

## BURNET COUNTY PROCLOMATION DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER DUE TO A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director 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 the onward spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention is closely monitoring the growing number of COVID-19 cases that have spread into the United States; and

WHEREAS, a large gathering of individuals without necessary mitigation for the spread of infection may pose a risk of the spread of the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, unidentifiable individuals infected could not be properly tracked to prevent the spread of infection; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus spreads between persons who are in close contact with one another and presents a threat of widespread illness, which requires emergency action; and

WHEREAS, a declaration of a local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to take measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to the COVID-19 virus, control the risk, prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus and promote the health and safety of individuals in Burnet County; and

WHEREAS, Burnet County will work collaboratively with the Mayors of cities and with the School Districts within Burnet County's jurisdiction as well as the local and state health authorities to ensure that all appropriate and necessary measures are taken to limit the development, contraction and spread of the COVID-19 virus;

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 418.108 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, BY THE COUNTY JUUDGE:

- 1. A state of disaster has been declared for Burnet County.
- 2. The Burnet County Emergency Management Plan has been implemented.
- 3. That this state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days of the date hereof, unless same is continued by consent of the Burnet County Commissioner's Court.
- 4. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas, Burnet County may take actions necessary to protect the health of persons in the county.
- 5. This declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED, this 18th day of March, 2020.

Honorable James Oakley, Burnet County Judge

Attest:

Janes Parker, Burnet County Clerk



## **Burnet County Recommendations Concerning Activities Related to the Corona Virus**

Based on current information and recommendations from the Burnet County Health Authority as well as recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and by virtue of the Local Emergency Declaration, it is strongly recommended to adhere to the following guidelines.

- 1. Limit gatherings to 10 persons or less.
- 2. Avoid social settings such as indoor seating establishments.
- 3. Utilize drive thru pick-ups or delivery options if possible.
- 4. Avoid discretionary travel, shopping and social gatherings.
- 5. Avoid nursing homes, retirement centers and long-term care facilities unless providing critical assistance.
- 6. Utilize audio visual technology to virtually conduct or attend meetings.
- 7. Should you exhibit symptoms or believe you may have come in contact with a person having the Corona Virus contact your health care provider by phone or email (to limit physical contact) for instructions.

Local governments are working diligently to determine ways to continue providing support services to individuals at high risk while limiting group settings and exposures. Examples include Meals on Wheels and other home bound services.

As this is a rapidly evolving event, these recommendations are expected to change.

March 18, 2020

Honorable James Oakley, Burney County Judge