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COVID-19 Questions

Please note that information continues to change rapidly.

City/County STAY AT HOME Orders

1. **Q: Is there a “stay at home” order for County residents?**
   - **A:** Yes. Effective March 25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. through March 31 (unless extended), all individuals currently living within Denton County are ordered to STAY AT HOME or their current place of residence. For the purposes of this Order *(Attachment A)*, residences include hotels, motels, shared rentals, and similar facilities. To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must at all times as reasonably as possible maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any other person when they are outside their residence. All persons may leave their residences only for Essential Activities, travel to businesses outside Denton County, provide or perform Essential Governmental Functions, or to operate Essential Businesses, all as defined in Section 2 of the County’s Order.

   - The City’s Order *(Attachment B)* is consistent with that of the County, with certain added provisions concerning City meetings and giving authority to the City Manager to spend $550,000 during this period to proceed with the necessary emergency responses and essential functions not already budgeted, as well as the authority to terminate or suspend any event that is or may negatively impact the health, safety, and welfare of persons within the City.

Business Updates

2. **Q: How are businesses affected?**
   - **A:** All businesses operating within Denton County, except Essential Businesses as defined in Section 2, are required to cease all activities at facilities located within Denton County. For clarity, businesses may continue operations consisting exclusively of employees or contractors performing activities at their residences (i.e. working from home). To the greatest extent possible, all Essential Businesses shall comply with the Social Distancing Guidelines attached, including maintaining six-foot social distancing for both employees and the public.

3. **Q: Can restaurants still operate?**
   - **A:** Restaurants and beverage bars with or without drive-in or drive-through services and microbreweries, micro-distilleries, or wineries may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law.

County Health

4. **Q: How many confirmed reported cases are in the City of Denton?**
   - **A:** On March 23, the Denton County Public Health Department announced there are now nine (9) positive case of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in the City of Denton.

5. **Q: What medical procedures are allowed?**
   - **A:** All elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in Denton County. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices, and other medical facilities are
directed to identify procedures that are deemed "elective" by assessing which procedures can be postponed or canceled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for the redirection of resources to COVID-19 response.

Testing Information

6. Q: How many tests have been performed in Denton County?
   o Guidelines for COVID-19 testing are set by the Centers for Disease Control and Infection (CDC), and as the situation evolves, the criteria are rapidly changing. Health care providers use these guidelines to order tests based on patients’ symptoms and potential exposure. Currently, testing is being provided by state public health laboratories and private medical laboratories. While Denton County Public Health does not track the number of tests performed in the County, they would track positive COVID-19 tests. A dashboard with related testing numbers may be found via Denton County Public Health’s web site at https://gis-covid19-dentoncounty.hub.arcgis.com/.

Various Operations Information

7. Q: Are security guards, building and grounds maintenance staff considered essential?
   o A: Anything that is considered security-related, or that is needed to maintain properties are exempted from the restriction. However, those staff are asked to respect all social distancing protocols.

8. Q: Will Meals on Wheels still operate out of the Senior Center?
   o A: Yes. SPAN has notified staff that they are altering their delivery service to one day a week (Monday). During that delivery, they will be providing a week’s work of food packages to the recipient. At this time, SPAN is only requesting the use of the Senior Center. MLK will not be needed. Staff has been scheduled to open and close the facility on Monday’s for their use during the stay at home period and for as long as they continue to provide their service.

9. Q: Are the Civic Center Pool showers and bathrooms still open to the public? What are the hours?
   o A: The Civic Center Pool shower and bathroom facility will continue to be open during the stay at home period. The facility opened to the public on Monday, March 23 and operates Monday – Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The facility is staffed by two departmental seasonal personnel from Aquatics and is sanitized twice a day with the assistance of Park Maintenance and Facilities Maintenance.

10. Q: Will the Library still be providing curbside pickup of on-hold items?
    o A: The curbside pickup service will be offered only until 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25. After that time, patrons will only be able to use the Library’s online services. All holds and checkout due dates will automatically be extended by 14 days, which can also be extended if the situation necessitates.

