



HENDERSON COUNTY
DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS the World Health Organization has declared the coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, as a global pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 was first detected in Wuhan, China in December 2019; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe illness and cause further complications including death; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

WHEREAS, the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19 presents an imminent threat of widespread illness, which requires emergency action for the protection of the people of Henderson County; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of mitigation strategies can slow the transmission of the disease; and

WHEREAS, the Small Business Association (SBA) has designated COVID-19 as a qualifying event for the provision of Economic Injury Disaster Loans for businesses and private non-profits in affected communities.

WHEREAS, this Declaration activates the County's Emergency Management plan; and

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Henderson County has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to mitigate the effects of this public health emergency and to facilitate the efficient, rapid, and cooperative response to the emergency;


THEREFORE, Be it Proclaimed by the County Judge of Henderson County that;


1. A local state of disaster is hereby declared for Henderson County, pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. The state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than 14 days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Henderson County Commissioners Court, or unless further orders of the Commissioners Court are made pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Government Code.
3. This declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk, pursuant to §418.018(b) of the Government Code.
4. The Henderson County Declaration Plan incorporates the Governor's Executive Orders and any Orders issued by the Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) pertaining to COVID-19 and all amendments or additional orders related thereto.
5. This declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Henderson County Emergency Plan, pursuant to §418.018(b) of the Government Code.
6. Pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code §418.173, failure to comply with an emergency plan or with a rule, order, or ordinance adopted under this plan, including any executive order, proclamation, or regulation issued by the Governor during a state disaster or by the County Judge or County Commissioners' Court during a local disaster, is an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00, confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, or both fine and confinement.

7. This Declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance and shall remain in effect until May 12, 2020, or until the County Commissioners' Court takes further action.

ORDERED this the 28th day of April 2020, at 9:35 a.m.


Honorable Judge Wade McKinney


Scotty Thomas, Commissioner, Pct. 1


Scott Tuley, Commissioner, Pct. 2


Charles McHant, Commissioner, Pct. 3


Milburn Chaney, Commissioner, Pct. 4