**EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR EXTENDING THE STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARED ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2026 IN RESPONSE TO A COUNTY WIDE THREAT FROM DENGUE FEVER, A MOSQUITO-BORNE ILLNESS**

**WHEREAS,** Dengue fever is a mosquito-borne illness transmitted primarily by *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes, capable of causing severe flu-like illness, Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever, and potential loss of life; and

**WHEREAS,** local transmission of Dengue fever has been identified and confirmed within Hillsborough County, posing an immediate and widespread threat to the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents and visitors of Hillsborough County, Florida; and

**WHEREAS,** the mitigation of mosquito-borne pathogens requires immediate, aggressive, and continuous vector control measures, including source reduction, wide-area larviciding, adulticiding, public education, and emergency resource coordination; and

**WHEREAS,** on July 27, 2026, the Florida Department of Health issued a mosquito-borne illness advisory for Hillsborough County following a confirmed human case of locally-acquired Dengue fever; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 31, the Florida Department of Health issued a mosquito-borne illness alert for Hillsborough County following a second confirmed human case of locally-acquired Dengue fever; and

**WHEREAS,** as of September 17, 2026, the Arbovirus Report reflected 134 confirmed cases of Dengue fever within the County affecting the general population; and

**WHEREAS**, as of September 30, 2026, the Arbovirus Report indicated the number of confirmed cases within the County had risen to 223; and

**WHEREAS**, as of October 8, 2026, the Arbovirus Report indicated the number of confirmed cases had risen to 259; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 10, 2026, the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order 26-212 declaring that a state of emergency exists in Hillsborough County and authorizing the Commissioner of Agriculture to order such ameliorative mosquito or other arthropod control measures as are necessary to prevent additional mosquito related issues; and

**WHEREAS**, as of October 15, 2026, the Arbovirus Report indicated the number of confirmed cases had risen to 310; and

**WHEREAS**, as of October 22, 2026, the Arbovirus report indicated the number of confirmed cases within Hillsborough County had risen to 346; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 22, 2026, the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) publicly announced it had issued a Level 3 Emergency response related to Dengue fever outbreaks in the State of Florida and stated continued domestic transmission remains a concern; and

**WHEREAS**, as of October 29, 2026, the Arbovirus report indicated the number of confirmed cases within Hillsborough County had risen to 386; and

**WHEREAS**, as of November 5, 2026, the Arbovirus report indicated the number of confirmed cases within Hillsborough County has risen to 407; and

**WHEREAS**, the areas of concern for disease transmission requiring mitigation efforts currently encompass over one-half of Hillsborough County and are continuing to spread; and

**WHEREAS,** Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Hillsborough County Ordinance 06-13 (Hillsborough County Code of Laws and Ordinances, Part A, Chapter 22, Article II, Sections 22-19 through 22-30), authorizes Hillsborough County to declare a state of local emergency; and

**WHEREAS,** Chapter 22, Article II, Section 22-21, Hillsborough County Code of Ordinances and Laws, empowers the Board, Board Chair, or County Administrator, as designee, to declare that a local state of emergency exists; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 1, October 8, October 15, October 22, and October 29, 2026, the County Administrator issued Orders extending the local state of emergency declared on September 24, 2026, in response to the countywide outbreak of Dengue fever; and

**WHEREAS,** a state of emergency declared under the authority of Chapter 22, Article II, Section 22-22, Hillsborough County Code of Ordinances and Laws, and Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, shall have a duration of no more than seven days, renewable for further periods of no more than seven days; and

**WHEREAS,** the scale of the necessary public health response requires extraordinary measures, including the waiver of formal procurement procedures to rapidly secure control chemicals, specialized equipment, other prudent supplies, and supplemental staffing; and

**WHEREAS**, in light of the ongoing Dengue fever outbreak and continuing confirmation of additional cases, it is prudent to maintain a local emergency declaration.

**NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA, ON THIS 5th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY DESIGNATED IN SECTION 252.38 F.S., AND SECTION 22-22 OF THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY CODE ISSUES THIS ORDER THAT:**

1. A Local State of Emergency is hereby declared throughout all incorporated and unincorporated areas of Hillsborough County, Florida, effective immediately, due to the imminent public health hazard posed by the Dengue fever.

2. The emergency provisions of the Hillsborough County Emergency Management Plan and relevant public health response protocols are hereby activated.
3. The County Administrator, in consultation with the Emergency Management Director, the Florida Department of Health in Hillsborough County, and Hillsborough County Mosquito Control, is authorized to direct emergency operations.
4. This Executive Order supersedes and controls over any County ordinance, rule, or policy that may be in conflict with this Order.
5. This Executive Order takes effect immediately upon adoption and shall remain in effect for seven days unless extended or rescinded by the Board, Board Chair or County Administrator.

Executed this 5th day of November, 2026.

Bonnie M. Wise

**Bonnie M. Wise**
**County Administrator**
**Hillsborough County**

**APPROVED BY COUNTY ATTORNEY**
**Approved as to Form and Legal Sufficiency**

**By:** Ernesto Mayor Jr.
**Senior Assistant County Attorney**

**STATE OF FLORIDA**
**COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH**

I, **VICTOR D. CRIST**, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Ex Officio Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Order is a true and correct copy of the Order executed by the Acting County Administrator on November 5, 2026.

**WITNESS** my hand and official seal this 5th day of November, 2026.

**VICTOR D. CRIST**
**Clerk of Circuit Court**

By: _____
Deputy Clerk