



Good afternoon,

I hope you and yours are doing well. These are unprecedented times, and we all have a responsibility to keep everyone in our community safe. We are also aware that many of these decisions have a direct impact on the financial well-being of many in our communities. We are working hard at a local, state and national level to aid families in need now. As more resources become available, we will share those with you.

Yesterday, the City Council voted to extend the state of disaster in Dallas through April 29th. This gives the City Manager and the Mayor the ability to increase or decrease restrictions as needed. This is just a safeguard so that our leaders can make quick decisions in the interest of public health. It is possible that the current restrictions could end sooner than April 29th or could be extended longer. Additionally, Council will be given a full brief in three weeks on the the City's response to COVID-19.

As of this morning an additional 20 cases were confirmed in Dallas County, bringing our total County-wide to 55. We have asked for very clear testing results and the Mayor has asked the same in his emergency declaration issued on March 13th. The data below was current last night, although this will change later today.

Below are numbers end of day 03/18:

- Total Tests to date by DCHHS - 130
- Total Tests to date private labs - 108*
- Total Negative tests to date - 78
- Total ending tests - 31
- Total active cases - 35
- Total deaths - 0
- Total recovered - 2

*Numbers as of March 13, 2020 to date, since the Mayor's order went into effect

In this email, you will find a list of resources available as of today regarding finances and COVID-19 topics such as unemployment, paying rent and mortgages, student loans, utilities, food assistance, resources for business and more. This will remain a living document. Grocery stores, pharmacies, daycare centers, banks, and hardware stores will remain open. Restaurants may still operate take-out and delivery services. My office is working on creating a list of restaurants serving take-out and delivery in our district and will share these with you soon. If you know of any, please reach out and let us know. We would love to update our list.

I would like to highlight one specific neighborhood in District 13 that is in great need, Vickery Meadow. Over 30,000 people live in this neighborhood with 12,000 kids. The average family earns less than \$50,000 annually and many kids have already reported that they are missing meals. The North Texas Food Bank in partnership with the Jewish Family Service Food Pantry runs a food bank specifically for these families in need. If you are able please consider donating directly to this food pantry through the [Vickery Meadow Youth Foundation website](#). Select "Donate" and under "Additional Information" select "Coronavirus Response." 100% of donations to this category will go directly to the food pantry.

Please feel free to share these resources with your friends, family, coworkers, community, or anyone else who could use it. If you have additional information you wish to share with your neighbors and community or if you would like to sign up for our newsletter, please contact our office at District13@dallascityhall.com.

Additionally, [VisitDallas](#) has compiled a list to feature Dallas restaurants who are still operating and offering home delivery.

We continue to provide information at the City's dedicated website [here](#). Dallas County also has valuable information [here](#).

City of Dallas Parks, Tennis Courts and Golf Courses Closed

Effective on the end of day Tuesday, March 17th, City of Dallas Parks, Tennis Courts and Golf Courses are closed while local disaster regulations are in place.

3-1-1 Emergency Violation Service Request

Please be advised, 311 has created a new service request type that residents can use to report violations of the recently announced, and soon-to-be effective, emergency community gathering regulations. The new service request is called "Emergency Regulations Violation" and will be available by calling 311, using the OurDallas mobile application, and/or online via the City's web portal. Residents may include their contact information or they may choose to submit the report anonymously.

Unemployment and Workers' Comp

- Anyone who has lost their job due to coronavirus or has had to take time off to self-quarantine or care for a sick relative (and does not get paid sick time from work) may apply for UNEMPLOYMENT benefits. Info on that [here](#). Governor Abbott has suspended the waiting period for unemployment benefits.
- Anyone whose job has brought them into direct contact with someone with coronavirus (for instance, a first responder or a health care worker) and has become ill or are required to quarantine can file for WORKERS' COMP. File for that [here](#).
- If you or a friend or family member are out of work, the Texas Workforce Commission provides support services as well.

Financial Assistance

The U.S. Department of Treasury has a list of [financial resources](#) for consumers.

Trouble Paying Rent or Mortgage

If you don't have enough money to pay, contact your lender or landlord immediately.

