

**FOURTH AMENDED DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS**

WHEREAS, in December 2019 a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, with symptoms including fever, cough, and shortness of breath and with outcomes ranging from mild to severe illness and in some cases, death;

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), advising countries to prepare for the containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread of the disease;

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General urged aggressive preparedness and activation of emergency plans to aggressively change the trajectory of this epidemic;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is closely monitoring the growing number of cases that have spread into the United States and the identification of “community spread” cases of COVID-19 in the United States signals that transmission of the virus is occurring;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes;

WHEREAS, the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19 presents an imminent threat of widespread illness, which requires emergency action;

WHEREAS, County Judge Glen Whitley issued a Declaration of Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency for Tarrant County for COVID-19 on March 13, 2020;

WHEREAS, Governor Greg Abbott issued a State of Disaster for all Texas counties for COVID-19 on March 13, 2020;

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump declared a State of National Emergency for the United States of America on March 13, 2020;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the mayor is designated as the emergency management director of the City of Fort Worth, and may exercise the powers granted to the governor on an appropriate local scale;

WHEREAS, a declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, compel

persons to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease, including isolation, surveillance, quarantine, or placement of persons under public health observation, including the provision of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons misplaced or evacuated and request assistance from the governor of state resources;

WHEREAS, by this Declaration of Local Disaster and Public Health Emergency, I declare all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat suspended for the duration of the incident;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted to the Mayor under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, I authorize the use of all available resources of state government and political subdivisions to assist in the City's response to this situation;

WHEREAS, I, Betsy Price, the Mayor of the City of Fort Worth have determined that extraordinary and immediate measures must be taken to respond quickly, prevent and alleviate the suffering of people exposed to and those infected with the virus, as well as those that could potentially be infected or impacted by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, I issued a Declaration of Public Health Emergency on March 13, 2020, an Amended Declaration of Public Health Emergency on March 16, 2020, a Second Amended Declaration of Public Health Emergency on March 18, 2020, and a Third Amended Declaration of Public Health Emergency on March 19, 2020, to implement additional measures to ensure the protection of the general public in the City of Fort Worth;

WHEREAS, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order GA 08 and Commissioner John W. Hellerstedt, M.D. issued a Declaration of Public Health Disaster in the State of Texas on March 19, 2020 to implement statewide measures to address the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, County Judge Glen Whitley issued a Second Amended Declaration of Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency for Tarrant County for COVID-19 on March 21, 2020;

WHEREAS, I now issue this Fourth Amended Declaration of Public Health Emergency to align the City of Fort Worth's response with Judge Whitley's Second Amended Declaration of Local Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS:


1. That a state of disaster and public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Fort Worth, pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. That the state of disaster and public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than seven days of the date hereof, unless the same is continued by the City Council of the City of Fort Worth, Texas, pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code.

3. That this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary, pursuant to §418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code.
4. That the City's Emergency Operations Plan is activated and implemented, pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code.
5. That this declaration authorizes the City to commandeer or use any private property, temporarily acquire, by lease or other means, sites required for temporary housing units or emergency shelters for evacuees, subject to compensation requirements, pursuant to §418.020(c) of the Texas Government Code.
6. That this declaration authorizes the City to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress disease, including quarantine, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the City, and fining those who do not comply with the City's rules, pursuant to §122.006 of the Health and Safety Code.
7. That this declaration hereby limits the size of gatherings to no more than 10 people and mandates the cancellation of all such gatherings of more than 10 people until further notice, except as specifically allowed in sections 8 and 10 of this declaration. For purposes herein, a gathering is any indoor or outdoor event that brings together or is likely to bring together more than 10 people at the same time in a single space where people are present and within 6 feet of one another, without regard to the purpose of the gathering. This declaration does not prohibit gatherings of people in multiple, separate enclosed spaces (including separate cubicles) in a single building such as different floors of a multi-level office, residential building, or hotel, so long as 10 people are not present in any single space at the same time. This declaration also does not prohibit the use of enclosed spaces where more than people may be present at different times during the day, so long as more than 10 people are not present in the space at the same time. This declaration does not make a distinction between the types of gatherings, i.e. social, community, or recreational. For any gathering covered by this subsection, the Mayor of the City of Fort Worth strongly encourages compliance with the attached recommendations.
8. That this declaration hereby orders that a restaurant with or without drive-in or drive-through services; drive-in restaurant; drive-through restaurant; or microbrewery, micro-distillery, or winery may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-in or drive-through services as allowed by law. Employees working at a business described in this section shall not be considered a gathering under section 7 of this declaration, however, in no event shall more than ten non-employees be present inside of a business covered by this section at any one time.
9. That this declaration hereby orders the closure of and prohibits individuals to occupy bars, lounges, taverns, commercial amusement and entertainment establishments, bingo halls, theaters, gyms, private clubs, hair and nail salons, estheticians and other personal care businesses, spas and massage parlors, barber shops, tattoo parlors,

piercing parlors, tanning salons, residential meeting spaces, event centers, hotel meeting spaces and ballrooms, outdoor plazas and markets, malls and retail stores that do not sell essential household goods. This declaration also closes worship services for in-person services, provided that needed employees can attend to produce audio/video services for transmission.

