



From the desk of

STEVEN GLASSMAN

Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner, District 2



March 2020 Newsletter

Dear Neighbor,

COVID-19/coronavirus has become a rapidly evolving crisis and it is understandable that many of our neighbors may feel anxious and concerned about the outbreak.

We want to remind everyone that this is not a time for panic. It is a time for our community, the state, the nation, and the world to come together and follow the advice of health experts by taking protective steps to slow the spread of the virus.

That is why the City has taken the actions outlined below to do our part in mitigating the advancement. **We understand that these precautions may be disruptive to our daily lives and the economic viability of businesses, but please remember these measures are for the protection of our friends, family, neighbors, visitors, employees and first responders. Economic mitigation efforts are already underway from the Federal and State governments to assist individuals and businesses in their time of need.**

I much prefer accusations of over-reacting than not doing enough to protect people's lives in and around our community. Our Broward governments and agencies need to act together with a uniform approach to lessen the duration of this disease. Boundaries between cities mean nothing to the virus.

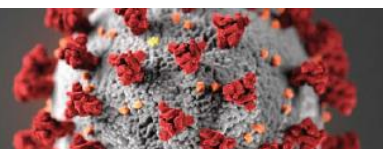
Just today it was announced that Florida was approved to waive certain requirements for Medicare, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program to expand access to needed health care services like Telemed.

In addition to the measures below, the City Manager accepted my request to suspend water utility shut-offs due to non-payment during this health crisis.

Lastly, this **Thursday, March 19 at 7:00 p.m., I will host a Telephone Town Hall** (please see flyer below) providing an update on the coronavirus and the progress with our infrastructure improvements. Please call 844-881-1317 with any questions, concerns or helpful comments as we work together to during these difficult times.



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
UPDATE ON CORONAVIRUS**



**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY REGULATIONS SPEECH
FROM MAYOR TRANTALIS**

(COVID-19 State of Emergency – March 17, 2020)

With the number of cases of Covid19 continuing to rise rapidly across the state of Florida, the city of Fort Lauderdale has decided today to take additional emergency measures to attempt to stem the spread of this dreadful disease.

Earlier today, Gov. DeSantis ordered all bars and nightclubs in the state to close for the next 30 days beginning at 5 p.m. I would like to thank the governor for the strong and firm leadership that he has shown Floridians throughout this crisis and for his continuing cooperation with our city.

The actions being taken today show how rapidly evolving this situation has become. Over the weekend, our city believed we were taking bold action with setting major social-distancing rules and capacity limits on such establishments. Now, there is the clear need to go further.

Gov. DeSantis left it to each community to decide how to handle the continued operation of restaurants. Under my emergency authority, we are ordering all restaurants in the city to shut down immediately and remain closed for the next 30 days.

I recognize the hardship that this could place on many and the pressure it places on our grocery stores to remain stocked with sufficient amounts of food product. In that light, we are allowing restaurants to continue to offer take-out, drive-thru, pick-up and delivery services. These services may be offered 24/7. I'm told that some establishments are already planning to shift dining room employees over to those areas so we can minimize the impact on our service industry personnel.

Also, we are ordering the closure of other major gathering spots in our community. Gyms, theaters, bowling alleys, dance halls, video arcades and other similar places will close for the next 30 days. This also includes entertainment facilities within hotels. Public gatherings of groups of more than 10 people are prohibited.

Critical businesses will not be affected by this order. These include grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations, banks, doctor offices, convenience stores, medical supply stores, hardware stores and automotive repair stores. Social distancing should be exercised at these facilities.

The operations of our city government will also be curtailed so we can focus our attention on what will be a growing burden shouldered by our police and fire-rescue personnel.

This is a time for shared sacrifice as our nation faces one of its greatest crises — a virus that spreads with ease for which there is no standard cure or treatment. I cannot overstate the threat that Covid19 poses to our community. Developments today illustrate just how dangerous and deadly this virus can be.

It is with a heavy heart that I must report that three elderly residents at assisted living facilities in our city have died. Test results have confirmed one was infected with the Covid virus, and we await the results of the other tests.

