

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

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, has spread through the world and has now been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath and, in some cases, the virus has caused death; and

WHEREAS, prudence dictates that extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout the City of Waxahachie, including the quarantine of individuals, groups of individuals and occupied structures and, additionally, including compelling individuals, groups of individuals, or occupied structures to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of the virus; and

WHEREAS, Governor Abbott has declared a local disaster due to public health emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That a local state of disaster due to public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Waxahachie, Texas, pursuant to section 418.108 of the Texas Government Code.

SECTION 2. The state of disaster shall continue for a period of 30 days unless terminated before then by the Waxahachie City Council.

SECTION 3. Pursuant to section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster due to public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.

SECTION 4. Pursuant to section 418.108(d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City of Waxahachie's Emergency Management Plan.

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, 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 this declaration hereby limits the size of gatherings to not more than 50 people and mandates the cancellation of all such gatherings until further notice. A “gathering” refers generally to a scheduled event or common endeavor where 50 persons are present in a confined space, room, or area.

SECTION 7. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

SECTION 8. That this declaration shall take effect beginning March 17, 2020.

SO DECLARED AND ORDERED this 16th day of March 2020 by vote of the City of Waxahachie Council.



David Hill, Mayor
City of Waxahachie, Texas