10. That this declaration allows the following entities to continue doing business as long as they enforce social separation: grocery stores, stores selling essential household goods, convenience and package stores, pharmacies and drug stores, day care facilities, medical facilities, veterinary facilities, non-profit service providers, homeless and emergency shelters, office buildings, jails and essential government buildings, airports and transit facilities, transportation systems, residential buildings and hotels, and manufacturing and distribution facilities. The entities listed in this section are not subject to the ten-person limit referenced in section 7, but in all such locations, there must be sufficient space for all people to be 6 feet apart at all times to control infection. Where possible, a tracking list of the individuals present, and their contact information shall be maintained.
11. Notwithstanding the above restriction, this Declaration is not intended to apply to any business operations delivering essential services. Essential Services means services, by whomsoever rendered, and whether rendered to the government or to any other person, the interruption of which would endanger life, health or personal safety of the whole or part of the population.
12. If someone in a household has tested positive for COVID-19, the household is ordered to isolate at home. Members of the household cannot go to work, school, or any other community function until cleared by a medical professional but may seek medical services as needed from medical personnel and facilities.
13. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.
14. That this declaration incorporates the attached table, Disaster Restrictions, as if set forth verbatim herein.
15. That this declaration sets forth strong recommendations, attached hereto, for the purpose of mitigating the spread of COVID-19.
16. That this proclamation shall take effect at 6:00 pm on March 21, 2020.

ORDERED THIS the 21st day of March, 2020.



Betsy Price
Mayor

DISASTER RESTRICTIONS

| Locations | Restrictions |
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| <p>All gatherings without regard to purpose. No distinction between types of gatherings i.e. social, community, recreational.</p> | <p>No more than 10 people. Practice social distancing - sufficient space for all people to be 6 feet apart at all times. Keep a tracking list of individuals and their contact information.</p> |
| <p>Bars, lounges, taverns Commercial amusement and entertainment establishments Bingo halls Theaters Gyms, fitness classes, yoga and personal training facilities, similar facilities and classes Private Clubs Hair and nail salons and barber shops Estheticians and related personal care businesses Spas and massage parlors Tattoo and piercing parlors and tanning salons Residential meeting spaces Event centers Hotel meeting spaces and ballrooms Outdoor plazas and markets Malls Retail stores that do not sell essential household goods</p> | <p>No occupancy permitted.</p> |
| <p>Food Establishments</p> | <p>In-house dining – closed. Drive-in, drive-through, take out, and delivery is permitted. Practice social distancing - sufficient space for all people to be 6 feet apart at all times. No more than 10 non-employees permitted inside at one time for pick-up and take-out orders. No eating or drinking is allowed inside of the establishments.</p> |
| <p>Worship Services</p> | <p>Closed for in-person services, provided that staff can attend to produce audio/video services</p> |

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| <p>Grocery stores Stores selling essential household goods Convenience and package stores Pharmacies and drug stores Day care facilities Medical facilities Veterinary Facilities Non-profit service providers Homeless and emergency shelters Office buildings Jails Essential government buildings Airports and transit facilities Transportation systems Residential buildings and hotels Manufacturing and distribution facilities</p> | <p>Practice social distancing - sufficient space for all people to be 6 feet apart at all times.</p> <p>Keep a tracking list of individuals and their contact information, wherever possible.</p> |
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CITY OF FORT WORTH RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR MITIGATING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

The City of Fort Worth strongly recommends the following:

- (1) Cancel all nonessential gatherings and meetings.
- (2) Create smaller groups for essential meetings, and consider holding video/audio meetings instead.
- (3) For individuals at increased risk of severe illness, cancel all nonessential gatherings and limit nonessential outings. “Individuals at increased risk of severe illness” includes but is not limited to individuals 60 years and older; with compromised immune systems; with medical conditions such as diabetes, heart disease or disorders, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or other lung conditions.
- (4) For operators that remain open, provide ways for patrons to maintain safe social distancing, for example, maintaining six feet of separation between individuals; have hand washing capabilities, hand sanitizers and tissues available; and frequently cleaning high touch surface areas like counter tops, hand rails, and door knobs.
- (5) For workplaces, promote telecommuting; ensure employees do not work while sick; do not require a doctor’s note for employees who are sick; maximize flexibility in sick leave benefits; and minimize the number of employees working within arm’s length of one another.
- (6) For grocery stores and pharmacies, increase the use and capability of drive-thru, curbside, or delivery services; limit or restrict the number of customers permitted in a store at one time; minimize the number of employees working within arm’s length of one another; provide handwashing capabilities, hand sanitizers, and tissues; and frequently clean high-touch surface areas like countertops, doorknobs, and handrails.
- (7) Determine ways to consider providing support services, including meals, to individuals at increased risk of severe illness while limiting group settings and exposures.
- (8) Minimize all nonessential travel.