

SARASOTA COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

1. A red tide algae bloom developed in the Gulf of Mexico in November 2017 and has persisted to the present date, adversely impacting the environmental and public health of the Sarasota County area. The red tide algae bloom continues to present an imminent threat to the environmental and public health of Sarasota County.

2. The red tide algae bloom's potential for harm to marine organisms and humans poses an immediate and present danger to the health and safety of the citizens of Sarasota County and creates the threat of significant public and private financial loss, necessitating the exercise of all reasonable preparatory, precautionary, and remedial measures.

3. This red tide algae bloom threatens and would constitute a natural disaster for Sarasota County warranting the declaration of an emergency pursuant to Section 252.38(3)(a)5, Florida Statutes.

4. It is the intent of Sarasota County that by declaration of this state of emergency, Sarasota County may invoke the powers granted to it pursuant to Section 252.38, Florida Statutes, and its adopted emergency management plan. It is further the intent of Sarasota County that by declaration of this state of emergency, Sarasota County, its citizens and municipalities may be eligible for financial assistance available through the state or federal government.

5. In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order No. 18-221, which declared a statewide state of emergency due to the threat of the red tide algae bloom it is the intent of Sarasota County that by declaration of this state of emergency, Sarasota County shall make available all public agencies, resources and facilities, to assist in meeting the response, recovery and mitigation needs created by the red tide algae bloom.

6. Pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Board of County Commissioners in the Sarasota County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and under Sarasota County Code Section 2-217(h)(1), and in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order No. 18-221, I may declare the existence of an emergency procurement condition and suspend any or all of the provisions of the Procurement Code and authorize emergency procurement.

7. Pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Board of County Commissioners in the Sarasota County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan together with the authority granted to Sarasota County under Section 252.38(3)(a)(5), Florida Statutes, promulgate the following Declaration, to take immediate effect:

SECTION 1. Declaration of a State of Emergency.

Because of the foregoing conditions, it is hereby declared that due to the red tide algae bloom a state of emergency exists in Sarasota County. It is further declared that the red tide algae bloom is a natural emergency, as defined in Chapter 252, resulting in substantial damage to the environment and loss of property that has caused or threatens to cause injury or harm to the citizens and environment of Sarasota County. By this declaration, Sarasota County hereby invokes the emergency management powers granted to it pursuant to Section 252.38, Florida Statutes, its adopted emergency management plan and the Governor's Executive Order No. 18-221.

SECTION 2. Authorization to Apply for Federal and State Assistance.

Sarasota County is hereby authorized to apply for any federal or state financial assistance to assist in recovering from the property damage, financial losses or bodily harm sustained as a result of the natural disaster Sarasota County has experienced.


SECTION 3. Declaration of an Emergency Procurement Condition.

Sarasota County hereby declares an emergency procurement condition exists and suspends all the provisions of the Procurement Code and Procurement Manual and authorizes emergency procurements. The County Administrator hereby delegates his procurement authority under this Declaration to the Sarasota County Procurement Official.

SECTION 4. Effective Date, Duration and Area.

This Declaration shall take effect immediately and shall be effective throughout Sarasota County, including its municipalities. The state of emergency declared herein shall remain in force for seven days from the date hereof, unless extended pursuant to Section 252.38, Florida Statutes.

Approved:



Jonathan R. Lewis
County Administrator

8-14-2018
Date