

City of Wharton

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact Person: Paula Favors, TRMC
City of Wharton
979-532-2491
979-532-0181 (f)



www.cityofwharton.com

Governor Abbott issues Executive Orders in Accordance with Federal Guidelines to Mitigate Spread of COVID-19 in Texas

Wharton, TX, March 19, 2020- The City of Wharton would like to inform residents, Governor Greg Abbott has announced a series of Executive Orders relating to COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation. The four orders serve to limit public gatherings and help reduce exposure for people across the state. These orders are in accordance with federal guidelines issued by the President and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and will aid in the state's efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19.

The following orders have been issued by Governor Abbott:

- **Order No. 1:** In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, every person in Texas shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.
- **Order No. 2:** 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 executive order.
- **Order No. 3:** 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.
- **Order No. 4:** In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, schools shall temporarily close.

These orders will be effective on a statewide basis starting at 11:59 PM on March 20, 2020 and will end at 11:59 PM on April 3, 2020, subject to extension based on the status of COVID-19 in Texas and the recommendations of the CDC.

This executive order 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 executive order does not mandate sheltering in place. All critical infrastructure will remain operational, domestic

travel will remain unrestricted, and government entities 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 and the sooner this executive order will expire.

The City of Wharton continues to monitor the situation for the safety of all citizens and wants to remind residents to sign up today for the emergency alert system to keep you better informed of emergency situations, City related issues and notifications. The signup for the system can be found on the City of Wharton website at www.cityofwharton.com by clicking the Sign Up for Smart911 button. Please stay informed by tuning into local radio or local television stations.

#