The city is working closely with state and federal agencies to bring the necessary resources to bear and provide all the health care assistance possible. We are relying on the state Department of Health to conduct appropriate testing of other potentially impacted residents.

Our concern goes further than the residents and staff of these facilities. Fort Lauderdale police and fire-rescue personnel assisted with the victims. Several are self-quarantined at this time.

I would like to thank our residents and visitors for following the emergency rules to this point. None of this is easy, but our actions are vital to addressing this global health crisis.

Closing the public beaches was without precedent for this city, but necessary and people have adjusted accordingly. I'd also like to thank our business community. Covid19 has struck us at our busiest time of the year and will hurt many of our small businesses. I am determined to work with officials at the federal, state and regional level to find ways we can assist in their support and recovery.

In closing, I urge everyone to follow the prudent and reasoned guidelines being recommended by health professionals.

If you feel sick, stay home. If your children are sick, keep them home. If someone in your household tests positive, keep the entire household home.

If you are an older person, try to limit your trips outside the home and your contact with other people. You are most at risk, and you cannot tell who may or may not be a carrier. People with compromised immune systems should follow the same advice.

Even healthy people should take precautions. We are all at risk. Do your part not to become infected and become a carrier of the virus. Work from home if possible and avoid public gatherings of more than 10 people. Keep travel and shopping to a minimum.

And for everyone, please practice good hygiene.

We will overcome this challenge. Our community ... and our nation ... are strong and resilient. Let's all do our part in this effort to stamp out this virus in the coming days and weeks.

The updated emergency declaration will be available on the City's website at www.fortlauderdale.gov/coronavirus.

Please click the button to view the Center for Disease Control's website for the latest regarding the Coronavirus/COVID-19.

Center for Disease Control:
Coronavirus / COVID-19

**Food and Nutrition Services for
Students Who Receive Free/Reduced Meals**

Broward County Public Schools will provide food to students who receive free/reduced-priced meals and their families. Breakfast will be offered from 8 – 10 a.m., and lunch will be offered from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The meals will be provided during regular school day closures, which are:

- Monday, March 16
- Wednesday, March 18
- Thursday, March 19

These meals will be available at the following schools across the District:

- Boyd Anderson High School
- Blanche Ely High School
- Dillard High School
- Flanagan High School
- Hallandale High School
- Miramar High School
- Nova High School
- Sunrise Middle School
- Taravella High School

Students are required to present their valid school identification and will receive a meal for themselves and family members that are present.

Meal distribution can be accessed by walking up or driving up to the designated location on campus.

The District is thankful to our community partners – Feeding South Florida, Health Foundation of Broward, The Hunger Coalition, The United Way – for their support.

For more information and updates, visit [browardschools.com/coronavirus](https://www.browardschools.com/coronavirus).

The School Board of Broward County, Florida • Lori Alhadeff • Robin Bartleman • Heather P. Brinkworth • Patricia Good • Donna P. Korn
Laurie Rich Levinson • Ann Murray • Dr. Rosalind Osgood • Nora Rupert • Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent of Schools

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. The School Board also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may contact the Director, of the Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department & District's Equity Coordinator/Title IX Coordinator at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158. Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), may contact the Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158. [browardschools.com](https://www.browardschools.com)



COVID-19

General Prevention

Florida Department of Health • FloridaHealth.gov • tinyurl.com/FLcdcprevention

Protect yourself from all infectious diseases by using these precautions.



Stay home when you are sick



Avoid contact with people who are sick



Get adequate sleep and eat well-balanced meals



Wash hands often with soap and water – 20 seconds or longer



Dry hands with a clean towel or air dry your hands



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands or after touching surfaces



Cover your mouth with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing



Clean and disinfect “high touch” surfaces often



Call before visiting your doctor

Clean all “high-touch” surfaces every day.

High touch surfaces include counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tables, and bedside tables. Also, clean any surfaces that may have blood, stool, or body fluids on them. Use a household cleaning spray or wipe according to the label instructions. Labels contain instructions for safe and effective use of the cleaning product including precautions you should take when applying the product, such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

Florida Health Office of Communications 03-05-20

COVID-19 Resources

Please visit the Florida Health Department's dedicated COVID-19 webpage at www.FloridaHealth.gov/COVID-19. This remains the best and most up-to-date resource for information and guidance regarding COVID-19 in Florida.

