Whereas, on March 13, 2020 the Governor of South Carolina declared a State of Emergency to enable appropriate actions in preparing for and promptly responding to the threat posed by the 2019 Novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19"); and

Whereas, on April 3, 2020 the Governor of South Carolina issued Executive Order 2020-19 ("Executive Order 2020-19") requiring that all individuals, entities, or establishments engaged in the provision of short-term rentals, vacation rentals, or other lodging accommodations or operations in exchange for consideration, including vacation rental property or other short-term rental property that involves the rental of any house, condominium, room, or other dwelling unit for a period of less than ninety (90) days if such property is advertised, represented, or held out to the public as a place regularly rented to, or available for rental to, guests or if such property has been so advertised, represented, or held out to the public at any point during the preceding thirty (30) days, in the State of South Carolina are prohibited from making or accepting new reservations or bookings from or for individuals residing in or travelling from any country, state, municipality, or other geographic area subject to or identified in a CDC travel advisory or other CDC notice as a location with extensive community transmission of COVID-19, to include the Tri-State Area (consisting of the States of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut) with effect for the duration of the State of Emergency declared by the Governor on March 13, 2020; and,

Whereas, on March 17, 2020 the undersigned declared a State of Emergency to exist within the Town of Seabrook Island, South Carolina ("Town") to enable actions required to alleviate effects of the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

Whereas, on March 30, 2020, the Mayor of the Town of Seabrook Island issued Executive Order No. 2020-02, which requires individuals entering the town who have traveled to or from locations in the States of Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, and the City of New Orleans, as well as those countries designated by the CDC as subject to a "Level 3 Travel Notice," to isolate or self-quarantine for 14 days, or for the duration of the individual's stay in the town; and

Whereas, on April 1, 2020 the Town Council of the Town of Seabrook Island enacted Emergency Ordinance 2020-01 effecting, among other things, regulation of rentals of any dwelling unit or property that is rented, or offered for rent, to any individual or group of individuals, for temporary occupancy for a period not to exceed twenty-eight (28) days; and

Whereas, under the State of Emergency declared by the Mayor the Town is empowered to take any lawful emergency response or action deemed necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the Town of Seabrook Island; and
Whereas, pursuant to Section 2-27 of the Town Code for the Town of Seabrook Island, the undersigned is vested with the power to take such action as appears necessary to protect life and property and maintain peace and good order;

Now, Therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the Town of Seabrook Island and in furtherance of Executive Order 2020-19 of the Governor of South Carolina ("Executive Order 2020-19"), I hereby order and direct as follows:

Section 1. I hereby direct that, for the duration of the State of Emergency declared by the Governor on March 13, 2020 and notwithstanding any provision of the Town of Seabrook Island Emergency Ordinance 2020-01 to the contrary, all individuals, entities, or establishments engaged in the provision of short term rentals, vacation rentals, or other lodging accommodations or operations in exchange for consideration, including vacation rental property or other short term rental property that involves the rental of any house, condominium, room, or other dwelling unit for a period of less than ninety (90) days if such property is advertised, represented, or held out to the public as a place regularly rented to, or available for rental to, guests or if such property has been so advertised, represented, or held out to the public at any point during the preceding thirty (30) days, in the State of South Carolina, are prohibited from making or accepting new reservations or bookings from or for individuals residing in or travelling from any country, state, municipality, or other geographic area subject to or identified in a CDC travel advisory or other CDC notice as a location with extensive community transmission of COVID-19, to include the Tri-State Area (consisting of the States of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut).

Section 2. I hereby direct that the provisions of Section 1. hereof shall not prohibit any individual, entity, or establishment from accepting new reservations or bookings for the following:

1. Individuals operating commercial vehicles transporting essential goods and products, such as food, water, medicine, medical supplies and equipment, fuels and petroleum products (to include fuel oil, diesel oil, gasoline, kerosene, propane, and liquid petroleum), livestock, poultry, feed for livestock and poultry, and crops and other agricultural products ready to be harvested (to include timber and wood chips); individuals employed by airlines; and individuals otherwise engaged in commercial transportation activities.

2. Individuals performing or assisting with military, healthcare, public safety, or emergency response operations, as well as any other operations or services identified by the United States Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency in its March 28, 2020 Memorandum, or any future amendments or supplements thereto, as essential to continued critical infrastructure viability.

Section 3. I hereby modify and amend Sections 1 and 2 of my Executive Order No. 2020-02 to clarify that the provisions thereof shall not apply to individuals performing or assisting with those operations, services, or activities identified in Section 2. (1), (2) of this Order.

Section 4. I hereby direct that violations of this Order shall be punishable in accordance with the provisions of Sections 1-7 and 2-27 of the Town Code for the Town of Seabrook Island.
Section 5. I hereby direct that each Code Enforcement Officer of the Town, whether engaged solely as a Code Enforcement Officer or otherwise engaged and duly commissioned by the Town as a Code Enforcement Officer, shall enforce this Order and shall, to the extent permissible under applicable law, cooperate with law enforcement officers of the State of South Carolina, or of any political subdivision thereof, in their enforcement of Executive Order No. 2020-19.

Section 6. This Order is not intended to create, and does not create, any individual right, privilege, or benefit, whether substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the Town of Seabrook Island, South Carolina, its agencies, departments or other entities, or any officers, employees, or agents thereof, or any other person.

This Order is effective immediately and, with the exception of Section 6, shall remain in effect for the duration of the State of Emergency declared by the Governor on March 13, 2020 to address spread of COVID-19 unless otherwise modified, amended, or rescinded by subsequent Order. Further proclamations, orders, and directives deemed necessary to ensure the fullest possible protection of life and property during this State of Emergency shall be issued by the undersigned as deemed appropriate.


Attest:  

John Gregg  
Mayor

Joseph M. Cronin  
Town Administrator