

**CITY OF UVALDE, TEXAS  
DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER  
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 virus poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas, and has issued subsequent proclamations continuing the state of disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Uvalde, Texas, is taking extraordinary measures to prevent the spread of this potentially devastating disease in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, said state of disaster requires that certain emergency protective measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management and Public Health, pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF UVALDE, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Uvalde, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code, and that this declaration supersedes any declarations, and addenda thereto, issued prior to this date.

**SECTION 2.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code the state of disaster for public health emergency may be continued by action of the City Council of the City of Uvalde, Texas and that during the duration of this emergency, the Mayor of the City of Uvalde, in his capacity as Emergency Management Director under Section 418.1015 of the Texas Government Code, may make any rules he deems necessary within the scope of this declaration.

**SECTION 3.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code this declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.

**SECTION 4.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City of Uvalde, Texas, emergency management plan, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.

**SECTION 5.** That this declaration authorizes the City to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress the virus, including the quarantine of persons and occupied structures, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the City, regulating ingress and egress to occupied structures, establishment of quarantine stations, emergency hospitals, and other hospitals, and insuring compliance for those who do not comply with the City's rules, pursuant to Section 122.006 of the Health and Safety Code.

**SECTION 6.** That with respect to measures necessary to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the City intends to follow the recommendations of the U.S. government Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Office of the Governor of the State of Texas.

**SECTION 7.** That the following additional emergency protective measures are hereby declared to be in effect:

1. All citizens of Uvalde are expected to observe the COVID-19 “minimum standard health protocols” issued by the Office of the Texas Governor.
2. Any business that encounters compliance issues in attempting to enforce the governor’s protocols or any other COVID-19 related rules that the business deems necessary to protect its customers and employees may rely on support by the City of Uvalde Police Department to extent allowed by law.
3. The City of Uvalde and Uvalde County have jointly appointed a local health authority under Chapter 121 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, Dr. Jared Reading, who shall exercise all powers granted under said Chapter 121, In addition to the reporting required by federal and state health authorities, all medical providers testing or treating potential COVID-19 patients in Uvalde shall, now and for the duration of the health emergency, immediately report all tests ordered, results obtained, and patient status to the local health authority.
4. All citizens should follow the hygienic practices recommended by the Texas Department of State Health Services, including those pertaining to social distancing, hand washing, using face coverings/masks, disinfection of frequently touched surfaces, and staying away from others if they are sick or if you are.

**Although the state’s program to “open” Texas in in full swing, the COVID-19 public health emergency that has existed since March is not over. All citizens are urged to cooperate by following the state’s protocols in order to protect yourselves and your fellow Texans. Cooperation is the best chance we have to suppress the pandemic and limit the severity of the emergency.**

**SECTION 8.** In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this declaration commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

**SECTION 9.** That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

**SECTION 10.** That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

**DECLARED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.**



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Don McLaughlin, Mayor  
City of Uvalde, Texas