EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE MAYOR OF THE
CITY OF JERSEY CITY

WHEREAS, the State and Local states of emergency declared in response to the COVID-19 crisis have mandated the closure of the dining rooms of restaurants and cafes in the City of Jersey City; and,

WHEREAS, any initial reopening plan for these restaurants will impose limited seating capacity requirements and a reduction in operating hours, cutting into sales and therefore the profits required to pay wages and basic operating expenses; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Jersey City, in an effort to encourage both best practices for social distancing as well as support its financially troubled restaurant community, seeks to expand its normal parameters for outdoor seating on public sidewalks and rights of way, to increase customer capacity and thereby sales, during the current pandemic state of emergency; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Jersey City, in an effort to protect the historic nature of its Historic Districts, generally requires Historic Preservation review and approval of sidewalk cafe plans, to ensure that the cafes aesthetically fit within the historic nature of the surrounding community; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and the State of Emergency have substantially altered the operations of many City businesses, necessitating modified signage to notify patrons and vendors of changed business names, hours of operation, and other matters that, under normal circumstances, would require Historic Preservation Review within designated Historic Districts; and

WHEREAS, given the temporary nature of such expansions, and the reality of the economic peril facing our restaurant community, the City seeks to temporarily suspend Historic Preservation Review for the limited purposes of sidewalk cafe seating and business signage; and,

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by law as Mayor of the City of Jersey City, I hereby issue this Executive Order:

1. From the date of this order and for the duration of the State of Emergency, the Historic Preservation Review requirements for sidewalk cafes under Section 296-81(B)(4) of the City Code are hereby suspended; and

2. From the date of this order and for the duration of the current State of Emergency, the signage approval requirements set forth in Section 345-71(M)(4) of the City Code are hereby suspended; and
3. The terms of this order shall not apply to Historic Preservation Review requirements for any other building modifications, temporary or otherwise, within the City of Jersey City; and
4. This Executive Order shall remain in effect for the duration of the current and any future States of Emergency arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

If any provision of this Executive Order, or the application of any such provision to any person or circumstances, shall be held invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remainder of this Executive Order to the extent it can be given effect, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those to which it is held invalid or unenforceable shall not be affected thereby, and to this extent the provision of this Executive Order are severable.

The Executive Order shall be kept on file in the Offices of the City Clerk and Business Administrator. It will be made available to the public upon request.

By:

STEVEN M. FULOP
MAYOR

May 22, 2020