WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized the COVID-19 outbreak as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts issued a Declaration of a State of Emergency to Respond to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States issued a Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2020, retroactive to March 10, 2020, I determined, in consultation with the federal, state and local public health officials, that COVID-19 poses a significant, immediate threat to the public health, safety, and welfare of people residing both within and outside the City of Framingham, and, as such, I declared a Local State of Emergency retroactive to March 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts issued an Order Assuring Continued Operation of Essential Services in the Commonwealth, Closing Certain Workplaces, and Prohibiting Gatherings of More than 10 People (COVID-19 Order No. 13), which order was revised and extended on March 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on May 18, 2020, Governor Baker issued COVID-19 Order No. 22 entitled "Order Implementing a Phased Reopening of Workplaces and Imposing Workplace Safety Measures to Address COVID-19" ("COVID-19 Order No. 33") accompanied by a Reopening Massachusetts report describing a four-phase business reopening plan ("Phase I report"); and

WHEREAS, the Memorial Building has remained closed to the public since mid-March, 2020 to avoid unnecessary physical contact between City officials and residents of Framingham to mitigate the potential spread of COVID-19, and a phased reopening is underway in compliance with the Governor’s Phase I report and other applicable orders; and
WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the City of Framingham to encourage and facilitate the re-opening of existing restaurants and retail businesses when the state transitions to Phase II under COVID-19 Order No. 33;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to my authority as Mayor under the March 22, 2020 Declaration of a Local State of Emergency, Article III, Section 2 of the Framingham Home Rule Charter and Massachusetts General Laws appertaining, I hereby order the following:

1. The City shall not enforce the provisions of General Bylaw Article VII Section 1.6.11 Portable Signs until the Local State of Emergency is terminated or until the City Council enacts appropriate changes to the General Bylaws, whichever first occurs; and

2. The City shall not enforce the provisions of General Bylaw City Council Order No.2019-098-001 Central Business District Sidewalk Usage Ordinance until the Local State of Emergency is terminated or until the City Council enacts appropriate changes to the General Bylaws, whichever first occurs; and

3. The City shall not enforce only those provisions of the Zoning Bylaw, pertaining to Restaurants in Table of Uses Section II.B.5.j. and Parking Facilities under Section IV. B.1.a of the Zoning Bylaw, requiring Planning Board approval of amendments to special permits held by restaurant owners or operators to allow for outside or sidewalk dining by patrons only, provided that prior written administrative approval of such special permits is obtained in advance from the Director of Inspectional Services, in consultation with the Director of Public Health, Police Chief and Fire Chief, to ensure that the public health and safety is protected by any such modifications. This section shall remain in effect until the Local State of Emergency is terminated or until the City Council enacts appropriate changes to the Zoning Bylaw, whichever first occurs; and

4. All local Orders previously issued by the Mayor, the Director of Public Health or the Board of Health that pertain to public health and safety and are intended to address, reduce and ultimately eliminate the spread or transmission of COVID-19 shall remain in full force and effect and are not modified or abridged, expressly or impliedly, by this Executive Order.

SIGNED THIS 1st DAY OF JUNE 2020

Yvonne M. Spicer
Mayor

cc: City Council, School Committee, City Division and Department Heads, Boards and Commissions, Chief Operating Officer, City Solicitor, Dr. Robert Tremblay, Media Outlets