

Parish of West Baton Rouge



Executive Order RLB-2020-2

An order to temporarily suspend certain administrative and executive functions of the West Baton Rouge Parish Government

WHEREAS United States and Louisiana law generally recognizes the authority of the various governmental chief executives to issue Executive Orders during times of local and national emergencies; **and**

WHEREAS on March 13, 2020 I have issued a State of Emergency Proclamation for West Baton Rouge Parish related to the COVID-19 event of 2020; **and**

WHEREAS the West Baton Rouge Parish Home Rule Charter tasks the Parish President to “exercise general executive and administrative authority over all departments, offices and agencies of the Parish government...” (cf. Home Rule Charter Article III, Sec. 3-01 and Sec. 3-09); **and**

WHEREAS in order to comply with other national, state and local emergency provisions, executive orders and best practices related to slowing the spread of the novel COVID-19 coronavirus **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED THAT**

I Administrative

- a) West Baton Rouge Parish Government Buildings will be closed to public access effective March 23, 2020 Drive through window will be available through the Natural Gas and Water Office.
- b) West Baton Rouge Parish Government will continue to operate with reduced personnel and remotely when possible.

II WBR Office of Community Planning and Development

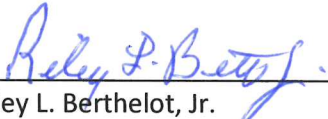
The staff and department head of the West Baton Rouge Parish Office of Community Planning and Development shall temporarily suspend from the enforcement of the following provisions of local law:

- a) Due to expected, indefinite procedural delays of the Council and the court system, no new investigations shall commence nor complaints be received with respect to code enforcement of alleged zoning violations (cf. Parish Code Chapters 104 and 106); derelict structures (cf. Chapter 109); junk, trash, garbage and debris (Parish Code Chapters 34 and 109). Grass cutting complaints (cf. Parish Code Chapter 109) will still be received, investigated and processed accordingly.
- b) Due to a transition to remote working and skeleton crew protocol, no new permits or inspections shall be required for what is commonly called “occupancy permits and inspections” (cf. International Residential Code Sections R110, R111 and International Building Code Sections 111, 112). Here, “occupancy permits and inspections” means permits and inspections on existing structures that have previously been issued certificates of occupancy (or are grandfathered-in) and are undergoing a change in tenancy only. It will be up to the sole discretion of the various utility companies as to whether or not to provide or continue to provide utility service to those locations.

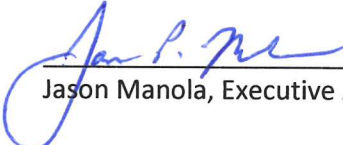
III These temporary provisions shall be in effect until further notice.

Signed and witnessed this day, the **19th** of **March, 2020**.




Riley L. Berthelot, Jr.
West Baton Rouge Parish President

ATTEST:


Jason Manola, Executive Assistant