

MIAMI BEACH

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Miami Beach City Manager Signs State of Emergency Declaration

–In Response to COVID-19–

Miami Beach, FL – In response to the World Health Organization classifying the coronavirus outbreak as a *pandemic* along with emergency declarations from both Governor Ron DeSantis and County Mayor Carlos Gimenez, the Miami Beach City Manager has signed a State of Emergency — recognizing that it's important for everyone to do their part to prevent the spread of this virus.

“There is not a real playbook for addressing this challenge,” said Mayor Dan Gelber. “And for our City – with so many visitors, venues and gatherings – it is particularly daunting. But panic is not part of our playbook. We will take actions that are grounded in the best information available. The Manager's emergency declaration makes sense so that we can have all the tools available to diminish the risk. We all appreciate the substantial economic impact this will have on our hospitality industry, but curtailing large gatherings and crowds is necessary at this time.”

As a result of the city declaration, the municipality will refrain from issuing special event permits for gatherings of 250 or more people for the next 30 days.

The city is cancelling or postponing all public events, including the spring break beachfront activation, Culture Crawl, and the ADL No Place for Hate gathering. For a full list of impacted events, please visit www.MiamiBeachFL.gov/coronavirus.

Additionally, the following public cultural facilities are closed starting tomorrow until further notice: Fillmore Miami Beach at Jackie Gleason, Colony Theatre, North Beach Bandshell and the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU. The Bass, Wolfsonian-FIU and Botanical Gardens will remain open, but all of their events are canceled

In the spirit of implementing social distancing, the city has also encouraged all Miami Beach Homeowner Associations not to hold in-person meetings. City staff will be available telephonically or over email to answer any questions. Resident advisory committee meetings will either be postponed or held telephonically.

The above measures are consistent with the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) community mitigation guiding principles, which is a set of actions to help slow the spread of virus infections. The City Manager's State of Emergency emphasizes individual responsibility at the personal level, empowers business and community organizations to follow suit, and provides special attention and services to vulnerable populations that are at an increased risk of severe illness.

“We are confident that changing our actions for a short period of time will help reduce long-term impact,” added City Manager Jimmy Morales. “We fully understand the extraordinary economic implications that these measures will have throughout our community, but feel it necessary to take these actions now so that we can bounce back as quickly as possible.

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