



## HENDERSON COUNTY

In a regularly scheduled meeting of the Henderson County Commissioners Court on March 24, 2020, the Henderson County Commissioners approved an extended declaration of local disaster due to a public health emergency, for a period of 14 days. Under the new emergency declaration, the county's emergency state would end on April 7, 2020, unless the commissioners take action to extend it further.

The county's extended emergency declaration specifically incorporated Governor Greg Abbott's executive order that was issued on March 19, 2020. If not modified, amended or extended, the governor's executive orders are set to expire on April 3, 2020 and include the following:

- **Order No. 1:** In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, every person in Texas shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.
- **Order No. 2:** In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the limited duration of this executive order.
- **Order No. 3:** In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.
- **Order No. 4:** In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, schools shall temporarily close.

The county's extended declaration took effect immediately and violations of the local declaration or the governor's declaration and orders are punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000.00 and 180 days in jail for each violation. The commissioners declined to issue any additional local orders.

If the public has any questions about the application of county emergency declaration or the governor's executive order, they may contact the Henderson County, County Attorney, Clint Davis, via email at [cdavis@henderson-county.com](mailto:cdavis@henderson-county.com)



**HENDERSON COUNTY**  
**DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER**  
**DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS** the World Health Organization has declared the coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, as a global pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 was first detected in Wuhan, China in December 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe illness and cause further complications including death; and

**WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19 presents an imminent threat of widespread illness, which requires emergency action for the protection of the people of Henderson County; and

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of mitigation strategies can slow the transmission of the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, the Small Business Association (SBA) has designated COVID-19 as a qualifying event for the provision of Economic Injury Disaster Loans for businesses and private non-profits in affected communities.

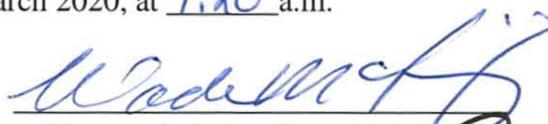
**WHEREAS**, this Declaration activates the County's Emergency Management plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Judge of Henderson County has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to mitigate the effects of this public health emergency and to facilitate the efficient, rapid, and cooperative response to the emergency;

**THEREFORE**, Be it Proclaimed by the Commissioners Court of Henderson County that;

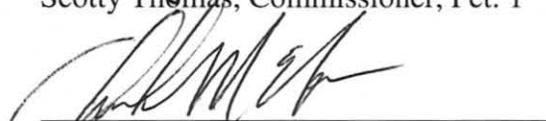
1. A local state of disaster is hereby declared for Henderson County, pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. The state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than 14 days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Henderson County Commissioners Court, or unless further orders of the Commissioners Court are made pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Government Code.
3. This declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk, pursuant to §418.108(c) of the Government Code.
4. The Henderson County Declaration Plan incorporates the Governor's Executive Order GA-08 and any Orders issued by the Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) pertaining to COVID-19 and all amendments or additional orders related thereto.
5. This declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Henderson County Emergency Plan.
6. Pursuant to Tex. Gov. Code §418.173, failure to comply with an emergency plan or with a rule, order, or ordinance adopted under this plan, including any executive order, proclamation, or regulation issued by the Governor during a state disaster or by the County Judge or County Commissioners' Court during a local disaster, is an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00, confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, or both fine and confinement.
7. This Declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance and shall remain in effect until the County Commissioners' Court takes further action.

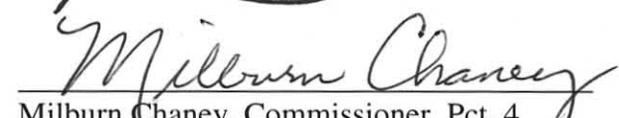
**ORDERED** this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020, at 9:20 a.m.

  
Honorable Judge Wade McKinney

  
Scott Thomas, Commissioner, Pct. 1

  
Scott Fuley, Commissioner, Pct. 2

  
Charles McHam, Commissioner, Pct. 3

  
Milburn Chaney, Commissioner, Pct. 4