



For Immediate Release

March 17, 2020

Media Contact: Irma Garza, City of Harlingen, Public Relations Officer, (956) 216-5030 office or (956) 226-1673 cell

Harlingen Mayor Declares Public Health Emergency Due to COVID-19

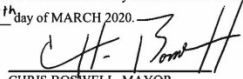
HARLINGEN, TEXAS— Mayor Chris Boswell today signed a proclamation declaring a Local State Disaster out of an abundance of caution to limit or reduce the spread of the Coronavirus disease. Although no cases have been reported in the Rio Grande Valley, Harlingen City officials remain vigilant and continue to take pro-active measures to help prevent the disease.



DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER PURSUANT TO §418.108(A) OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE

- WHEREAS**, COVID-19 (coronavirus) is a contagious respiratory virus; and
- WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization; and
- WHEREAS**, the United States Federal Government declared a national emergency on March 13, 2020 due to COVID-19; and
- WHEREAS**, Governor Abbot declared a State of Disaster in Texas on March 13, 2020, due to COVID-19; and
- WHEREAS**, it is necessary to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect public health and welfare,
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF HARLINGEN, TEXAS AS FOLLOWS:**
1. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for the City of Harlingen, Texas pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
 2. Pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Government Code, the local state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the City Commission of Harlingen, Texas
 3. Pursuant to §418.018(c) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.
 4. Pursuant to §418.018(d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the city emergency management plan and all procedures and authority vested in the Emergency Management Office are hereby invoked.
 5. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

SO ORDERED this the 17th day of MARCH 2020.


CHRIS BOSWELL, MAYOR
CITY OF HARLINGEN, TEXAS

The declaration follows the National Emergency Declaration issued by President Donald Trump and Governor Greg Abbott's Declaration of Disaster of March 13, 2020.

The declaration activates the City emergency plan and all procedures and authority vested in the Emergency Management Office. It also opens up the pathway for possible reimbursement for costs associated with this ongoing health emergency.

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