EMERGENCY ORDER No. 20-4 OF THE OFFICIAL AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF PINELLAS PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION NO. 20-16

WHEREAS, in order to fully and effectively respond to the developing threats posed by the novel coronavirus and its associated disease (COVID-19), and in coordination with ongoing emergency actions by the state and federal governments, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners (Board) passed Resolution 20-16 declaring a local state of emergency (LSE) in Pinellas County (Resolution), and subsequently such extensions and orders as have been deemed necessary have been issued pursuant thereto; and

WHEREAS, in the time since the LSE was passed, additional cases of COVID-19 continue to be identified in Pinellas County, and the threat to the public health continues to require dynamic emergency response, including the maintenance of existing orders and the ability to impose additional orders as conditions require; and

WHEREAS, Section 252.38(3)(a)5, Florida Statutes, provides authority for a political subdivision such as Pinellas County to exercise emergency powers, and further provides that declarations may be extended in 7-day increments; and

WHEREAS, current public health recommendations, as well as existing orders applicable in Florida, recognize and support the necessity of implementing and maintaining emergency measures to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.04(k) of the Pinellas County Charter grants to the County all special and necessary power to provide for the development and implementation of civil preparedness programs; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 34 of the Pinellas County Code sets forth provisions for the designation of an official authority, as well as to ensure the readiness of Pinellas County, provide for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare, and preserve the lives and property of the people of Pinellas County;

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with Resolution No. 20-16, as extended and supplemented by other emergency actions, this 9th day of April, 2020, I now order:

That in light of the foregoing conditions and the serious threat to the residents of Pinellas County posed by COVID-19, the Board of County Commissioners finds that a factual basis exists for this declaration and hereby extends for an additional 7 day increment the local state of emergency established in Resolution 20-16, as previously extended, as well as all emergency orders pertaining to COVID-19 issued subsequent thereto regardless of any language in such order reflecting a different duration, beginning as of 3:00 p.m. on the 10th day of April 2020, as provided in Section 252.38(3)(a)5, Florida Statutes. This will be the fourth such extension of the original declaration in Resolution 20-16.

Ordered this 9th day of April, 2020, at 1:59 a.m./p.m.

Chair, County Administrator, or successor, as Official Authority pursuant to Resolution 20-16