



**Mayor – City of Riviera Beach**

**600 W. Blue Heron Blvd.  
Riviera Beach, FL., 33404**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2020**

**RE: CORONAVIRUS (COVID19)**

**Dear Community Stakeholders,**



As Mayor of Riviera Beach, I am genuinely humbled by the faith and trust you have in me to hold this prestigious office. This office demands responsibility and leadership, and I have promised to promote peace, tranquility, and effective governance as your Mayor. This message aims to communicate the profound impact that the coronavirus (COVID-19) has had upon our nation, our state and our region. With cases increasing daily and additional safety precautions being deployed immediately by the city, I urge you to listen to the messages from our governmental partners. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is an excellent source of information, as are the Florida Health Department, the Palm Beach County Health Department, and the City of Riviera Beach. Our staff is working diligently to provide accurate, current and expedited information, and my goal is to inform our residents about the precautionary measures being taken to protect our community.

I understand that some measures will profoundly impact our way of life, but, more importantly, they are for our safety. For my brothers and sisters in the clergy, I urge you to consider the recommendations provided by the CDC and know that we are doing everything in our power to protect church members in our community. We recognize that this community's churches are a focal point for leadership, guidance, and protection in all aspects of life. Our community heavily relies upon us to deliver a message of hope, perseverance, and faith; therefore, I want to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with you to provide the testimonies that have carried us forward throughout history. However, this pandemic should not be taken lightly, and the significant health risk to our senior citizens is something we should carefully deliberate. Your safety and our community's security are my number one priority. So I ask that you join me in listening to the guidance from the CDC, the Florida Health Department, the Palm Beach County Health Department, and the City of Riviera Beach. For information concerning the coronavirus, please call 1 (866) 779-6121 or e-mail [COVID-19@flhealth.gov](mailto:COVID-19@flhealth.gov). These resources are available to you 24/7.

In closing, I understand that these places of worship have provided refuge to those who are weak, hungry, ill, and hopeless. This is the core of who we are and what we do—not only as religious leaders but as community members. I pledge to you that, as your Mayor, I will work hand-in-hand to restore hope and faith and to deliver a rapid response once this pandemic subsides. At this moment, though, I urge you to heed the recommendations provided by city staff and federal agencies because this worldwide pandemic is unlike others we have experienced in our lifetime. As a whole, our nation has been through other extreme challenges and succeeded many times before. Be confident that we will return to normalcy, and in the meantime, please take measures now so that we can avoid catastrophe.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mayor Ronnie L. Felder,

C. City Council  
All City Personnel