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Executive Order
Office of the Mayor
City of Atlanta

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 2020-48
BY THE MAYOR

ORDERING, THAT ANY MEETINGS OF ANY CITY BOARDS, AUTHORITIES, COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, OR OTHER SIMILAR BODIES SUBJECT TO SECTION 3-401 OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA CHARTER, WHICH ARE SCHEDULED OR ARE OTHERWISE REQUIRED TO OCCUR DURING THE PERIOD THAT CITY HALL AND OTHER CITY FACILITIES ARE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, SHALL BE POSTPONED AND SHALL NOT OCCUR; TO DECLARE THAT ANY SUCH MEETINGS SHALL RESUME ONCE CITY HALL AND OTHER CITY FACILITIES REOPEN TO THE PUBLIC; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, like much of the world the United States, the State of Georgia, and the City of Atlanta are currently responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus named "SARS-CoV-2" and the disease it causes named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the President of the United States announced a national emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which included two emergency declarations: one under the National Emergencies Act and one under the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020 Governor Brian Kemp signed a public health state of emergency to address the COVID-19 pandemic through assisting health and emergency management officials across Georgia by deploying all available resources for the mitigation and treatment of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control ("CDC") has issued guidance on the emerging and rapidly evolving situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, including how to protect oneself from this illness; and

WHEREAS, social distancing is recommended by the CDC to prevent the continued spreading of this illness in the community; and

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, on March 15, I declared there to be an emergency in existence within the City of Atlanta pursuant to Section 2-181(a) of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020 all City of Atlanta facilities, including City Hall and Municipal Court were closed to the public beginning March 16, 2020, until further notice; and

WHEREAS, as on March 16, 2020, the CDC advised that during the next fifteen (15) days, all events in the United States of ten (10) or more people should be cancelled or held virtually; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2020 twenty-four (24) infectious disease clinicians in Georgia signed onto an opinion that it is in their belief that there is little time to "flatten the curve" of the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, these clinicians advised that at least one model suggests that "the point of no return" for Georgia is estimated to begin on March 24, 2020 and that after that date, every day of delay before restrictive measures, such as those put in place by California, New York, and Illinois, are taken will lead to an earlier and higher peak of infected Georgians that will completely overwhelm our hospital systems; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-182 of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, I may issue an executive order which applies to events of short duration and which expires at the next meeting of the Atlanta City Council subsequent thereof unless ratified by a majority vote of the members present and voting; and

WHEREAS, accordingly, and due to the emergency closure of all City of Atlanta facilities to the public, I am hereby ordering that any meetings of City of Atlanta boards, authorities, commissions, committees, or other similar bodies subject to section 3-401 of the City of Atlanta Charter, which are scheduled or are otherwise required to occur during the period that City Hall and other City Facilities are closed to the public in accordance with the City's response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, shall be hereby postponed and shall not occur; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to this Order, any such meetings shall resume once City Hall and other City Facilities reopen to the public.

NOW THEREFORE, I, KEISHA LANCE BOTTOMS, AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, HEREBY AUTHORIZE, ORDER AND DIRECT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That any meetings of City of Atlanta boards, authorities, commissions, committees, or other similar bodies subject to section 3-401 of the City of Atlanta Charter, which are scheduled or are otherwise required to occur during the period that City Hall and other City Facilities are closed to the public in accordance with the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, shall be hereby postponed and shall not occur.

SECTION 2. Any meetings of any boards, authorities, commissions, committees, or other similar bodies subject to this Order shall resume once City Hall and other City Facilities reopen to the public.

This 20th day of April 2020.

Keisha Lance Bottoms, Mayor

ATTESTED:

Municipal Clerk

Foris Webb, III
Municipal Clerk