



Good Evening,

I hope you and yours are safe and well. A lot has changed since Friday, and Dallas is officially under shelter-in-place as of tomorrow, March 23rd, at 11:59 p.m. This is effective through April 3rd at 11:59 p.m. and will likely be extended. My office will continue to update you as things change. Please take these orders seriously - it will save lives.

New Dallas County Amended Emergency Orders

This evening Dallas County Judge, Clay Jenkins held a press conference where he revealed new regulations. I have highlighted a few below and included the entire amended order here. The following chart and data was used to explain this decision.

New Regulations:

- All individuals currently living within Dallas County are ordered to shelter at their place of residence. All persons may leave their residences only for Essential Activities, or to provide or perform Essential Governmental Functions, or to operate Essential Businesses. Essential Activities include:
 - To engage in activities or perform tasks essential to their health and safety, or to the health and safety of their family or household members (for example, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies need to work from home)
 - To obtain necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or to deliver those services or supplies to others (for example, food, pet supply, and any other household consumer products, and products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences.
 - To engage in outdoor activity, provided the individuals comply with social distancing requirements of six feet (for example, walking, biking, hiking, or running).
 - To perform work providing essential products and services at an Essential Business or to otherwise carry out activities specifically permitted in this Order.
 - To care for a family member or pet in another household.
- Dallas County Tax Offices and passport offices shall close for in-person services.
- Due to the public health emergency, the Office of the Dallas County Judge hereby advises the Dallas County Justices of the Peace to suspend eviction hearings and writs of possession for at least the next 60 days to prevent renters from being displaced. 7. If someone in a household has tested positive for coronavirus, the household is ordered to isolate at home. Members of the household cannot go to work, school, or any other community function. 8. Nursing homes, retirement, and long-term care facilities are instructed by this order to prohibit non-essential visitors from accessing their facilities unless to

- provide critical assistance or for end-of-life visitation.
- All sales of bath or toilet tissue occurring in Dallas County are limited to the greater of: (a) twelve (12) rolls per purchase or (b) one (1) package per purchase.

Please access the full amended order to see a list of Essential Business that are exempt from this order but must maintain the 6 ft social distancing requirement.

For a better understanding of the reasoning behind such drastic measures, please visit this website.

A Bright Spot

I want to take a moment to highlight more good news! In addition to the approximately \$15,000 raised for the Vickery Meadow Food Pantry we've had a donor reach out who is going to match your contributions. I continue to be blown away and so grateful for your generosity at this time of uncertainty and great need for so many. If you are still interested in giving, donate 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.

Updated Data

Dallas County Health and Human Services reported an additional 21 positive cases on Saturday and 36 positive cases on Sunday bringing the total in Dallas County to 131. At this time, Dallas County is not sharing census tracts or zip codes of confirmed cases.

Below are numbers as of close of business today:

- Total Tests to date by DCHHS 230
- Total Tests to date private labs 1439*
- Total Negative tests to date 1270
- Total pending tests 2232
- Total Active Cases 131
- Total deaths 2
- Total recovered 2

New Drive-Thru Testing Sites Open

On Saturday a drive-thru testing site opened at the American Airlines Center. Today, an additional drive-thru testing site opened at the Ellis Davis Field House at 9191 S. Polk St. Both sites are open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Criteria for testing sites is as followed:

- Must be 65+ years-old; or
- Must be a first responder; or
- Must be a healthcare worker; or
- Must be a DART driver; AND
- Must show a temperature of 99.6 or higher

Anyone who does not meet the criteria above will not be tested at the testing sites and should contact their healthcare provider. If you believe you may have the virus, but you feel well enough to isolate at home, please do so. There simply are not enough tests to go around, and the CDC guidelines still prioritize high risk patients, medical workers, and first responders.

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

Medical Supply Donations Needed

If you have any of the following available to donate, please do so to your local medical facility:

- -N95 masks and filters
- -P100s, PAPRs, PAPR supplies and parts
- -Protective suits (such as DuPont Tyvek body suits)
- -Procedural and surgical masks
- -Goggles, face shields, splash shields
- -Gloves
- -Gowns
- -Hand sanitizer
- -Disinfecting wipes

ATTENTION LOCAL CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS:

Per Judge Clay Jenkins' press conference last night, the City/County are calling for clothing manufacturers who are able to produce PPE, such as gloves and protective masks. If you are or know of a manufacturer who can assist, contact: askprocurement@dallascityhall.com. Put COVID-19 in the subject.

Repeated Information and 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 <u>link</u> 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 (if you emailed us and don't see your restaurant, I promise we are working on it! It should be updated tonight). If we are missing a restaurant, please let us know! We would like to include as many businesses as possible.



Below is the comprehensive list we sent out yesterday with several new resources. New resources are in italics.

Additionally, <u>VisitDallas</u> 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 <u>here</u>. Dallas County also has valuable information <u>here</u>.

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.

