



EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 3  
WELLINGTON COVID-19

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19, a respiratory illness caused by a virus that spreads rapidly from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, constitutes a clear and present threat to the lives, health, welfare, and safety of the people of Wellington; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 1, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis, issued Executive Order 20-51 directing the Florida Department of Health to issue a Public Health Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a state of emergency for the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the spread of COVID-19 to be a global pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, pursuant to section 252.38(3)(a)(5), Florida Statutes, Palm Beach County declared a local state of emergency due to the Coronavirus pandemic, which has since been extended in accordance with applicable law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Wellington has declared a state of emergency pursuant to Chapter 252 of the Florida Statutes and has authorized the Village Manager to take all actions necessary and appropriate to protect human life and property, including the authority to promulgate rules and order necessary, subject to the limitations of section 252.33 of the Florida Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") and the Florida State Department of Health ("FDOH") recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing between persons in smaller gatherings; and

**WHEREAS**, limitations on gatherings and the use of social distancing to prevent transmission of COVID-19 are especially important for people who are sixty (60) years old and older, and to people with chronic health conditions because those populations are at a higher risk of severe illness, hospitalization and death from COVID-19. However, it appears that everyone, regardless of age or health condition, is threatened by COVID-19 and could be spreading the COVID-19 virus even if not displaying symptoms; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of COVID-19 cases continues to rise, particularly in the tri-county areas of Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach; and the goal of the CDC and FDOH is to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus by requiring and mandating social distancing requirements and encouraging all seniors age sixty (60) and older, and persons with chronic health conditions to stay at home and by encouraging and recommending that persons of all ages avoid groups of persons and stay at home unless serving critical purposes to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, Wellington is experiencing an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases resulting in increased concern from public health authorities concerning the importance of maintaining social distancing, keeping the elder population at home, washing hands and practicing good hygiene and following the mitigation strategies advanced by the CDC; and

**WHEREAS**, the measures being taken to implement community mitigation strategies are having an impact on the remainder of the Palm Beach County School District calendar year; and

**WHEREAS**, these measures have cancelled certain life events and rites of passage for our High School Senior graduating class of 2020 ranging from the completion of spring sports to senior prom to graduation; and

**WHEREAS**, Wellington believes it is important to recognize the achievements of our High School Senior graduating class of 2020 and supports the yard signage program developed by the Palm Beach County School District participating high schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Wellington believes a temporary exemption from Chapter 14, Article 7 – Sign Regulations is in the best interests of its residents, and particularly its graduating seniors; and

**WHEREAS**, a temporary exemption from Chapter 14, Article 7 – Sign Regulations would allow yard signs that have been purchased, acquired by, provided by, and distributed by the high school senior’s participating high schools to be displayed in the front yards of graduating seniors; and

**WHEREAS**, signs supporting similar graduation achievements for public or private elementary or secondary schools is also in the best interests of the community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** pursuant to Wellington’s Declaration of Emergency and Chapter 252 of the Florida Statutes, as follows:

Section 1. Effectively immediately, this Emergency Order will permit temporary signage in all residential zoning districts subject to the standards below:

1. Size and attachments:

Sign area shall not exceed five (5) square feet in area. Sign attachment shall not exceed six (6) inches by twenty-four (24) inches in size.

2. Number:

Ten (10) signs per high school senior student may be placed on a residential lot.

3. Placement:

Signs may only be placed upon an individual platted lot and are not permitted within median strips, swales, on the rear of the property, or at any location within any required safe-sight triangle. Signs shall be set back at least four (4) feet from the property line.

Section 2. Graduation, or signs supporting similar events for public or private elementary or secondary schools shall comply with the standards listed below:

1. Period of Installation:

Signs may be installed and end within one (1) week after the last day of the regular school year.

2. Number:

One banner sign is permitted per school.

3. Location:

Prohibited locations. Signs shall not be located within a right-of-way, safe sight triangle, nor otherwise within an area that may obscure a

motorist's view of pedestrians, bicyclists, or others using sidewalks or paths.

a. Minimum setback: Signs shall maintain a minimum setback of at least five (5) feet from all property lines.

5. Appearance and Maintenance: Signs shall be prepared in a professional manner, and shall be maintained in a neat and workmanlike manner. All elements, including structural elements, of a sign shall be painted.

6. Construction Standards. Signs permitted by this Order shall comply with all applicable requirements of the Florida Building Code regarding wind load and related standards.

Section 3. This Emergency Order will expire on Friday, May 29, 2020 unless extended. Wellington reserves the right to change or amend this order at any time.

Section 4. This Emergency Order does not apply outside of Wellington.

Section 5. This Emergency Order is supplemental and in addition to the Executive Orders issued by Governor DeSantis as well as any Emergency Orders issued by Palm Beach County in connection with COVID-19 and any additional Executive Orders that may be issued by Governor DeSantis or the President, or Emergency Orders issued by Palm Beach County that may be applicable to Wellington.

Section 6. Any provision(s) within this Emergency Order that conflict(s) with any county, state or federal law or constitutional provision, or conflict(s) with or are superseded by a current or subsequently-issued Executive Order of the Governor or the President of the United States or any county-wide Emergency Order or ordinance, shall be deemed inapplicable and deemed to be severed from this Emergency Order, with the remainder of the Emergency Order remaining intact and in full force and effect. To the extent application of some or all the provisions of this Emergency Order is prohibited on the sovereign land of a federally or state recognized sovereign or Indian tribe, such application is expressly excluded from this Emergency Order.

Section 7. This Order shall be effective at 5:00 p.m. on April 20, 2020 and shall last until May 29, 2020.

DATED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.

VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON

By: Paul Schofield  
Paul Schofield, Village Manager

ATTEST:

By: Chevelle D. Addie  
Chevelle D. Addie, Village Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM  
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Laurie Cohen, Village Attorney