council.

THIS RESOLUTION shall be effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED in regular session this 9th day of April, 2020.

CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH

By: Mike Thomas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jo Smith, Interim City Clerk