

**CITY OF PRINCETON, TEXAS
FOURTH REVISED MAYORAL DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF
DISASTER DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, has spread through the world and has now been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath and, in some cases, the virus has caused death; and

WHEREAS, prudence dictates that extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout the City of Princeton, including the quarantine of individuals, groups of individuals and occupied structures and, additionally, including compelling individuals, groups of individuals, or occupied structures to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, Governor Abbott and Collin County have declared a local disaster due to public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, as Mayor, and under state law and local ordinance, I issued three (3) Mayoral Declarations of Local State of Disaster: March 16, 2020; March 17, 2020; and March 26, 2020;

WHEREAS, thereafter I have been evaluating the health and safety aspects of placing limitations on patron occupancies in restaurants and bars in the City of Princeton to help insure that COVID-19 is contained; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020 Collin County Judge Chris Hill issued his Order regarding COVID-19 to protect the citizens of Collin County; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020 the Princeton City Council convened and provided input to me for managing the health and welfare of Princeton citizens during this local disaster through a mayoral declaration, issued pursuant to the law; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, Gov. Abbott issued Executive Order GA-14, which extended the prior statewide public health disaster declaration through April 30, 2020, and further clarified and expanded the temporary emergency restrictions on social gatherings and other activities which present enhanced risks of COVID-19 transmission;

WHEREAS, recognizing the widely differing conditions in Texas' diverse rural

and urban communities, the varying rate of the spread of COVID-19, and the desirability of swift response to local conditions, the Governor's executive order expressly provides for local officials to enforce GA-14 and local restrictions which are compatible with its terms; and

WHEREAS, the City of Princeton wishes to avoid its residents and businesses from increased risks of exposure to COVID-19 arising from local regulations which are less restrictive than its neighboring communities, which would create incentives for infected persons living outside the City to evade their local restrictions by entering Princeton and raising local risk of infection; and

WHEREAS, the City of Princeton seeks to facilitate implementation of a coordinated system of local regulations which recognizes the highly mobile nature of the D/FW metroplex economy, the population density of various parts of Collin County, and the varying COVID-19 infection conditions in nearby municipalities, so that appropriate precautions are observed until COVID-19 has been adequately contained for an appropriate time period, so as to avoid the need to re-impose restrictions to avoid a resurgence in the disease; and

WHEREAS, for the benefit of the City of Princeton and the general public, and within the local control discretion preserved by the Texas Governor, the Mayor seeks to act swiftly and purposefully to protect human lives and the public health through the powers of his office to declare emergency regulations responsive to COVID-19;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PRINCETON, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. The local state of disaster due to public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Princeton, Texas, pursuant to section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code. This Fourth Revised Declaration supersedes, in its entirety, my Third Revised Declaration of March 26, 2020.

SECTION 2. Pursuant to section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster due to public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the effective date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the City Council of the City of Princeton, Texas.

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

SECTION 4. Pursuant to section 418.108(d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City of Princeton's Emergency Management Plan.

SECTION 5. That this 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, 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 6. The City Council of the City of Princeton, P&Z, the PEDC board of directors, and the PCDC board of directors and their essential and necessary attendees shall be exempt from this Declaration for scheduled public meetings, whether a regular, work session, special or emergency meeting. The stated exempt entities shall use best efforts to provide adequate social distancing for members and attendees during any scheduled meetings, including their closed sessions. Whenever possible, teleconferencing shall be utilized for meetings held under this Section.

SECTION 7. That beginning Friday, April 3, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. and continuing until the date specified by Section 13 below, subject to timely extension or renewal by the City Council:

- (1) All individuals currently living within Princeton are ordered to minimize social gatherings and in-person contact with persons who are not in the same household, and unless performing or obtaining Essential Services as defined below (as may be amended), and should shelter at their place of residence to the greatest extent possible. For the purposes of this Declaration, residences include, shared rentals, and similar facilities. To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they should at all times maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any other person when they are outside their residence, practice good hygiene, and environmental cleanliness.
- (2) All businesses operating within Princeton, except Essential Services as defined in below in this Section 7, are required to cease all activities at facilities located within Princeton. For clarity, businesses may continue operations consisting exclusively of employees or contractors performing activities at their own residences (i.e. working from home). All Essential Services should comply with the Social Distancing Guidelines attached, including maintaining six-foot social distancing for both employees and the general public.
- (3) All public or private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited, except as otherwise provided herein. Nothing in this Declaration prohibits the gathering of members of a household or living unit.
- (4) Restaurants with or without drive-in or drive-through services may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law. **Dine-in services have been prohibited by the Governor.**

- (5) Religious and worship services, which may qualify as Essential Services under appropriate conditions, should be conducted from home or through remote services in accordance with the orders of Governor Abbot. If such services **cannot** be provided through home or remote services, they should be conducted in strict conformity with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC regarding social distancing (maintain 6-foot minimum distance between all persons) and sanitation/hygiene practices. Funerals are not prohibited, but should also strictly conform to social distancing guidelines.
- (6) Any manufacturer who retools so that a substantial part of their business is for the purpose of manufacturing and producing ventilators, surgical masks, and other critically needed medical supplies for COVID-19 treatment may apply for a certification letter from the City as an “Essential Service” (Healthcare/Public Health) under this Declaration.
- (7) Grocery stores, supermarkets, warehouse stores, hospitals, and medical facilities are experiencing high levels of demand for a large number of products, requiring more deliveries from manufacturers and distribution centers to serve their customers. Due to the need to deliver products as quickly and efficiently as possible during this critical timeframe, this Declaration hereby suspends all delivery hour restrictions for transport to or from any entity involved in the selling or distribution of food products, medicine, or medical supplies in Princeton for the next 7 days (subject to extension/renewal by the City Council).
- (8) Due to increased demand for bath or toilet tissue resulting from stock up buying and individuals who purchase for resale, a mandatory limit on toilet paper sales is instituted until the supply chain meets the demand or two weeks, whichever comes first. All sales of bath or toilet tissue occurring in Princeton are limited to the greater of: (a) twelve (12) rolls per purchase or (b) one (1) package per purchase.
- (9) If someone in a household has tested positive for coronavirus, the entire household is ordered to isolate at home in accordance with the directions of medical professionals providing care to the patient. Members of the household cannot go to work, school, or any other community function in a manner contrary to medical advice.
- (10) Gov. Abbot has prohibited people from visiting nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, or long-term care facilities unless the visit is to provide critical assistance as determined by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Nursing homes, retirement, and long-term care facilities are instructed by this order to prohibit non-essential visitors from accessing their facilities unless to provide critical assistance or for end-of-life visitation.
- (11) Public and private schools and institutions of higher education are instructed by this Declaration to provide a safety plan to the appropriate Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management 72 hours before students return to a

classroom setting.

(12) Additionally, this Declaration instructs all employees to remain at home if sick. Employees of private businesses and nonprofits with six or more employees in Princeton can use their paid sick leave when they are sick or to care for sick family members.

(13) The owner, manager, or operator of any facility that is likely to be impacted by this Declaration is strongly encouraged to post a copy of this Declaration onsite and to provide a copy to any member of the public asking for a copy.

(14) **Definitions:**

(a) For purposes of this Declaration, individuals may leave their residence only to perform Essential Services, more fully defined below, but it is not intended to restrict:

- Activities or perform tasks essential to the health and safety of members of the household (for example, obtaining medical supplies or medication or visiting a health care professional).
- Obtaining necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or to deliver those services or supplies to others (for example, food, pet supply, and any other household consumer products, and products **necessary** to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences).
- Engaging in outdoor activities, provided the individuals comply with social distancing requirements of six feet (for example, walking, biking, hiking, running, and other exercise activities). Children shall not use playground equipment or any other public recreational structures.
- Performing work providing essential products and services to otherwise carry out activities specifically permitted in this Order.
- Caring for a family member or pet in another household.