For any other questions related to COVID-19 in Florida, please contact the Department's dedicated COVID-19 Call Center by calling **1-(866) 779-6121** or emailing COVID-19@flhealth.gov. **The Call Center is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.**

In addition, please visit <http://www.floridahealth.gov/all-county-locations.html> to

locate and obtain contact information for your local CHD.

The CDC also has a website with information related to COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE TELEPHONE TOWN HALL MEETING with Commissioner Steven Glassman



THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020 • 7-8 P.M.

Talk to Commissioner Glassman about City programs, services or ideas to improve Fort Lauderdale. Residents with listed phone numbers will receive a call prior to the start of the meeting. Neighbors can also call the number below to join the conversation.

CALL TOLL FREE (844) 881-1317 TO JOIN IN!

STAY ENGAGED!



/cityoffortlauderdale



@FTLCityNews



/cityoffortlauderdale

If you would like this publication in an alternate format, please call (954) 828-4755 or email strategiccommunications@fortlauderdale.gov.



Fort Lauderdale Mayor Dean J. Trantalis joined Miami Beach Mayor Dan Gelber at a press briefing at Miami Beach City Hall to announce additional proactive measures both cities are taking in response to COVID-19. I was pleased to join Mayor Trantalis and Commissioner Moraitis at this important press conference.



The elephant in the room was obvious as the Urban Land Institute (ULI) and Downtown Development Authority (DDA) presented an economic development, real estate, and local market overview for Fort Lauderdale. While we are currently facing challenges, our fundamentals are strong, statistics and trends are positive, and the future looks robust. Smart growth must be managed and balanced with our infrastructure needs and that is the plan. Congrats on excellent speakers and panels - great discussions!

Second Annual 13th Street Craft Beer & Wine Festival and Car Show brought out a great crowd. Kudos to the Central City Alliance for all the hard work and passion involved in continuing the success in this community. The renaissance on 13th Street is real and improving every day!



Las Olas Mobility Working Group continues to make progress. Glad to have joined one of the stakeholder walking tours along Las Olas with our consultant Corradino Group and TAM/MPO. After the walk, Celia and I went to the amenity deck at the top of the new Las Olas Garage to enjoy the views as the sun began to set on an absolutely gorgeous day!



Affordable Housing is one of this Commission's top priorities. So pleased to participate in the groundbreaking of Village View at 640 N. Andrews in D2's Flagler Village. Congrats to Housing Trust Group (HTG) on your second project in Flagler Village!



The Florida-Israel Business Accelerator (FIBA) is an excellent business development program designed to establish and grow successful, high-growth tech ventures in Florida. It was a pleasure to welcome this group to Fort Lauderdale and extol the many benefits of investing in our beautiful City. What a pleasant surprise to catch up with Congressman Klein!



Thank you Seven Isles Homeowners Association for the opportunity to be with you at your Annual Meeting. Content was excellent as neighbors discussed infrastructure, climate, and sea level rise among the many topics. Didn't hurt that experts Dr. Gassman from Public Works and Dr. Bolter from Arcadis were on the program! Congrats to president Howard Steinholtz and the Board for organizing a terrific meeting.



Thank you to all of the stakeholders who attended the Himmarshee Entertainment District meeting. Excellent discussion along the lines of what I have been hearing regarding this area - code issues, noise, crime, clientele, liquor open carry, intrusion into the Sailboat Bend neighborhood, lack of restaurants and daytime activation. Future meetings will dive into the ordinance and see how we can all work together to improve the Himmarshee Street area.

Please visit the Fort Lauderdale Calendar for a complete list of events and details.

[Fort Lauderdale City Calendar](#)

[City News Center](#)

Steve Glassman
Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner, District 2

The greatness of our community starts with passionate citizens like you.

Please do not hesitate to contact our District 2 Commission assistant, Pratima Raju, with any questions, comments or thoughtful suggestions at praju@fortlauderdale.gov or 954-828-5923.

[Visit the District 2 Website](#)

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