Mayor Mark Walsifer Council President Thomas Brennan Councilman James McCracken Councilwoman Patricia Wann Councilman Thomas Carvelli Administrator Edward Kirschenbaum



Borough of Belmar 601 Main Street Belmar, NJ 07719 Phone: 732-681-3700 Fax: 732-681-3434 www.belmar.com

March 27, 2020

A message from Belmar Mayor Mark Walsifer:

There has been a lot of opinions from our residents whether we should close our boardwalk or keep it open.

The Governor has been encouraging people to get outside to walk, run, or bike to get exercise and fresh air.

The Coordinators of the Belmar Office of Emergency Management and the Supervisors of the Belmar Police Department continue to monitor the beach and boardwalk hourly. We are prepared to close the boardwalk if we observe people congregating without practicing social distancing pursuant to NJ Executive Order No. 108. Thus far this has not been the case.

We are living in challenging times. This is not an easy decision to make because there are sound arguments on both sides.

Is it more dangerous for people to walk in the streets with traffic or wander through our neighborhoods on narrow sidewalks in proximity to residents? The Police Department and the Office of Emergency Management continue to evaluate the best course of action to protect the populace.

We are exploring options if the boardwalk is closed for alternative places for residents to safely walk.

As the weather gets warmer people want to be outside. Rest assured the public safety and well-being of our residents remains our top priority.

Mayor Mark Walsifer