

**CITY OF PELICAN BAY DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER
FOR 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, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout the City of Pelican Bay, including the quarantine of individuals, groups of individuals and property and, additionally, including compelling individuals, groups of individuals, or property to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease; and

WHEREAS, Tarrant County has declared a local disaster for public health emergency and issued an accompanying order relating to community gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has advised that person-to-person contact heightens the risk of COVID-19 transmission; and

WHEREAS, the President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America, as promulgated by President Donald J. Trump and the CDC on March 16, 2020, call upon Americans to slow the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people, using drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options at restaurants and bars, and avoiding visitation at nursing homes, among other steps; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued Executive Order GA 08, mandating the avoidance of social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people, the avoidance of eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors, the avoidance of visiting nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance, and closing schools throughout the State of Texas for a period of time.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PELICAN BAY, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Pelican Bay, Texas, pursuant to section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code. Effective 11:59 p.m. on March 23, 2020, and continuing until the expiration or termination of this declaration or on such other date as determined by the City Council of the City of Pelican Bay, Texas, subject to extension based on the status of COVID-19 in the City of Pelican Bay and the recommendations of the CDC, the following is hereby ordered:

- A. In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, every person in the City of Pelican Bay shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.
- B. In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the limited duration of this declaration.
- C. In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.

This declaration does not prohibit people from visiting a variety of places, including grocery stores, gas stations, parks, and banks, so long as the necessary precautions are maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. This declaration does not mandate sheltering in place. All critical infrastructure will remain operational, domestic travel will remain unrestricted, and the City of Pelican Bay and businesses will continue providing essential services. For offices and workplaces that remain open, employees should practice 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.

SECTION 2. 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 seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the City Council of the City of Pelican Bay, Texas.

SECTION 3. 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. Pursuant to section 418.108(d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City of Pelican Bay's Emergency Management Plan.

SECTION 5. 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 section 122.005 of the Health and Safety Code and section 418.108(g) of the Texas Government Code.

SECTION 6. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

SECTION 7. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

SO DECLARED AND ORDERED this 23rd day of March 2020.



Bill Morley, Mayor

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