



CITY OF UVALDE
Uvalde Texas

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COVID-19 STATEMENT
23 June 2020

As indicated in the changing statistics updated regularly by the Uvalde Health Authority (uvaldehealthauthority.org), the numbers of positive tests for COVID-19 have increased significantly in the last several weeks. This is not an unexpected development following the governor's plan, begun in early May, to "open" Texas.

In response to the continuing situation, the City of Uvalde, by the action of the mayor and the city council, is extending the public health disaster declaration for another period of 30 days.

One thing should be clear: the COVID-19 health emergency is not over. Opening businesses and other public places should not be seen as a sign that we no longer need to exercise caution. And although most of the provisions in the emergency declaration are not mandatory, the city encourages all Uvaldeans to protect your health and the health of your fellow citizens by following the protocols issued by the governor's office, the CDC, and other medical authorities.

Here are a few reminders:

- ✓ If you begin to exhibit symptoms of COVID-19, stay home and self-quarantine. Contact a local medical provider to get tested. An ample supply of tests is available. (Quarantining is still enforceable by law.)
- ✓ Frequent hand washing is still a "thing" and remains an effective defense against the spread of viruses.
- ✓ Although it won't make you virus-proof, wearing a mask when out in public is still strongly recommended, particularly when inside a building. If you won't do it for yourself, do it for others.

The following advice about assessing COVID risk as you're out and about comes from the Mayo Clinic. Nothing will eliminate all risk, but you can reduce your risk by paying attention to the four dimensions of safety: time, space, people, place:

- ✓ Being around other people for a short time (minutes) is safer than a long time (hours).
- ✓ Putting more space between you and others (at least six feet) is safer than having less space.
- ✓ Being in an area with fewer people is safer than being in an area with many people.
- ✓ Being outside is a safer place than being inside.



And here's one more thing to think about. The COVID-19 situation is likely to go on for quite some time. It's still not too late to begin to address those underlying health issues. High blood pressure and obesity are major factors in the severity of a COVID infection. See your health provider. Make a plan. Take care of yourself.

We will get through this, but it will take a serious effort from everyone to minimize the danger posed by COVID-19. Take responsibility, follow the health protocols as best you can, and use good judgement. Our community has done well so far—now is not the time to get complacent.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Don McLaughlin, Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Vince DiPiazza" with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Vince DiPiazza, City Manager