EXECUTIVE ORDER REGARDING THE TOLLING OF CERTAIN COUNTY PROCESSES AND RESUMING CODE ENFORCEMENT FOR PRIORITY CASES

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, the Seminole County Chairman executed Executive Order 2020-001, declaring a Local State of Emergency under the provisions of Chapter 72, Seminole County Code, due to the serious health threat to those within Seminole County arising from and related to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, upon the recommendation by the Chief Administrator of Seminole County Emergency Management, Seminole County issued Executive Order 2020-004 for the purpose of tolling all pending due dates, expiration dates, or termination dates in Zoning and Land Use applications, agreements, resolutions, ordinances, building permits, along with Code Enforcement compliance dates, until the Local State of Emergency under Executive Order 2020-001 has expired or been rescinded; and

WHEREAS, Seminole County remains in a Local State of Emergency due to the ongoing health risk associated with COVID-19, as documented in subsequent Executive Orders extending the Local State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 vaccine distribution has already started within Seminole County; and

WHEREAS, after more than 11 months of tolling Code Enforcement matters, Seminole County has identified a need to resume enforcement for priority cases that require immediate action to prevent waste and promote the betterment of the County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BY THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

Section 1. Rescission of Tolling for Code Enforcement Actions. Due to the nature of Executive Order 2020-004 and its effect on the internal and external processes regarding business and development within Seminole County Government, the Code Enforcement tolling stoppages are lifted and, as of the effective date of this Order, the County will resume its standard code enforcement activities. In anticipation of a potential backlog of cases, priority for the advancement of cases to the Code Enforcement Board or the Code Enforcement Special Magistrate shall be given to Significant Impact Cases. Significant Impact Cases shall mean any violation pertaining to the foreclosure registry; swimming pool enclosures; damage to natural resources such as violations concerning conservation easements, borrow pits, dredge and fill; circumstances creating a substantial nuisance such as un-cleared remains or rubble of a structure; or violations impacting the safety or welfare any person or animal. The Development Services Director shall have the authority to designate other similar violations as Significant Impact Cases for the purposes of formal enforcement proceedings. Additionally, the Development Services Director may extend the compliance date for any violation upon the demonstration of a bona fide hardship, provided the violation does not involve any life-safety issues for persons or animals. The rescission of tolling of code enforcement activities does not apply to the Code Enforcement Amnesty Program which shall remain active until the current Local State of Emergency ends or until this Order is rescinded.

The tolling of pending due dates, expiration dates, or termination dates in Zoning and Land Use applications, agreements, resolutions, ordinances, and building permits will continue until the current Local State of Emergency ends or until this Order is rescinded. The tolling of these enumerated items shall be consistent with the conditions and procedures outlines in Section 252.363, Florida Statutes (2020).

Section 2. Alterations or Recession. At the expiration of the current Local State of Emergency, the subject matter of this Order shall be reevaluated in light of the conditions presented at that time and the appropriateness of further extension of this Order will be determined at that time.

Section 3. Effectiveness; Expiration Date. This Order shall become effective upon execution. This Order will remain in effect throughout the Local State of Emergency pursuant to COVID-19, unless earlier rescinded. This Order shall rescind and replace any previous Orders pertaining to tolling of County processes.
AS ORDERED the 2 day of March, 2021

By: LEE CONSTANTINE, Chairman
Seminole County Board of County Commissioners

By: ALAN HARRIS,
Chief Administrator of Emergency Management