ORDER EXTENDING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RELATIVE TO COVID-19 IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

The Boston Public Health Commission, acting through its duly appointed and authorized agent, Interim Executive Director Rita Nieves, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111 § 30 and the Boston Public Health Act of 1995, M.G.L. c. 111 App § 2-6 and M.G.L. c. 111 § 181, hereby enacts and declares as follows:

Whereas, measures taken under the March 15th Declaration of a Public Health Emergency Relative to COVID-19 in the City of Boston (“Emergency Declaration”) have been instrumental in preventing further infection and death;

Whereas, there is clear evidence that coronavirus disease 2019, also known as COVID-19, continues to cause serious harm to the public health of the City of Boston;

Whereas, the Boston Public Health Commission seeks to sustain numerous actions taken to protect Boston residents from COVID-19, including, but not limited to orders, advisories, resource allocations, staffing redeployments, and other measures that have been implemented to date;

Whereas, as the progression of COVID-19 continues, an evolving disease response and containment interventions may become necessary;

Whereas, the March 15th Emergency Declaration had an initial term ending April 27th, 2020, and delegated the authority to extend beyond this date as circumstances warrant to the Interim Executive Director;

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED THAT THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARATION ISSUED MARCH 15th SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Interim Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission, acting solely as an agent of the Boston Public Health Commission, shall retain all of the powers set forth in the March 15th Declaration of a Public Health Emergency Relative to COVID-19 in the City of Boston, including the authority to implement any and all measures and recommendations for the prevention and control of COVID-19 as circumstances may require. The Interim Executive Director shall continue to have access to and the use of all employees, equipment and other resources of the Boston Public Health Commission. Interim Executive Director or her designee may issue subsequent directives necessary to support Boston’s COVID-19 response efforts.
2. The Emergency Declaration shall remain in full force and effect until rescinded by the Interim Executive Director, in their discretion and in consideration of the circumstances and the continued necessity of measures taken under the Emergency Declaration.

The public health emergency declaration issued March 15th, 2020 shall remain in effect until rescinded by the Interim Executive Director.

Dated: April 24, 2020

Rita Nieves
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION