



Good evening,

I hope you and yours are safe and well. We anticipate that the governor will release several new regulations this coming Monday. My office will be sure to update you as we learn more and as the City and County adapt to accommodate these new regulations.

There is still time to sponsor lunches for our essential field workers with the City. We have a few lunches left to be sponsored for Code Compliance who is responsible for enforcing our latest regulations and are out in the field daily, fleet services who clean and maintain all vehicles for our first responders, and Dallas Animal Services who are still taking in animals throughout the City and facilitating fosters and adoptions at this time. If you are interested in donating please [use this link](#) and place the order with restaurant of your choice. My liaison, Sarah, is happy to assist with pick up and delivery if needed and has in kind donation forms available to those who are interested. A huge thank you to all our residents who have already reached out and our showing their support out workers. Their work often goes unnoticed, and I know they will feel incredibly appreciated. For questions, please reach out to Sarah Evans at sarah.evans@dallascityhall.com.

On Wednesday, the Dallas City Council voted to extend our local state of disaster to match the State - May 12th. This is independent of any restrictions including shelter in place - restrictions may change at any time. We understand how confusing it is to have different dates from different branches of government, and we voted to extend ours to match the state for clarity and consistency. As the City, we must follow County orders who must follow State orders. The amended emergency regulations can be found [here](#).

Additionally, the Dallas City Council voted on two new programs for rental and mortgage assistance and small business loans from funds received from the federal CARES Act. These will both open to the public on May 4th, and my office will share all details once they are available.

At the Mayor's direction I'm continuing work as the liaison with the hospital system and COVID model researchers. The City has engaged Dr. Tim Bray with the University of Texas at Dallas Institute for Urban Policy Research who is working with other regional hospital, university, and educational public health groups to provide modeling to inform our decisions. The University of Texas at Dallas has made this modeling information a data dashboard available on this [public website](#) to support this work. The City of Dallas COVID data website is also has great information available [here](#).

To encourage appropriate social distancing, the City announced new regulations regarding the use of the Katy Trail. The public will have normal access to the Katy Trail on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Beginning this past Thursday, April 23, for the rest of the week and on the weekends, users whose last names begin

with A through L are asked to use the Katy Trail only on Thursday and Saturday. Users whose last names begin with M through Z are encouraged to use the trail on Friday and Sunday. The safest option is still running in your neighborhood. Please remember to run against traffic for your safety. It allows runners and pedestrians to react quickly in the event of an erratic or distracted driver.

If you are concerned about a business or person who is violating the current regulations, please contact 311. They will send a Code Compliance Officer or DPD officer out to investigate the complaint and issue a notice of violation and/or citation as needed.

My office will continue to send out updates as they are needed. They will likely be more intermittent until regulations change. As always, please reach out if we can be of service. We are here for you.

Walgreens Adds a Testing Site

Walgreens has added testing site to their 2060 S. Buckner Blvd. location. According to Walgreens, the tests will be conducted outside of the store, and pharmacists will oversee patients' self-administration of the COVID-19 test. All drive-thru testing will be conducted outside, and patients are asked to not leave their vehicles.

Tests will be available by appointment only. Walgreens will only provide tests to those who meet the eligibility criteria established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Testing will be available at no cost to eligible individuals who meet CDC criteria. To receive a test, individuals must first complete an online health assessment to determine eligibility by visiting [Walgreens.com/coronavirus](https://www.walgreens.com/coronavirus). After the test, patients will be informed of results within 24 hours.

New Regulations from Governor Abbott

Governor Abbott released three executive orders last Friday, April 17th . Below is a summary with embedded links for the full text:

- The first Executive Order([GA-15](#)) relates to hospital capacity and personal protective equipment (PPE) needed for the COVID-19 response. The order loosens restrictions on surgeries put in place by Governor Abbott in March. From April 21 through May 8, all licensed health care professionals and all licensed health care facilities must continue to postpone all surgeries and procedures that are not medically necessary to diagnose or correct a serious medical condition of, or to preserve the life of, a patient who without timely performance of the surgery or procedure would be at risk for serious adverse medical consequences or death as determined by a patient's physician, except:
 - Any procedure that, if performed in accordance with the commonly accepted standard of clinical practice, would not deplete the hospital capacity or the PPE needed to cope with COVID-19, or
 - Any surgery or procedure performed in a licensed health care facility that has certified in writing to Texas HHSC both (1) that it will reserve at least 25% of its hospital capacity for treatment of COVID-19 patients, accounting for the range of clinical severity of COVID-19 patients, and (2) that it will not request any PPE from any public source whether federal, state, or local for the duration of the COVID-19 disaster.
- The Governor's second Executive Order ([GA-16](#)) relates to the safe, strategic reopening of select services and activities in Texas. This Order allows for nonessential retail services (sale of goods) to reopen on Friday, April 24, but through pickup, delivery by mail, or delivery to the customer's doorstep, or other locations to minimize contact. Under this Executive Order, schools including public, private, and higher education institutions will remain closed

for the 2019-2020 school year. Teachers may go into the classroom for video instruction, to perform administrative duties, and to clean out their classrooms.

- The governor's third Executive Order ([GA-17](#)) creates a strike force to re-opening Texas. A team of nationally recognized medical experts and private and public leaders will advise the Governor on safely and strategically reopening the State of Texas. The medical arm of the strike force is responsible for developing a medical architecture to comprehensively test and trace COVID-19 to help gradually and safely return Texans to work.
- The Governor also announced that State Parks will be reopened Monday April 20th, with the requirement that facemasks must be worn, social distancing practices are still in place and gatherings of no more than 5 people.

New Dallas County Amended Orders

Yesterday, in compliance with State orders, the County released amended orders. Please see the latest orders and clarifications below.

[Amended County Orders - 04/23/20](#)

[Amended County Orders - Spanish](#)

[Rules for Reopened Services - 04/23/20](#)

[Rules for Reopened Services - Spanish](#)

[Cloth Face Coverings FAQ - English](#)

[Cloth Face Coverings FAQ - Spanish](#)

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins released a new website for all things COVID-19, www.dallascountycovid.org.

The City Attorney created an "Essential Businesses FAQ" in English and Spanish.

[English FAQ](#)

[Spanish FAQ](#)

Curious if your business is essential or non-essential? Email businesscovid19@dallascounty.org

Updates Regarding Testing Sites

Starting April 15 the COVID-19 both Community Based Testing Sites (CBTS) will begin utilizing self-swab testing kits, transitioning from nasopharyngeal swabs. "The self-swab testing method proves to be less invasive and is safer for patients and healthcare providers," said Randall Payton, Incident Commander of both CBTS locations. "Health and safety are the primary goals for workers and those being tested. We're confident this new method will decrease the risk of contamination."

The new process allows persons being tested to swab shallowly in their nose as opposed to a healthcare professional collecting a sample from further up the nasal cavity.

In addition, both testing sites are increasing their capacity to 500 tests each daily and have changed their testing criteria to the following:

- Anyone who is 65+ or has an underlying health condition OR
- Anyone with these three symptoms:
 - Shortness of breath
 - Cough
 - Fever of 99.6+

Updated Data from the City

As of 11:00am April 24, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 71 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19),

bringing the total case count in Dallas County to 2,834, including 77 deaths.

The 5 additional deaths being reported today include:

- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Garland and had been critically ill in an area hospital.
- A woman in her 80's who was resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas and had been critically ill in an area hospital.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas and had been critically ill in an area hospital.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas and had been critically ill in an area hospital.
- A woman in her 90's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Dallas and had been hospitalized in an area hospital.

Of cases requiring hospitalization, most have been either over 60 years of age or have had at least one known high-risk chronic health condition. Diabetes has been an underlying high-risk health condition reported in about a third of all hospitalized patients with COVID-19. Of the 77 total deaths reported to date, about 40% have been associated with long-term care facilities.

Additionally, Dallas County released the [confirmed cases by ethnicity](#) and the [summary of deaths by age, pre-existing conditions and ethnicity](#).

Please see attached [summary](#) released today.

Starting this week, the numbers provided in the nightly update and more can be viewed on the newly upgraded [COVID-19 DFW regional dashboard](#).

Tenant & Property Owner Relief

Dallas City Council passed an ordinance to increase communication between tenants and property owners during the state of local disaster in regards to evictions. Please see the ordinance as passed [here](#). Click [here](#) for the notice of eviction in English or [here](#) for Spanish.

Family Violence Update

For all resources related to domestic violence and child abuse, please use this [document](#). April is Child Abuse Awareness Month. If you see something, say something by calling 911.

North Texas Giving Day NOW

For North Texas, during these unprecedented times, our greatest assets are each other. In solidarity and in support of our community, Communities Foundation of Texas, United Way Metropolitan Dallas, and the Dallas Cowboys have launched an emergency giving campaign: North Texas Giving Tuesday Now.

As quickly as we're learning of needs, we're also hearing of people who want to help. Here's how you can do that:

- [GIVE](#): Early giving is open! Visit the website, read the updated profiles of specific nonprofits, or support a relief fund! You can support your favorite cause, TODAY.
- [Volunteer, virtually](#): Nonprofits have needs that you can meet from the comfort of your own home. Take a look at the opportunities listed here.
- [Become a FUNdraiser!](#) Show your support for your nonprofit(s) of choice by creating a page, and telling why you're raising funds for them.

7+7+40: Donations Needed to Support Restaurants and Healthcare Workers

7740 was founded to help support the restaurant industry and provide meals for our healthcare workers. If you are interested in helping both industries at the same time, please find more information [here](#).

DART Needs Your Input to Redesign the Bus System

DART is currently in the process of redesigning our bus network. The plan, called DART Zoom: A New Bus Network, will change our bus network to improve bus frequency, efficiency and connections throughout our 700 square mile, 13-city service area. The redesign effort stems from regional growth in employment, population and demographic shifts that impact the effectiveness of our existing network.

As we move forward in the redesign process, we would like to engage with our community to gain valuable feedback and input. One way of engaging with our community is by hosting webinars and tele-town halls, which are listed below.

Online Webinar schedule:

Saturday, April 25, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Online webinar EN ESPAÑOL

Enlace aquí: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ISfD98CsRle3XaJU4yJAmQ

Monday, April 27, 8:00 - 9:00 pm

Online webinar

Register here: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EPguC45jRF-OpPq4l2RZ3A

Tele Town Hall schedule: (Telephone town hall call-in information will soon be posted on the calendar at: <https://dartzoom.dart.org/getinvolved>)

Friday, April 24, noon to 1 pm

Saturday April 25, 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Monday, April 27, noon to 1:00 pm (EN ESPAÑOL)

Survey:

DART Zoom Survey: <https://dartzoom.dart.org/survey>

The redesign effort is scheduled to be implemented in May 2022. Below is the tentative timeline for the redesign effort. These dates will be refined as we have a better understanding of how we will emerge from the COVID-19 situation.

- Fall 2020-Winter 2021 - Final draft plan and DART Board decision
- Spring 2021 - Public Involvement events including public hearing and public meetings
- Summer 2021 - Approval of redesign plan
- May 2022 - Initiate service changes

Have you changed the way you buy groceries for your family?

The City of Dallas is doing research to develop better programs, tools and policies on food. Please take a moment to complete this survey. The survey is also available in Spanish.

Have you changed the way you shop for groceries or access food for your family?
Filling out our short survey will help the City develop better programs, tools, and policies on food.

Shopping for Groceries Survey



In conjunction with the **FOOD IDEA**
THE CITY OF DALLAS INNOVATION CHALLENGE

www.surveymonkey.com/r/CODfoodaccess

Information on Applying for Unemployment

Individuals who have lost their job or wages due to the COVID-19 pandemic may apply for unemployment benefits by calling the Texas Workforce Commission's Unemployment Benefit Claim Self-Service at 800-939-6631 or by applying online at ui.texasworkforce.org.

Due to the unusual high volume of Texans filing unemployment claims, TWC is in the process of expanding the number of call centers to meet the need. Individuals are requested to stagger their calls and access to the online portal based on the applicant's area code. Following are the recommended call and access times.

NAVIGATING UNEMPLOYMENT:

HOW TO APPLY FOR BENEFITS AFTER LOSING YOUR JOB DUE TO COVID-19

Texans who find themselves unemployed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are eligible to apply for unemployment benefits and manage their claims through the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).



Apply Online

Visit ui.texasworkforce.org and create a user ID and password.



Apply on the Phone

Call the TWC Tele-Center at 800-939-6631.

