



CITY OF HONDO , TEXAS
SIXTH MAYORAL DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of COVID-19 can cause a severe illness, including coughing, fever, shortness of breath and cause further complications including death; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes and a significant portion of individuals with coronavirus lack symptoms (“asymptomatic”) and that even those who eventually develop symptoms (“pre-symptomatic”) can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a revised proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas and setting restriction on social gatherings, restaurants, bars and other establishments as well as except where necessary to provide or obtain essential services, residents must minimize in-person contact with people not in the same household; and

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a proclamation renewing the disaster declaration for all counties in Texas and on April 17, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order GA-16 which allows for reopened services to begin on April 24, 2020 of retail stores that are not providing “essential services” but only if they provide pickup, delivery by mail or delivery to customer’s doorstep in strict compliance with Texas Department of State Health Services; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor issued a Proclamation of Disaster on March 16, 2020 declaring a local disaster and public health emergency because of the disease COVID-19 and on March 19, 2020, and March 27, 2020, April 1, 2020 and April 16, 2020 the Mayor and City Council issued revised Declarations of Local State of Disaster to affirm the proclamation issued by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council, Texas, in its Second Declaration took extraordinary measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and prevent the spread throughout the City of Hondo, including the banning of community gatherings of over ten (10) people within the Hondo city limits; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council in its Third Declaration took extraordinary measures to protect the youth in the community during this period that schools are closed and therefore expanded the curfew hours; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council in its Fourth Declaration took extraordinary measures to protect the public by requiring essential business retailers to require to take steps to protect the public entering their establishments by requiring social distancing by those in line outside and inside the stores as well as other requirements; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council in its Fifth Declaration took extraordinary measures to protect the public by requiring the wearing of cloth face coverings in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council believe that the Declaration needs to be amended to reflect the newest restrictions and affirm the proclamation issued by the Governor on April 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, said state of disaster requires that certain emergency protective measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management and Public Health, pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR AND CONFIRMED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HONDO, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Hondo, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

SECTION 2. That pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code the state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than thirty (30) days from the date of this declaration, unless continued by the City Council of the City of Hondo.

SECTION 3. That pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code this declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.

SECTION 4. That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City of Hondo, Texas, emergency management plan.

SECTION 5. That pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this Declaration authorizes the City to commandeer or use any private property, temporary acquire, by lease or other means, sites required for emergency shelters, subject to compensation requirements.

SECTION 6. That pursuant to Section 122.006 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, this declaration authorizes the City to take any action necessary to promote health and suppress disease,

including quarantine, examining hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the City and fining those who do not comply with the City's rules.

SECTION 7. That this declaration hereby limits the size of gatherings to not more than 10 people and mandates the cancellation of all such gatherings until further notice. A "gathering" refers generally to a scheduled event or common endeavor where 10 persons are present in a confined space, room, or area, including outdoor area.

SECTION 8. In accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.173 of the Texas Government Code, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this declaration commits an offense punishable by a fine up to \$1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

SECTION 9. Pursuant to the statutory authority vested in me as the presiding officer of the City of Hondo, I issue guidance as set out within the Third Declaration Regarding Public and Private Gatherings and Related Matters attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "I".

SECTION 10. Any provision in this Declaration that is not included but included in the Governor's revised proclamation of March 31, 2020, the Governor's proclamation shall control.

SECTION 11. Any provision in this Declaration that may be in conflict with the Governor's revised proclamation of April 17, 2020, the Governor's proclamation shall control.

SECTION 12. That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance and be effective for thirty days from the date of passage unless extended or modified by City Council.

DECLARED this _____ day of April, 2020.

JAMES W. DANNER, MAYOR

ATTEST

Miguel Cantu, City Secretary

EXHIBIT “1”

Declaration regarding Public and Private Gatherings and Other Matter

1. Declaration Regarding Public and Private Gatherings:

- a. This Exhibit “1” incorporates and adopts, except as where noted below, the Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) Interim Guidance for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) dated March 15, 2020.
- b. The virus that causes COVID-19 is easily transmitted, especially in group settings, and it is essential that the spread of the virus be slowed to protect the ability of public and private health care providers to handle an influx of patients and safeguard public health and safety.
- c. For all gatherings, it is strongly recommended that social distancing protocols established by the United States Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and found within the “Implementation of Mitigation strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission” issued by the CDC on or around March 11, 2020, including canceling, rescheduling, or not attending events with more than ten persons.
- d. Further, organizations that serve high-risk populations should follow CDC guidance for social distancing.
- e. Because of the risk of the rapid spread of the virus, and the need to protect the most vulnerable members of the community, the declaration includes the following effective at 11:59 p.m. on March 20, 2020 and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on April 22, 2020.

