



County Administration

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**Palm Beach County
Board of County
Commissioners**

Dave Kerner, Mayor
Robert S. Weinroth, Vice Mayor
Hal R. Valeche
Gregg K. Weiss
Mary Lou Berger
Melissa McKinlay
Mack Bernard

County Administrator

Verdenia C. Baker

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Official Electronic Letterhead

Thursday, May 7, 2020

The Honorable Governor Ron DeSantis
Office of the Governor
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Thank you for your leadership and continued communication with Palm Beach County as the state has developed the plans for a phased reopening of Florida related to the COVID-19 crisis.

At the May 5, 2020 meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, the Board made a decision that we are ready to open businesses in Palm Beach County as set forth in Sections 3 and 4 of Executive Order 2020-112. We are recommending you consider and grant our county the opportunity to reopen in Phase 1 of your plan in a similar fashion to other counties of the state outside of South Florida. We would like to engage in discussions with you regarding the acceleration of this at the earliest possible date.

Additionally, at the meeting, our Board of County Commissioners unanimously voted to consider reopening beaches in Palm Beach County, and we plan, at a special meeting this Friday, to review a proposed Order that could relax that restriction and allow that to happen. This is being done in accordance with your Executive Order 2020-90, where beaches were closed in Palm Beach and Broward Counties, and you provided the County Administrators the ability to enforce, relax, modify or remove these beach closures.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you want to further discuss the request regarding the Phase 1 limited business reopening and we appreciate the support you have provided Palm Beach County as we have cooperatively worked to meet the health and safety needs of our residents.

Sincerely,

Dave Kerner
Mayor, Palm Beach County

cc: Board of County Commissioners
Verdenia C. Baker, County Administrator
PBC League of Cities