(b) For purposes of this Declaration, "Essential Services" means those service expressly listed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in its Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure, Version "2.0_Updated" (available at www.tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices), as amended and further explained below, which include:

- heathcare/public health;
- law enforcement, public safety, and other first responders;
- food and agriculture;

- energy;
- water and wastewater;
- transportation and logistics;
- public works and infrastructure support projects;
- communications and information technology;
- critical manufacturing;
- hazardous materials;
- financial services;
- defense industrial base;
- residential/shelter facilities;
- hygiene products and services.

(c) Essential Services do NOT include:

- In-person/dine-in services at bars, restaurants, and food courts;
- Gyms or similar fitness, workout, or training facilities;
- Massage establishments, tattoo studios, piercing studios, or cosmetology salons.

(d) **Healthcare/Public Health examples.** Healthcare operations, including hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other healthcare facilities, healthcare suppliers, mental health providers, substance abuse service providers, blood banks, medical research, laboratory services, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services. Home-based and residential- based care for seniors, adults, or children are also considered healthcare operations. Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare. Healthcare operations do not include fitness and exercise gyms and similar facilities.

(e) **Government Functions of the City and others.** All services provided by government agencies needed to ensure the continuing operation of their programs for the health, safety and welfare of the public. All Essential Services by persons subject to direction and control of the City shall be performed in compliance with social distancing requirements of six feet, unless such measures are impracticable or would prevent accomplishing an important City objective. City staff shall use remote work procedures as directed by the City Manager.

(f) **Common Retail Operations Qualifying as “Essential Services” above.** Food service providers, including grocery stores, warehouse stores, bodegas, liquor stores, gas stations and convenience stores, farmers' markets that sell food products and household staples. Food cultivation, including farming, fishing, and livestock. Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences. Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for

delivery or carry out. Schools and other entities that typically provide free services to students or members of the public on a pick-up and take-away basis only. The restriction of delivery or carry out does not apply to cafes and restaurants located within hospital and medical facilities.

Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers. Gas stations, auto-supply, auto, bicycle repair and essential business equipment suppliers, hardware stores, and related facilities. Businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home. **Retail businesses open to the public should post entry signage instructing patrons of the need to limit patron visits to necessary purchases only and to maintain social distancing. Essential retail businesses should provide a sanitation station as a required first stop for patron entering the business.**

(g) **Providers of Basic Necessities to Economically Disadvantaged Populations.** Businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals.

(h) **Other Specific Essential Services.**

- trash and recycling collection, processing and disposal;
- mail and shipping services;
- building cleaning, maintenance and security;
- warehouse/distribution and fulfillment;
- storage for Essential Services;
- funeral homes, crematoriums and cemeteries;
- plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operations of residences and Essential Services;
- Professional services, such as legal or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities or as authorized by the United States, State of Texas, or Collin County;
- Businesses that supply other Essential Services with support or supplies needed to operate.

(i) **News Media.** Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services.

(j) **Childcare Services.** Childcare facilities including in home care providing services that enable employees exempted in this Declaration to work as permitted.

SECTION 8. The following are approved Social Distancing Recommendations:

(1) Vulnerable Populations: Limit Outings

(a) Vulnerable populations include people who are:

- 60 years old and older.
- People with certain health conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, kidney disease and weakened immune systems.

For vulnerable populations, don't go to gatherings unless it is essential. Stay home. Avoid people who are sick.

(2) Workplace and Businesses: Minimize Exposure

(a) Suspend nonessential employee travel.

(b) Ensure employees practice social distancing and do not work within six feet of one another.

(c) Urge essential employees to stay home when they are sick and maximize flexibility in sick leave benefits.

(d) Maximize telecommuting options.

(e) Persons who need to be at work to provide essential services of great benefit to the community must take steps in their workplace to minimize risk.

(3) Cancel Non-essential Events

(a) Cancel non-essential events.

(b) Do not attend any essential or non-essential events or gatherings, if sick.

(4) For events that meet the Recommendations herein and which aren't cancelled, we recommend:

(a) Having hand washing capabilities, hand sanitizers, and tissues available.

(b) Frequently cleaning high touch surface areas like counter tops and handrails.

(c) Finding ways to implement social distancing.

(5) Schools: Safety First

(a) Do not have your child attend school if sick.