11. Q: Will Virtual Story Time still be offered online on Wednesdays at 11 a.m.?
    o A: Yes! Library staff will continue to provide this program during the stay at home order.

12. Q: Are seasonal Parks and Recreation Department employees still filling volunteer vacancies at non-profits?
    o A: Yes. At this time, Grace Like Rain and Our Daily Bread have been approved for seasonal staff hours. Approximately two-thirds of the positions at Grace Like Rain are being filled by these staff members. Several have signed up for Our Daily Bread. Staff will continue to evaluate opportunities at other non-profits as needed.
13. Q: Is the North Lakes Rec Center still offering group exercise classes remotely?
   o  A: Staff is continuing to provide fitness classes through live streaming on Facebook that can also be accessed as a saved video for Group Exercise Members. Staff is also working on ways to connect our fitness contractors with their registered clients.

Meetings, Voting, and Elections
14. Q: What City meetings are cancelled?
   o  A: All City Committee, Commission, and Board meetings are suspended through March 31 (unless the stay at home order is extended), with the exception of the Planning and Zoning Commission, which shall meet only to consider applications subject to state law-imposed deadlines.

15. Q: Have there been any changes to municipal election or voting procedures?

Assistance to Residents in Need
16. Q: Can the City suspend utility disconnections during the emergency?
   o  A: The City of Denton is working to assist customers experiencing hardship due to COVID-19 and its economic impacts. Utilities including electricity and water will not be discontinued, even if a bill is paid late. If any customer receives a courtesy call stating their services are scheduled to be interrupted, call the Utilities Customer Service at (940) 349-8700.

   All City of Denton utility non-payment shut offs are suspended during the term of the STAY AT HOME Order and no penalties shall accrue during the pendency of the Order.

Municipal Court Proceedings
17. Q: How are Municipal Court proceedings impacted?
   o  A: All non-essential City of Denton Municipal Court proceedings are postponed until after April 30, 2020.

Social Gatherings
18. Q: What are the instructions on social gatherings?
   o  A: For all Denton County and City of Denton residents, all public or private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited.

19. Q: How are religious services affected?
   o  A: Religious and worship services may only be provided by video and teleconference. Religious institutions must limit in-person staff to ten (10) people or less when preparing for or conducting video or teleconference services, and all individuals must follow the Social Distancing Guidelines, including the six-foot social distancing.

General Updates (as provided by TML)
20. Has the state or any city or county issued a “shelter-in-place” order?
   o  A: Yes, Dallas County became the first entity to issue such an order, with other local counties, including Denton, following suit. The governor has thus far chosen not to do so. He did take
action related to cancelling elective surgeries to free up hospital beds. With regard to further local shelter-in-place orders, “Local officials have the authority to implement more strict standards than I as governor have implemented in the state of Texas,” Abbott said. “If they choose to do so I would applaud them for doing so, but at this time it is not the appropriate approach to mandate that same strict standard across every area of the state…”

21. Q: What is TML doing to urge the governor to suspend or modify state laws to make it easier for communities to react to coronavirus?
   o A: The League has compiled a list of state statutes that, if suspended or modified by the governor, would assist cities with responding to the COVID-19 threat. This is the second, updated list that has been communicated to the governor’s office. He should be applauded for his suspensions related to the Open Meetings Act and the May election. We encourage city officials to contact his office on issues that are important to you.

22. Q: Does Executive Order GA-08’s mandate to temporarily close schools include day cares?
   o A: Governor Abbott issued Executive Order No. GA-08 which, in part, mandates that schools temporarily close. In a virtual town hall held March 19, 2020, the governor stated that the school closure applies to both public and private K-12 schools, as well as institutions of higher education (with some exceptions for certain college facilities). He also explained that the temporary closure of schools does not apply to day cares, which are encouraged to stay open but follow certain higher standards. The Texas Health and Human Services website advises as follows: “This executive order does NOT apply to child care facilities including a day care center, group day care home, or family home. All child care facilities should continue to follow the guidance from HHSC Child Care Licensing (see COVID-19 Guidance to Child Care Providers), the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS).”