Order No. 1 Every person in Texas shall avoid social gatherings in groups of 10 or more people.

Order No. 2 In accordance with the Guidelines from the Governor of Texas and the CDC, there will be no eating and drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed.

Order No. 3 In accordance with the Guidelines from the Governor of Texas and the CDC, people shall not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.

Order No. 4 In accordance with the Guidelines from the Governor of Texas and the CDC, schools shall be closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

Order No. 5 As a result of school closures, no one under seventeen (17) years of age will be allowed to stand, drive, or ride about in or upon any public

place in the City of Hondo during school days without the supervision of a parent, guardian or adult 18 or over approved by the parent or guardian during the hours of 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM, Monday through Friday unless minor was engaged in lawful employment or volunteer work at a recognized charity institution or other organization or is going to or coming directly from such activity without detour or stop or any other defense recognized in Section 8.02.33 of the Hondo City Code.

- Order No. 6 As a result of the pandemic, no one under seventeen (17) years of age will be allowed to stand, drive, or ride about in or upon any public place in the City of Hondo during days without the supervision of a parent, guardian or adult 18 or over approved by the parent or guardian during the hours of 10:00 PM to 6:00 AM, any day of the week unless minor was engaged in lawful employment or volunteer work at a recognized charity institution or other organization or is going to or coming directly from such activity without detour or stop or any other defense recognized in Section 8.02.33 of the Hondo City Code.
- Order No. 7 All essential business retailers, including grocery stores and discount stores are instructed to: sanitize all carts prior to customers' usage, continuously sanitize all checkout areas including credit/debit card machines, maintain a six (6) foot separation between customers in lines both inside and outside (at the store's entrance) and are requested to limit the number of individual items sold to each customer or family. All fuel service providers are mandated to post signage warning against risks posed by lack of sanitation of fuel pumps.
- Order No. 8 That this declaration hereby closes all parks, public and private located in the City except all walking trails and green space located at these parks may remain open but groups of 10 and more people are still prohibited.
- Order No. 9 As a result of the pandemic, and to achieve the goals established by the Governor to reduce the spread of COVID-19, every person in Texas shall, except where necessary to provide or obtain essential services, minimize social gatherings and minimize in-person contact with people who are not in the same household. "Essential services" shall consist of everything listed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in its Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce. Other essential services may be added to this list with the approval of the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). TDEM shall maintain an online list of essential services, as specified in this executive order and in any

approved additions. Requests for additions should be directed to TDEM at EssentialServices@tdem.texas.gov or by visiting www.tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices.

- Order No. 10 As a result of the Governor’s Declaration, bars, lounges, taverns, private clubs, arcades, theatres, bowling alleys, bingo parlors, indoor commercial amusement businesses, gyms, martial arts studios, nail salons, hair salons, barber shops, hair removal salons, massage parlors, spas, tattoo and piercing parlors shall close.
- Order No. 11 CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies). Therefore, this Declaration **requires the use** of cloth face coverings when visiting hospitals, medical and veterinarian clinics and restaurants. **It is required** that face masks also be used by restaurant workers as well as employees of all essential businesses that have face to face contact with the public including grocery stores. **It is recommended** that a face mask be used whenever a person leaves their home or essential business. Such cloth face masks can be fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost.
- Order No. 12 As a result of the Governor’s Executive Order GA-16 issued April 17, 2020, “reopened services” shall be allowed to open starting on April 24, 2020, which include all retail businesses that are able to sell goods through pickup, delivery by mail or delivery to the customer’s doorstep in strict compliance with the terms required by Texas Department of State Health Services. All other non-essential retail stores that are not able to provide pickup or delivery of its goods or services must remain closed.
- Order No. 13 The Hondo Golf Course will be allowed to reopen to allow golfers to walk the course as long as golfers take the necessary precautions to minimize in-person contact by maintaining a six-foot distance, and to include but not limited to the following prohibitions: no use of golf carts, ball washers, water coolers, rakes and flags must not be removed. Clubhouse will remain closed.

The declaration does not prohibit people from accessing essential services or engaging in daily activities, such as going to grocery stores, gas stations, auto repair and banks, so long as the necessary precautions are maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. For offices and workplaces that provide essential services and remain open, employees should practice social distancing, good hygiene and, where feasible, work from home in order to achieve optimum isolation from COVID-19. The more that people reduce their public contact, the sooner COVID-19 will be contained and the sooner this declaration will expire.

