



**CITY OF FLORESVILLE, TEXAS
ORDER CONTINUING DECLARATION OF
LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV-2 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 range from mild to severe illness 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

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a 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

WHEREAS, the City of Floresville, Texas, is taking extraordinary measures to prevent the spread of this potentially devastating disease in our community; 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.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), of even date herewith, the City Council for the City of Floresville contends that it is necessary for the protection, safety, welfare and wellbeing of the citizens of Floresville to approve an Order Continuing Declaration of State of Local Disaster and to continue to exercise the powers granted by the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 for the period specified in the Order of Continuing Declaration;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is easily transmitted through person to person contact, 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 the influx of new patients and safeguard public health and safety. Because of the risk of the rapid spread of the virus, and the need to protect the most vulnerable members of the community, this Order requires all individuals anywhere in the City of Floresville to stay home except for certain essential activities and work.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLORESVILLE, TEXAS THAT PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 418, HEREBY FIND AND ORDER:

SECTION 1. That the findings and recitations set out in the preamble to this Order are found to be true and correct and they are hereby adopted by the Mayor and made a part hereof for all purposes.

SECTION 2. This Order is effective as of 12:00 a.m. on April 17, 2020, and continuing until the state of disaster is terminated, or other date as determined by the City Council, unless terminated or modified by an additional Order.

SECTION 3. That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this order continuing declaration of a local state of disaster shall continue to activate the City of Floresville, Texas, emergency management plan, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.

SECTION 4. That this order continuing declaration authorizes the City to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress the virus, including the quarantine of persons and occupied structures, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the City, regulating ingress and egress to occupied structures, establishment of quarantine stations, emergency hospitals, and other hospitals, and insuring compliance for those who do not comply with the City's rules, pursuant to Section 122.006 of the Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 5. That this order continuing 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.

SECTION 6. All persons living within the City of Floresville are encouraged to stay home at all times. To the extent persons are using shared or outdoor spaces, they **MUST AT ALL TIMES**, as reasonably as possible, maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from any other person when outside of their residence.

SECTION 7. All persons three years and older **MUST WEAR SOME FORM OF COVERING OVER THEIR NOSE AND MOUTH** when entering into or inside of any building that is not their dwelling, in business parking lots, when pumping gas, and when delivering and/or handing out food or beverages. Examples of facial covering include items such as a homemade mask, scarf, bandana, or handkerchief. This section does not apply to a person engaged in permissible outdoor activity; riding in a personal vehicle; alone in an enclosed space; or when eating or drinking. For clarity, medical grade coverings, such as N95 and surgical masks, are **NOT REQUIRED** and the public is encouraged to use other forms of coverings so not to disrupt the supply of medical grade coverings for health care facilities and professionals and first responders. A covering may be factory-made or sewn by hand, or can be improvised household items such as scarfs, T-shirts, sweatshirts, or towels.

SECTION 8. People who are ill, especially those with symptoms consistent with influenza or COVID-19, **MUST ISOLATE THEMSELVES AT HOME** until they recover. Such persons should communicate with an appropriate health care professional and, when seeking in-person medical care, should call their doctor or health care facility before arriving to allow them to prepare.

An entire household is ordered to self-quarantine at home, and no one within the household may go to work, school, or any public function of any kind, for a period of no less than two weeks, unless a health authority imposes a longer time period, if

- a. Anyone in a household tests positive for COVID-19; or
- b. Anyone in the household has had contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet for a prolonged period of time.

SECTION 9. Peace officers and City of Floresville Code Enforcement Officers are hereby authorized to enforce this order.

SECTION 10. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

SECTION 11. In accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this declaration commits a Class C Misdemeanor which is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or confinement in jail not to exceed 180 days.

SECTION 12. The City of Floresville shall post this Order on its website. In addition, the owner, manager or operator of any facility that is likely to be impacted by this Order is strongly encouraged to post a copy of this Order onsite and to provide a copy to any member of the public asking for a copy.

Section 13. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this Order or application of it to any person, structure, gathering or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the rest of the order.

ORDERED this the 14 day of April, 2020.


Cecelia "Cissy" Gonzalez-Dippel
Mayor, City of Floresville

Attest to:



Monica Veliz, City Secretary