WHAT YOU NEED TO GET STARTED:

- Personal information and Social Security number
- Personal Identification Number (for returning claimants only)
- Previous employer's business name, address, and phone number
- Dates worked for for last employer, along with wages and work hours
- Nine-digit routing information and account number for your bank or credit union, should you wish to receive benefits via direct deposit.

STEP 1: Complete the online application

STEP 2: Choose your payment plan & sign up for e-mail updates

STEP 3: Submit your application & retain the confirmation number

STEP 4: Receive your benefits via debit card or direct deposit

[UI.TEXASWORKFORCE.ORG](https://ui.texasworkforce.org) | TWC TELE-CENTER: 800-939-6631

WHEN TO APPLY:

TWC is currently experiencing a massive increase in call volumes and hold times on their Tele-Center phone lines and online web application. To help prevent website outages and ensure every applicant is able to file their unemployment benefits claims, TWC is asking Texans to apply during designated times and days, based on the number their area code begins with.

If your area code begins with 9, file claims on:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

If your area code begins with 7 or 8:

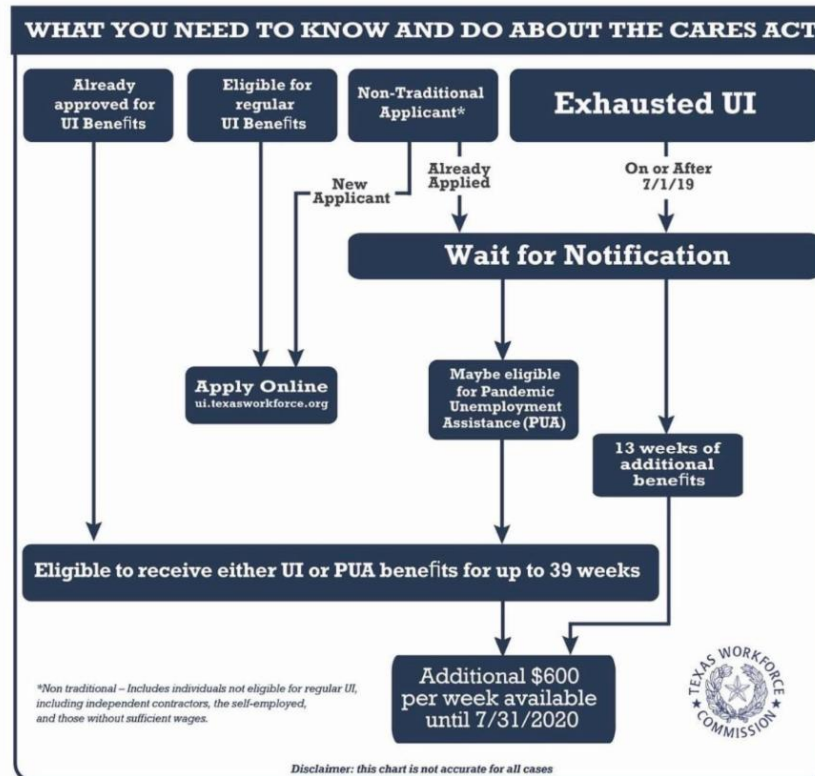
Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

If your area code begins with 3, 4, 5 or 6:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM.

If your area code begins with 2:

Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
1:00 PM and 5:00 PM.



UI.TEXASWORKFORCE.ORG | TWC TELE-CENTER: 800-939-6631

UT School of Law Launches Website with Financial Assistance Resources The Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic at The University of Texas School of Law has launched a new website that tracks housing policies adopted by the federal government, State of Texas, and local jurisdictions to help Texas residents stay in their homes during the COVID-19 pandemic and accompanying financial crisis. The site covers renter protections, foreclosure protections, and utility access protections. <http://sites.utexas.edu/covid19relief/>

Increased Coyote Sightings in Residential Neighborhoods

As we shelter in place longer, coyotes will be seen more frequently in residential neighborhoods as they scavenge for food where they can find it. This is a nation-wide trend, so please don't be alarmed. Please access this [helpful guide](#) to enable us to co-habitat peacefully. Please note unless they are deemed unhealthy or aggressive, animal services Dallas Animal Services will not remove them. If you see

an aggressive coyote, report it through 3-1-1.

