

**THE TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS, MARYLAND**  
**PROCLAMATION CONTINUING THE DECLARATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A**  
**LOCAL EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, the Governor, as of March 5, 2020 and thereafter, has issued orders initially declaring a state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency for the epidemic known as COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 2, Part II of the Ordinance Code of the Town of Forest Heights empowers the Mayor to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when said Town is affected or likely to be affected by a public calamity or crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the Town of Forest Heights issued a proclamation declaring a local emergency on April 5, 2020 and therewith (i) closed the municipal building to the public, and (ii) declared all parks and open spaces closed to any human assembly including all courts, pavilions, fields and playgrounds, etc.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland Number 20-06-10-01, issued June 10, 2020, specifically authorized political subdivisions to issue more restrictive orders than issued by the Governor including requiring any businesses, organizations, establishments, or facilities to close or modify their operations; and/or requiring individuals to remain indoors or to refrain from congregating; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Executive on June 25, 2020 pursuant to Order No. 15-2020 opened certain activities that are specifically allowed when done in compliance with applicable CDC and MDH social distancing guidance and other applicable directives issued by the State Secretary of Health or County Health Officer including outdoor exercise activities, such as walking, playgrounds, hiking, running, biking, or individual and small group sports such as golfing, tennis, and similar activities, personal fitness and fitness classes at parks and outdoor fitness instruction; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the Town of Forest Heights does hereby find the following:

That conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within said Town, caused by the COVID-19 epidemic; and

That the Mayor believes it is in the best interest of public safety and the protection of property that the exercise of certain rights be temporarily limited and that the conditions of this Order is designed to provide the least necessary restriction on those rights; and

That the Town Council of the Town of Forest Heights may meet in public session and pursuant to said Art. 2 of the Town Ordinance Code rescind, modify or extend this Order.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED** that in addition to the Governor's State-wide emergency, that a local (municipal) emergency continues to exist throughout said Town; and

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that during the existence of said local and/or State emergency the Town offices and Municipal Building (except for essential police operations) will continue to be closed to the public and most of the staff will telework.

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that during the existence of said local and/or State emergency and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus), that the Town will adhere to, enforce and follow, unless an order of the Mayor or the Town Council states otherwise, the local emergency orders of the County Executive including Executive Order No. 15-2020, as may be amended from time to time, which is adopted by reference herein as if written word for word.

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that County Executive Order No. 15-2020 and this Town Emergency Order shall remain in effect and shall be applicable and enforced by the Forest Heights Police Department within the corporate limits of the Town and said County Executive Order may be enforced by any other authorized law enforcement agency having jurisdiction within the Town.

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that during the existence of said local and State emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of this Town shall be those prescribed by state law, by ordinances, proclamations (State and local) and resolutions of this Town, and by the Town of Forest Heights Emergency Operations or COOP Plan, as applicable.

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that this Order shall take effect immediately and remain in effect for a period of 30 days unless the Town Council duly rescinds, modifies or extends the duration of the local emergency.

**IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED** that a copy of this Order shall be delivered to the Governor of the State, the County Executive, the members of the Town Council, the Town Clerk, the Chief of Police and shall be posted at the Town Hall and published in the Town newsletter, the Town internet web site and social media accounts in order to give the widest dissemination of this Proclamation and Order to the public.

THE TOWN FOREST HEIGHTS

Dated:

July 23, 2020

Habeeb-Ullah Muhammad  
Habeeb-Ullah Muhammad, Mayor