



**Teri Johnston**  
Mayor



## THE CITY OF KEY WEST

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March 30, 2020

FEMA  
Peter T. Gaynor, Administrator  
Washington, D.C.

RE: Emergency Postponement of Risk Mapping In-Progress

WHEREAS, On March 9, 2020, Florida Governor Ron Desantis Issued Executive Order Number 20-52, declaring a state of emergency because of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and then subsequently expanded emergency orders closing many lodging, dining and non-essential businesses;

WHEREAS, On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the novel coronavirus a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued an Emergency declaration for the entire State of Florida (EM-3432), declaring a state of emergency because of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, The Florida Department of Health (DOH) issued a Declaration of Public Health Emergency on March 1, 2020, stating that COVID-19 is a threat to public health in Florida; and

WHEREAS, The City of Key West declared a local state of emergency on Sunday March 15, 2020; has extended said emergency to the present day; and

WHEREAS, the impact has created financial devastation communitywide, severely curtailed the availability of business, government and especially healthcare services; and

WHEREAS, non-essential workers have been strongly encouraged to shelter at home, with many around the nation attempting to work remotely; and

WHEREAS, all efforts are focused on the prevention of the spread of this virus and reducing the resulting death toll; and

WHEREAS, the cumulative global, national, state and local impacts render it impossible for communities such as Key West to actively participate in the flood-mapping RISK Map process already underway, with pending FEMA deadlines for detailed engineering analysis, alternatives and appeals; and

WHEREAS, the City must muster all resources toward the immediate safety of its citizens, and then to the recovery and restoration of its devastated economy – which

*Key to the Caribbean – Average yearly temperature 77° F.*

alone could easily consume one entire year – the detailed focus necessary upon the flood remapping effort can not prevail,

AS MAYOR, I strongly urge FEMA to suspend/postpone all furtherance of the flood-remapping process for a period of at least eighteen (18) months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Teri Johnston', written over a faint dotted line.

Mayor Teri Johnston

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