COVID-19 Convalescent Plasma Donations

UTSW has created a site to screen candidates to donate plasma from select individuals who have fully recovered from COVID-19. The plasma is for possible "emergency use" therapy for select critically ill COVID-19 positive patients. COVID-19 has not been around long enough for scientists to have definitively studied the effectiveness of convalescent plasma for its treatment. But the FDA has recently allowed for "emergency use" of COVID-19 convalescent plasma as an investigational therapy. Information is available [here](#).

Grants Available for Non-Profits Who Support COVID-19 Response

North Texas Cares is a funder collaborative made up of North Texas foundations and United Ways that have come together to provide support for organizations that work with people and communities who may be most negatively affected by COVID-19. Applications from nonprofits are now being accepted on a rolling basis and will be evaluated weekly. Funding decisions will be made by each participating funder independently throughout the crisis period to facilitate the urgent need for funding in light of evolving community need. Approved requests may be funded both by individual funders as well as collectively, depending on the need. Funds will be donated directly to the grant recipients. Timelines vary by funder. Visit northtexascares.org

Needs in Our District - Donations Needed in Vickery Meadow

Several non-profits in Vickery Meadow are continuing to offer services to our vulnerable residents but have seen a decline in donations due to halted church services. If you are interest and able to help, please do. We have compiled a list of [current needs here](#).

In more great news, the Vickery Meadow Food Pantry has collected over \$38,000 in donations thanks to your generosity. I continue to be blown away by the kindness of the residents in my district. Thank you!

Access the Library Online

If you need a library card to access online resources, call 214-670-7809 or email librarycustomerservice@dallaslibrary.org from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

While the buildings are closed, you still have access to incredible library resources at dallaslibrary.org. The staff continues to add hundreds of new downloadable ebooks and audiobooks to [Overdrive](#). Plus, they've expanded the offerings in [Hoopla](#) to include audiobooks and comics in addition to the streaming movies, tv and music. Magazines are available through [Flipster](#) and [PressÂ](#) Reader has newspapers from around the country and the world.

Explore the [online databases](#). Start researching your family tree with Ancestry. Learn about your favorite music using Rock's Back Pages. Pick up a new favorite pastime with instructions from the Hobbies & Crafts Resource Center. The library has online resources to help with whatever project or new passion you've decided to tackle.

[For parents now homeschooling students, they are compiling a list of resources to help you out](#)

And, they've launched a self-directed learning program called SMART Kids at Home. Students ages 5 to 18 can complete at-home and online activities around science, math, art, reading and technology. When they complete a series, kids earn

a digital badge to track their progress. Sign up for SMART Kids at Home at dallaslibrary.beanstack.org.

Updated Restaurant List

I encourage you to support your local businesses. The Mayor & City Council office has started a new initiative called Take-Out Tuesday. Please use this [link](#) to access an evolving list of restaurants in D13 and across the City who are open for take-out and delivery. Please note there are two tabs - one just for D13 restaurants and one for restaurants across the City who have contacted our office. VisitDallas is also running a [website](#) with an ongoing list of open restaurants by neighborhood. If you would like to add a restaurant to this list, email restaurantupdates@visitdallas.com

TAKE-OUT TUESDAYS

**Support local businesses
and restaurants by ordering
take-out or delivery every
Tuesday**

A list* of restaurants
open for grab-n-go
can be found at
www.visitdallas.com

***list is continually updated**

www.dallascityhall.com



Bored at Home?

VisitDallas created a list of virtual activities launched by many of our great cultural organizations such as the DMA, the Nasher, the Arboretum and many more! Check them out [here](#). The Dallas Theater Center is offering a virtual performance of American Mariachi for a small donation. Check it out [here](#). [Dallas Children's Theater](#)

has released fun ideas to put on a show with your kids from home!

From April 14-23, 2020, the Dallas Art Fair will present Dallas Art Fair Online, a new platform allowing collectors to digitally preview and purchase works from participating galleries before the fair's upcoming twelfth edition, which has been rescheduled to October 1-4, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Dallas Museum of Art is also offering a virtual tour of their new exhibit, [Flores Mexicanas: Women in Modern Mexican Art](#).

Extensive Resources for Business and Residents

The wonderful staff of D9 and D12 have been diligently updating an extensive resource guide for our residents and businesses. Please use this [link](#) to access all current information that has been shared with our offices. These are updated on Fridays. You may also find it in Spanish [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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