

SECOND DECLARATION OF DISASTER
(COVID-19)

WHEREAS, it is critical for the City of Lubbock to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of Lubbock and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, pursuant to Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code, the Governor declared a state of disaster for the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Lubbock County, Texas declared a state of disaster; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the City of Lubbock, Texas declared a state of disaster, which included restrictions on mass gatherings; and

WHEREAS, as of March 17, 2020, there were two (2) confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection in Lubbock County; and

WHEREAS, in light of recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control regarding social distancing protocols, it is necessary to issue further guidance regarding public and private gatherings in order to mitigate the spread of the disease and preserve and protect public health.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LUBBOCK, TEXAS that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster to the City of Lubbock, and therefore:

- 1) Pursuant to §418.108(g) of the Government Code, the Mayor of the City of Lubbock may control ingress to and egress from a disaster area within the incorporated limits of the City of Lubbock and control the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in that area; and
- 2) Pursuant to §122.006 of the Health & Safety Code, the City of Lubbock may adopt rules to protect the health of persons in the municipality, including quarantine rules to protect the residents against communicable disease; and
- 3) Because of the risk of the rapid spread of the virus, and the need to protect the most vulnerable members of the community, this Declaration prohibits all indoor and outdoor public and private gatherings of 50 persons or more, anywhere in the City of Lubbock, beginning on **March 19, 2020 at 5:00 P.M.**; and
- 4) For all other gatherings, it is strongly recommended that citizens adhere to the Social Distancing Protocols established by the United States Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), including canceling, rescheduling, or not attending events with more than 50 persons; and

5) Further, organizations that serve high-risk populations (defined below) should follow the Social Distancing Protocols; and

6) Definitions and further guidance:

a. For purposes of this Declaration, a "Mass Gathering" is any event or convening, subject to the exceptions and clarifications set forth below, that brings together, or is likely to bring together, fifty (50) or more persons at the same time in a single room or other single confined or enclosed space, such as, and without limitation, any auditorium, theatre, stadium (indoor or outdoor), arena or event center, meeting hall, conference center, cafeteria, or any other confined indoor or outdoor space.

b. A "Mass Gathering" includes events in confined outdoor spaces, which means an outdoor space that (i) is enclosed by a fence, physical barrier, or other structure and (ii) where people are present and they are typically within arm's length of one another for extended periods.

c. A "Mass Gathering" does not include the following:

- (i) Lubbock Preston Smith International Airport;
- (ii) public or private schools;
- (iii) licensed day care facilities
- (iv) spaces where 50 or more persons may be in transit or waiting for transit, such as bus stops;
- (v) office space, hotels, or residential buildings;
- (vi) grocery stores, outdoor food markets, or other retail establishments selling primarily foodstuffs, medicine, or other household necessities where large numbers of people are present but where it is unusual for them to be within arm's length of one another for extended periods;
- (vii) hospitals, medical facilities, and shelters; and
- (viii) jails and detention centers; and
- (ix) shelters for people experiencing homelessness.

In all such settings, it is recommended that the public voluntarily follow Social Distancing Protocols and harm reduction measures such as providing hand sanitizer and tissues, when possible. However, any large gathering space that is part of any building included in this subparagraph is subject to the prohibition on Mass Gatherings if the space holds 50 or more people.

d. "High-Risk Populations" include people who are:

- (i) 60 years old and older;
- (ii) People with certain health conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, kidney disease and weakened immune systems;
- (iii) People who are pregnant or were pregnant in the last two weeks; and
- (iv) People experiencing homelessness.

e. In determining the number of persons within a single room, or other single confined or enclosed space, employees of the business are not to be counted.

- 7) The Mayor may update the mass gathering restrictions set out in this Declaration as necessary to respond to the evolving circumstances of this outbreak during the duration of the Disaster Declaration issued on this date and any extension of the Declaration by the City Council of the City of Lubbock; and
- 8) That this proclamation shall take effect on **March 19, 2020 at 5:00 P.M.** and 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 Lubbock.

SO DECLARED and ORDERED on **March 18, 2020 at 5:30 P.M.**

FOR THE CITY OF LUBBOCK,
TEXAS:



DANIEL M. POPE, Mayor

ATTEST:



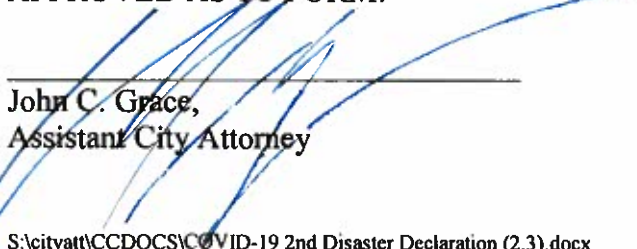
Rebecca Garza,
City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:



W. Jarrett Atkinson,
City Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



John C. Grace,
Assistant City Attorney

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