

CITY OF CASTLE HILLS
FIFTH DECLARATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER AND
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
JUNE 9, 2020

WHEREAS, in December 2019 a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, with symptoms including fever, cough and shortness of breath, and patient outcomes ranging from mild to severe illness, and in some cases death; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, advising countries to prepare for the containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing, and prevention of onward spread of the disease and on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared that the COVID-19 outbreak should be characterized as pandemic; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code, the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, as the presiding officer of the City of Castle Hills City Council, the City's governing body, the Mayor is designated as the emergency management director of the City of Castle Hills and may exercise the powers granted of the Governor on an appropriate local scale; and

WHEREAS, a declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, compel persons to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease, including isolation, surveillance, or placement of persons under public health observation, including the provision of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons misplaced or evacuated, request assistance from the governor of state resources, and access funds available for disaster relief and reimbursement at the state and federal level; and

WHEREAS, by this Declaration of Public Health Emergency, all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat are declared suspended for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted to the Mayor under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the use of all available resources of state government and political subdivisions to assist in the City's response to this situation is authorized; and

WHEREAS, I, JR Trevino, the Mayor of the City of Castle Hills have determined that extraordinary and immediate measures must be taken to respond quickly, prevent and alleviate the suffering of people exposed to and those infected with the virus, as well as those that could potentially be infected or impacted by COVID-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY OF CASTLE HILLS:

1. That a local state of disaster and public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Castle Hills pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

2. Pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster and public health emergency shall continue **for seven (7) days unless continued or renewed by the City Council.**
3. Pursuant to §418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.
4. Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency activates the City of Castle Hills Emergency Management Plan.
5. Pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, I, JR Trevino, as Mayor of the City of Castle Hills, in coordination and consultation with local health authorities, may issue further guidance and restrictions within the scope of Executive Orders of the Governor of the State of Texas or of the County Judge of Bexar County, or as issued by the Centers for Disease Control.
6. Recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and the Texas Department of State and Health Services are but not limited to: Wash hands often for 20 seconds and encourage others to do the same; if no soap and water are available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol; cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue away; avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands; disinfect surfaces, buttons, handles, knobs, and other places touched often; avoid close contact with people who are sick; and engage when possible, social distancing by staying away from other people to avoid catching or spreading illness. Social distancing is a term for avoiding crowds and minimizing physical contact and includes avoiding concerts or weddings, skipping the handshake, and staying at least six (6) feet away from others.
7. Cloth Face Coverings. All people 10 years or older are ***strongly encouraged*** to wear a cloth face covering over their nose and mouth when in a public place where it is difficult to keep six feet away from other people such as visiting a grocery store or pharmacy or working in areas that involve close proximity with other coworkers. Coverings may include homemade masks, scarfs, bandanas, or a handkerchief. Residents must continue to maintain social distancing of at least six feet while outside their residence. Employers are encouraged to provide face coverings and training for appropriate use to employees who are working in an area or activity which will necessarily involve close contact or proximity to co-workers or the public.

Face coverings *do not* need to be worn in the following circumstances:

When exercising outside or engaging in physical activity outside.

While driving alone or with passengers who are part of the same household as the driver or when pumping gas or operating outdoor equipment.

When consuming food or drink.

When doing so poses a greater mental or physical health, safety, or security risk.

While in a building or activity that requires security surveillance or screening, for example, banks.

Face coverings are a secondary strategy to other mitigation efforts. **Face coverings are *not* a replacement for social distancing, frequent handwashing, and self-isolation**

when sick. All people should follow CDC recommendations for how to wear and take off a mask.

Residents must keep up the following habits while in public:

Washing your hands before you leave home and when you return.

Staying at least six feet away from others not members of your household.

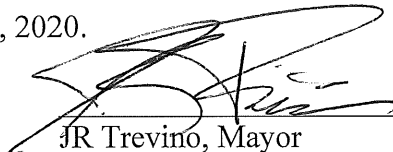
Avoiding touching your nose or face.

Not using disposable masks more than three times.

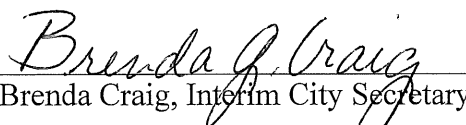
Washing reusable cloth masks regularly.

8. Delegation of Authority. The Mayor, as Emergency Management Director, hereby delegates to the City Manager the authority to temporarily suspend the application of city ordinances that may interfere with compliance with the Declaration. The City Manager is also authorized to exempt the application of provisions of this Declaration in the event he deems it necessary to ensure the continuation of essential services required by the City to continue operations.
9. Reservation of Authority. As Mayor, I further reserve all other authority and powers conferred by state law to respond as necessary to this situation.
10. County Executive Orders. Any Executive Orders issued by the County Judge of Bexar County related to COVID-19 is hereby incorporated in this Declaration respectively as to residents of the City of Castle Hills.
11. Executive Orders or Proclamations of the Governor of Texas. Executive Order GA-26 issued by Governor Greg Abbott related to the COVID-19 public health emergency and all other active or future Executive Orders or Proclamations of Governor Abbott related to the COVID-19 public health emergency are hereby incorporated in this Declaration inclusive of the most recent Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers During COVID-19 Response issued by the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
12. Effective Date. This Fifth Declaration shall take effect immediately upon its issuance by the Mayor of the City of Castle Hills. The City Manager is directed to publicize the issuance of this Fifth Declaration.

ORDERED THIS THE 9TH DAY OF JUNE, 2020.


JR Trevino, Mayor
City of Castle Hills

Attest:


Brenda Craig, Interim City Secretary