Help includes:

- If you are a Dallas Housing Authority client, please immediately report any loss of income in order to reduce your portion of rent and inspections will be restricted to health and safety only.
- Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs Foreclosure Prevention 1-888-995-HOPE (4673)
- Texas Attorney General [Consumer Protection](#) or call 800-621-0508
- [Texas Health and Human Services Commission](#) has resources available. There may be vouchers to assist those in need with paying their rent. Also get government assistance with other needs, including lease application fees, information on low income housing and security deposits. Dial 1-877-541-7905 to find additional ways to get rent help.
- [Texas](#) offers programs that can help you with paying your mortgage and also avoid foreclosure. Local resources, including government and non-profit assistance, can help qualified homeowners
- Homeowners have other resources too. Also [click here](#) for a listing of Texas HUD counseling agencies that provide free foreclosure counseling.

Paying Utilities

- If you need help paying your utility bills, contact your service provider immediately. [Atmos](#), [TXU](#) and Dallas Water Utilities has suspended disconnections at this time.
- Spectrum is offering free WiFi hot spots, unlimited data, and no disconnects or late fees. Info on this [here](#).

Food Assistance and Donation

- Here is also a [list of open food pantries](#) inclusive of hours.
- Hero and HG SPLY Co have begun a service called "Family Meal To Go" - Starting tonight at 6 pm they will be serving Family Meal To Go from the Valor St entrance of Hero. This will be free to all service industry and their families. Guests will stay in their car and staff will deliver meals to their cars. They will be utilizing food donated from their vendors as well as from their own kitchens. This will be available Monday through Friday from 6 pm - 9 pm or until we run out of food. It is available for all service industry folks as well as any family affected by Covid. If you are interested in donating to this cause email BeatCovid@livinghg.com. They will take any and all donations of product. They have two 24,000 sq ft spaces they can utilize for dispersing items to impacted service industry and affected families safely. More information is available [here](#).

Insurance Issues

The [Texas Department of Insurance](#) has resources and information available for consumers who have insurance related questions.

For Businesses

- The City of Dallas Office of Economic Development has created a [web page](#) with information for small business.
- A loan program has been established by the Small Business Administration, specifically for those impacted by the coronavirus.
- There is also \$1 billion in additional federal SBA loans for small businesses and nonprofits, provided under Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 USC 636(b)). (Section 7(b) is on pages 762-768 of the attached document.) The House Appropriations Committee posted this summary: <https://appropriations.house.gov/.../Coronavirus%20Supp%20Sum...>
- Residents can check on a state disaster Declaration status here: <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/Declarations/Index>. The State of Texas has not been declared yet for disaster declaration. When/if there is a declaration announced it will be listed on the website. The business can then apply.
To apply:
 1. Go to www.sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance
 2. Call 1-800-659-2955 or TTY: 1-800-877-8339
 3. E-mail: disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.
- The federal Small Business Administration (SBA) is providing low-interest loans of up to \$2 million to help with operating expenses.
- Facebook also has a \$100 million Small Grants Program accessible here.
- The Texas Comptroller's Office has [resources available](#).

Mental Health Resources

The Texas Department of Health and Human Services has extensive [resources](#) available for mental health support, including those facing a [mental health crisis](#). Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute also included a list [here](#).

Domestic Violence Survivor Resources

- [Futures Without Violence has compiled useful references](#), including for community-based advocates and health providers.
- The work of the [National Domestic Violence Hotline](#) is crucial in times like these, and has 24/7 online chat in addition to their hotline number and [excellent safety planning resources](#).
- We are in close communication with the [National Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#).
- [VAWnet](#), a project of the [National Resource Center on Domestic Violence](#), has special collections on topics like [disaster and emergency preparedness and response](#).
- NNEDV's own [WomensLaw.org offers an online legal hotline](#) in addition to plain-language information for victims of abuse.

Student Loans Deferment

If you need help with your student loans, you may be able to temporarily suspend your payments by applying for a deferment or forbearance from the US Department of Education.

Other Resources

Protect Yourself Financially from the Coronavirus - [Information from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau](#).

Job Interrupted -A To-Do List for Tough Times - [Information from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority](#).

Financial Peace of Mind in the Age of Coronavirus - [Information from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority](#).

Avoiding Coronavirus Scams- [Information from the Federal Trade Commission](#)

For detailed information regarding the coronavirus, please visit the [CDC website](#).

John Hopkins University created this interactive map to track the coronavirus world-wide. Find the [desktop version here](#) and the [mobile version here](#).

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to my Council Liaison, Sarah Evans, by phone at 214-670-3816 or email at sarah.evans@dallascityhall.com.



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