

**EMERGENCY ORDINANCE No. 2020-28**

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY BUSINESS TAX RECEIPTS (BTR's) FOR EXISTING ACTIVE PAID BUSINESSES TO AID IN MITIGATING THE IMPACTS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER PROVISION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, the coronavirus disease 2019 ("COVID-19"), is a severe acute respiratory illness caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus that can spread rapidly from person to person and cause serious illness or death, constitutes a clear and present threat to the lives, health, welfare and safety of the people of the City of Doral; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-52, declaring a State of Emergency for the State of Florida related to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the rapidly spreading coronavirus outbreak a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez declared a local State of Emergency for Miami-Dade County invoking his authority to issue orders to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community, including possibly imposing a curfew and closing certain businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, the social distancing required to slow the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and minimize loss of life is also resulting in severe economic impacts for the City of Doral, particularly hospitality sectors, restaurants, retail establishments, and on small businesses who provide both essential and non-essential services to their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council are concerned about the short-term and long-term economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to businesses in the City of Doral; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 15, 2020, the Mayor and City Council conducted a Council Workshop to discuss COVID-19 impacts and to consider appropriate actions to aid an economic recovery in the City of Doral; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 10th, 2020, the Mayor and City Council adopted Emergency Ordinance No. 2020-15, Temporary Business Tax Receipts (Phase One), to aid in the economic recovery for businesses located within the City of Doral. The Temporary Business Tax Receipts Emergency Ordinance automatically ceases in sixty days (60); and

**WHEREAS**, on August 12th, 2020, the Mayor and City Council adopted Emergency Ordinance No. 2020-20, Temporary Business Tax Receipts (Phase Two), to aid in the economic recovery for businesses located within the City of Doral. The Temporary Business Tax Receipts Emergency Ordinance automatically ceases in sixty (60) days; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and City Council have directed the City Manager to authorize Temporary Business Tax Receipts for existing businesses who wish to expand their operations in accordance with the City's Land Development Code; and

**WHEREAS**, under the circumstances, authorizing Temporary Business Tax Receipts and temporarily waiving fees for such applications is warranted.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Recitals.** The foregoing “WHEREAS” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a part of this Emergency Ordinance upon adoption hereof.

**Section 2. Implementation.** The Mayor and City Council hereby direct the City Manager to authorize Temporary Business Tax Receipts for existing businesses who wish to expand their operations in accordance with the City’s Land Development Code. The Temporary Business Tax Receipt application shall be submitted to and approved by the City’s Planning and Zoning Department.

**Section 3. Severability.** The allowance of Temporary Business Tax Receipts for specific uses, unless lifted earlier or extended by the City Council, shall automatically cease sixty (60) days from the date of adoption of this Ordinance.

**Section 4. Conflicts.** The following regulations temporarily shall supersede and replace any conflicting provisions of the City’s zoning ordinances. All approvals and permits governed by this Emergency Ordinance shall become effective on October 14, 2020 and shall automatically expire on December 14, 2020 at 11:59:59 p.m., unless such approval or permit is otherwise suspended, modified, amended, or extended in accordance with this Ordinance or a subsequent ordinance adopted by City Council.

**Section 5. Effective Date.** This Emergency Ordinance shall be effective on October 14, 2020.

The foregoing Emergency Ordinance was offered by Councilmember Cabrera who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cabral upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Juan Carlos Bermudez	Yes
Vice Mayor Christi Fraga	Yes
Councilwoman Digna Cabral	Yes
Councilman Pete Cabrera	Yes
Councilwoman Claudia Mariaca	Yes

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14 day of October 2020.

  
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JUAN CARLOS BERMUDEZ, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
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CONNIE DIAZ, MMC  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY  
FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF DORAL ONLY:

  
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LUIS FIGUEREDO, ESQ.  
CITY ATTORNEY