

**DECLARATION BY THE MAYOR OF STRICT ENFORCEMENT
OF SAFE DISTANCING PRACTICES
IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BRUNSWICK**

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Hon. Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey issued Executive Order #103, declaring a State of Emergency in the State of New Jersey as a result of Coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”), and

WHEREAS, Coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) is a contagious, and at times fatal, respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency for the United States to aid the nation’s healthcare community in responding to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as of March 23, 2020, there were 2844 positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of New Jersey, with 207 cases in Middlesex County, New Jersey, and 7 cases in the Township of North Brunswick, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 within North Brunswick constitutes an imminent public health hazard that threatens and presently endangers the health, safety, and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to take action against this public health hazard to protect and maintain the health, safety, and welfare of North Brunswick residents, employees and visitors; and

WHEREAS, officials of the United States Department of Health, as well as the State of New Jersey and Middlesex County have emphasized and declared that safe social distancing must be practiced and enforced to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, despite repeated calls from the President of the United States, the Governor of New Jersey, and the Mayor and Council of North Brunswick for all people to practice safe social distancing, there continue to be many violations of safe social distancing practices throughout North Brunswick; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of New Jersey’s Executive Orders during this Emergency have emphasized the need for all citizens and residents of the State of New Jersey to abide by the Emergency Orders in order to protect the public health, safety and welfare of everyone in the State of New Jersey: and

WHEREAS, Section 238-1 of the Township Code of the Township of North Brunswick prohibits any person from engaging in activities which:

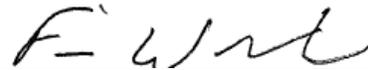
- a. annoy or interfere with persons passing on the streets or sidewalks of the Township of North Brunswick;

- b. create a disturbance on any street, sidewalk or other public place or in or about any park, public building, school, store or other business establishment;
- c. congregate with others on a sidewalk, street, park, school, store or other public place or business establishment and refuse to move when ordered;
- d. frighten or interfere with any other person lawfully upon the streets, parks and public places;
- e. constitute disorderly conduct or breach of the peace; and

WHEREAS, the in the present Coronavirus crisis, failure to practice safe social distancing endangers persons who come into close contact with one another, and constitutes disorderly conduct; and

WHEREAS, Section 128-3 of the Township Code states that “any person violating or failing to comply with any of (these) provisions shall, upon conviction thereof, be punishable by a fine of not more than \$2,000 or by imprisonment for a term not to exceed 90 days”;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Francis M. Womack, Mayor of the Township of North Brunswick, in order to further protect the health, safety and welfare of the people of the Township of North Brunswick, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, DO DECLARE and PROCLAIM that all laws and ordinances requiring the practice of safe social distancing *shall be* strictly enforced by all appropriate officers and officials.



Francis M. Womack, Mayor
Township of North Brunswick
Dated: **March 23, 2020**