(b) If you have a child with chronic health conditions, consult the child's doctor about school attendance.

(c) Schools should equip all classrooms with hand sanitizers and tissues.

(d) Recommend rescheduling or cancelling events that are not essential.

- (e) Explore remote teaching and online options to continue learning.
 - (f) Schools should develop a plan for citywide school closures, and families should prepare for further closures.
- (6) Transit: Cleaning and Protection
- (a) Increase cleaning of vehicles and high touch surface areas.
 - (b) Provide hand washing/hand sanitizers and tissues in stations and on vehicles.
 - (c) Ensure social distancing practices are implemented to the full extent possible.
- (7) Health Care Settings: Avoid as possible, protect the vulnerable
- (a) Long-term care facilities should have a COVID-19 plan in accordance with CDC or state guidelines.
 - (b) Long-term care facilities should restrict all visitation except for certain compassionate care situations, such as end of life situations.
 - (c) The general public should avoid going to medical settings such as hospitals, nursing homes and long-term care facilities, even if you are not ill.
 - (d) If you are ill, call your health care provider ahead of time, and you may be able to be served by phone.
 - (e) Do not visit emergency rooms unless it is essential.
 - (f) Follow guidance and directions of all facilities.
- (8) Everyone: Do your part
- The best way for all Princeton residents to reduce their risk of getting sick, as with seasonal colds or the flu, still applies to prevent COVID-19:
- (a) Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - (b) Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue. Throw the tissue in the trash.
 - (c) Stay home if you are sick.
 - (d) Avoid touching your face.
 - (e) Try alternatives to shaking hands, like an elbow bump or wave.

- (f) If you have recently returned from a country, state or region with ongoing COVID-19 infections, monitor your health and follow the instructions of public health officials and CDC guidance.
- (g) There is no recommendation to wear masks at this time to prevent yourself from getting sick.

You can also prepare for the disruption caused by an outbreak. Preparedness actions include:

- (h) Prepare to work from home if that is possible for your job, and your employer.
- (i) Make sure you have a supply of all essential medications for your family.
- (j) Prepare a childcare plan if you or a caregiver are sick.
- (k) Make arrangements about how your family will manage school closures.
- (l) Plan for how you can care for a sick family member without getting sick yourself.
- (m) Take care of each other and check in by phone with friends, family and neighbors that are vulnerable to serious illness or death if they get COVID-19.
- (n) Keep common spaces clean to help maintain a healthy environment for you and others. Frequently touched surfaces should be cleaned regularly with disinfecting sprays, wipes or common household cleaning products.

SECTION 9. This Declaration hereby incorporates and enacts the following regulations from the Governor's Executive Order No. GA-14 regarding the conduct of persons/people and schools:

- (1) Every person in Texas shall minimize social gatherings and in-person contact with people who are not in the same household, **except where necessary** to provide or obtain Essential Services.
- (2) People shall avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms, massage establishments, tattoo studios, piercing studios, or cosmetology salons; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged.
- (3) People shall not visit nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.
- (4) Schools shall remain closed to in-person classroom attendance and shall not recommence before May 4, 2020.

SECTION 10. This Declaration hereby incorporates Collin County Judge Chris Hill's Order of March 31, 2020 and finds it consistent herewith in all respects.


SECTION 11. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

SECTION 12. Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this Declaration commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1000.00, and each and every day such violation shall continue shall be deemed to constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 13. That this Declaration shall take effect in accordance with Section 7 above, and shall continue for as long as renewed or extended by the City Council, and last until 48 hours after the rescission or termination of restrictions on the same subject matter promulgated by the City of McKinney, Texas, in the absence of any further action by the City to extend it. Should any federal, state, or county public health agency adopt more restrictive regulations relating to COVID-19 than are set forth herein, those more restrictive provisions shall be automatically incorporated into this Declaration, controlling to the extent of any conflict, effective on the same date as provided by the issuing entity and subject to renewal or extension by the City Council.

SO DECLARED AND ORDERED this 2nd day of April, 2020.





John-Mark Caldwell, Mayor