City of Dallas Parks, Tennis Courts and Golf Courses Closed & Libraries, Cultural Centers and City Parks Closed Indefinitely

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. It was just announced this afternoon that libraries, cultural centers, and city parks will remain closed indefinitely.

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 <u>financial resources</u> for consumers.
- The IRS has deferred the federal tax filing deadline to July 15th. Find more information on Coronavirus tax relief here.
- Residents can call 211 and give their zip code for a list of local financial and inkind resources available in their area.

Trouble Paying Rent or Mortgage

Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins issued an order providing guidance to the <u>Justice's of the Peace</u> to suspend evictions for 60 days. This includes ALL evictions - residential, commercial, and industrial.

The federal government announced they are suspending all HUD foreclosures and evictions for 60 days.

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
- <u>Texas Health and Human Services Commission</u> 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.
- <u>Texas</u> 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 <u>click here</u> 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. <u>Atmos</u>, <u>TXU</u> and Dallas Water Utilities has suspended disconnections at this time.
- Vistra, on behalf of TXU, Ambit, and Tri-Eagle electric is going to: waive late fees, extend payment due dates with no down payment required, reduce down payments and deferring balances over five equal installments. Additionally, for TXU customers, they are providing additional bill payment assistance to customers in need through its TXU Energy AidSM program
- Charter Communications is offering free access to Spectrum Broadband and Wi-Fi for 60 days for new K-12 and College Student households. Residents should call: 1-844-488-8395. Charter is also working with school districts to ensure that communication is provided about the free wi-fi; Charter continues to offer Spectrum Assist for households without school-aged children; Charter is also opening its Wi-Fi hotspots for public use.

Food Assistance and Donation

- Here is also a <u>list of open food pantries</u> inclusive of hours.
- North Texas Food Bank has shifted to box distribution model with partner agencies. Food4Kids and School Pantry programs remain fully functional, and they are partnering with the City to deliver snack/hydration kits to the homeless.

They are also running low on some supplies. Please donate if you're able!

- · Here is our most needed list:
 - Canned Tuna or Chicken
 - Peanut Butter
 - Cereal Bars
 - Canned Fruit in juice
- Dallas County Health and Human Services Older Adult Services Program is currently providing meals delivered to homebound seniors. There is a drivethru for hot meal pick-up service set up at each senior center location. Seniors needing these resources can call 214-819-1860 to enroll.
- Meals will be provided to all children at most district middle and high schools and will be distributed twice a week, on Monday and Thursday beteen 10 AM and 1 PM. On Monday you will receive Breakfast, Lunch, and Supper for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Thursday will have Breakfast, Lunch, and Supper for the rest of the week, including Saturday. For pick up locations and menus, visit this link.
- 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 our 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 <u>Texas Department of Insurance</u> 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 <u>web page</u> 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 <u>resources available</u>.

Mental Health Resources

The Texas Department of Health and Human Services has extensive <u>resources</u> available for mental health support, including those facing a <u>mental health crisis</u>. Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute also included a list <u>here</u>.

The Metrocare Coronavirus Support Line is available during our normal business hours Monday through Friday for those Dallas County residents experiencing high anxiety or depression during these turbulent times. Metrocare's professionals will assist individuals in accessing our mental health services and provide referrals for other services that may be needed. The Metrocare Coronavirus Support Line for Dallas County is 214-743-1215.

Domestic Violence Survivor Resources

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

Childcare Resources

 The Texas Workforce Commission's <u>subsidized childcare program</u> is making changes to their requirements in light of the COVID-19 crisis. Please check their website regularly for announcements coming soon. Due to COVID-19, YMCA branches are currently closed; however, they
continue to offer <u>limited childcare programming</u> on a daily basis, supporting the
childcare needs of first responders, medical professionals, government
officials, and those that must continue their work in this challenging time. This
care will be offered until further notice, at 11 YMCA branches across the Dallas
Metroplex, in accordance to state guidelines.

Other Resources

- Paid Sick Leave information: City of Dallas employers must provide employees with paid sick leave to care for themselves or a family member. An employee may use paid sick leave for the employee's or their family member's illness, injury, healthcare, and reasons related to domestic abuse, sexual assault, or stalking. For more information or to file a complaint, call 214-670-FAIR (3246) or visit www.dallascityhall.com/paid-sick-leave.
- The Texas State Department of Public Safety has <u>suspended expired IDs</u>: driver's licenses, IDs, commercial drivers licenses, and election identification certificates expiration dates will be extended.
- In response to the COVID-19 crisis, <u>The Dallas County Clerk's Office</u> will be closing its Vital Records and Recording Divisions to the public. All transactions will be done either by mail, document drop off, or by appointment only. The public closure will take effect starting Monday, March 23, 2020 through May 1, 2020, but may be extended based on COVID-19 status.

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 - <u>Information from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.</u>

Job Interrupted -A To-Do List for Tough Times - <u>Information from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority</u>.

Financial Peace of Mind in the Age of Coronavirus - <u>Information from the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.</u>

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 worldwide. 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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