In addressing the operations of day cares in any particular city, officials should also consider any local disaster declaration and regulations.

23. Q: What action has Governor Abbott taken in response to the declaration of public health disaster?
   o A: The Governor has issued Executive Order No. GA-08 which provides that:
      ▪ every person in Texas shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people;
      ▪ people shall avoid eating or drinking in bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors; however, the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options are allowed and highly encouraged;
      ▪ people shall not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance; and
      ▪ schools shall temporarily close.

24. Q: What is the duration of the Governor’s executive order?
   o A: The executive order is for a limited duration. For now, the order is effective 11:59 p.m. on March 20 and continues until 11:59 p.m. on April 3, 2020. The restrictions could be extended in the future.

25. Q: Does the governor’s order require that we close all city operations?
   o A: No. All critical infrastructure remains operational, domestic travel remains unrestricted, and governmental entities will continue providing essential services.
For offices and workplaces that remain open, employees should practice good hygiene and, where feasible, work from home in order to achieve optimum isolation from COVID-19. Trusted sources for information about such practices are available at https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus and https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

Transportation

26. Q: How is the Denton County Transit Authority responding?

- The Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) will reduce service hours and frequency effective Monday, March 23, in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) health emergency. The reduction in service hours is in response to the urgent public guidance from regional leaders, along with emergency health orders to cancel events, close schools and offices, practice “social distancing” and limit social gatherings across Denton County and North Texas.

“The goal of our service reduction is to help reduce the risk of spreading illness and germs throughout the Denton County community and North Texas,” DCTA CEO Raymond Suarez said. “We are working closely with public health officials and monitoring the COVID-19 health situation diligently in order to do what is best for our passengers, employees and residents.”

The agency will reduce A-train and Connect Bus service as follows:

- A-train service will be provided hourly Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday service will remain the same.

- As bus service will end prior to A-train service, DCTA will provide on-demand service to assist rail passengers to get to their final destination. This on-demand service will be provided from the Downtown Denton Transit Center, MedPark station, Old Town station, and the Hebron station. The on-demand service will operate similarly to DCTA’s Lewisville Lakeway Zone, where customers can request a trip using the Spare Rider app available for download in the Apple and Google Play stores.

- Denton and Lewisville Connect fixed route service will continue to run the same routes, with reduced service hours and frequency. Service will operate Monday through Friday on a modified Saturday schedule, with an additional trip provided in the morning. Saturday service will remain the same as the current schedule.

- Access service will be available during the same hours as Lewisville and Denton Connect service.

Attachment A – County Disaster Declaration and Executive Order Amendment
Attachment B – City Second Declaration of Local Disaster
DENTON COUNTY

Executive Order AE-20-03-24
March 24, 2020

DISASTER DECLARATION
AND
EXECUTIVE ORDER AMENDMENT OF THE DENTON COUNTY JUDGE
Andy Eads

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108, Denton County Judge Andy Eads issued the first Executive Order on March 13, 2020, due to a novel coronavirus now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, County Commissioners issued a renewal as a Disaster Declaration on March 17, 2020 in Court Order 20-020, the first amendment was issued by County Judge through Executive Order on March 18, 2020, and a second amendment was issued by County Judge through Executive Order on March 22, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the on-going evaluation of circumstances related to the virus and the updated recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control, Texas Department of State Health Services, and the Denton County Department of Public Health, warrant the March 22, 2020, Order of County Judge Andy Eads be amended; and

WHEREAS, an innovative response is required to mitigate the future spread of COVID-19 to protect the citizens and businesses of Denton County and all incorporated and unincorporated areas; and

THEREFORE, the March 22, 2020, Executive Order of County Judge Andy Eads is hereby AMENDED as follows:

Summary: The virus that causes 2019 Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) is easily transmitted through person to person contact making it essential to slow the spread of the virus. This Order is for supporting the public and private health care providers ability to handle the influx of new patients and safeguard public health and safety. Because of the risk of the rapid spread of the virus and the need to protect the most vulnerable members of the community this Order requires all individuals in Denton County to STAY AT HOME – except for specific essential activities and work to provide essential business and government services or perform essential public infrastructure construction, including housing.
UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE
SECTION 418.108, DENTON COUNTY JUDGE ANDY EADS ORDERS:

1. Effective as of 11:59 p.m. on March 25, 2020, and continuing for seven days, unless extended by the Denton County Commissioners Court or rescinded by the County Judge:
   a. All individuals currently living within Denton County are ordered to STAY AT HOME or their current place of residence. For the purposes of this Order, residences include hotels, motels, shared rentals, and similar facilities. To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must at all times as reasonably as possible maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any other person when they are outside their residence. All persons may leave their residences only for Essential Activities, travel to businesses outside Denton County, provide or perform Essential Governmental Functions, or to operate Essential Businesses, all as defined in Section 2.
   b. All businesses operating within Denton County, except Essential Businesses as defined below in Section 2, are required to cease all activities at facilities located within Denton County. To the greatest extent possible, all Essential Businesses shall comply with the Social Distancing Guideline set forth by the CDC, including maintaining six-foot social distancing for both employees and the general public.
   c. All public or private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited, except as otherwise provided herein. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of members of a household or living unit (an apartment or house for use by one family).
   d. Restaurants and beverage bars with or without drive-in or drive-through services and microbreweries, micro-distilleries, or wineries may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law.
   e. Religious and worship services may only be provided by video and teleconference. All individuals must follow the Social Distancing Guidelines as set forth by the CDC, including the six-foot social distancing.
   f. All elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in Denton County. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices, and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed "elective" by assessing which procedures can be postponed or canceled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for the redirection of resources to COVID-19 response.

2. Definitions:
   a. For purposes of this Order, individuals may leave their residence only to perform any of the following “Essential Activities”:
      i. 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 including pets and livestock (for example, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies need to work from home).
      ii. 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.

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iii. To engage in outdoor activity, provided the individuals comply with social distancing requirements of six feet, except as family units (for example, walking, biking, hiking, or running). Use of public playground equipment is prohibited.

iv. To perform work providing essential products and services at an Essential Business or to carry out activities permitted explicitly in this Order.

v. To care for a family member or pet in another household.

b. For purposes of this Order, "Essential Businesses" as identified by the National Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA), Memorandum of Essential Critical Infrastructure document version 1.1 and is further expanded upon:

i. Essential Healthcare Operations. Healthcare operations, including hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other healthcare facilities, healthcare suppliers, mental health providers, substance abuse service providers, blood banks, medical research, laboratory services, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services. Home-based and residential-based care for seniors, adults, or children are also considered healthcare operations. Healthcare operations also include veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts on the delivery of healthcare. Healthcare operations do not include fitness and exercise gyms and similar facilities. Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures as established in accordance with Subsection 1(f) of this Order.

ii. Essential Government Functions. All services provided by local governments needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public. Further, nothing in this Order shall prohibit any individual from performing or accessing "Essential Government Functions." All Essential Government Functions shall be performed in compliance with social distancing requirements of six feet, to the extent possible. State or Federal government agencies shall follow State or Federal guidance to the extent possible.

iii. Education. The Superintendent, Headmaster, or CEO of a school district, charter school, or private school shall designate school personnel who are essential to the operation and support of distance-learning for students, preparation and distribution of meals to students, and maintenance/cleaning of facilities during the time of this Order.

iv. Essential Critical Infrastructure. Work necessary to the operations and maintenance of the critical infrastructure sectors as identified by the National Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA), Memorandum of Essential Critical Infrastructure (attached herein), including public works construction, residential and commercial construction, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, Internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications, and web-based services), banks, financial institutions, pawn shops, safety and security related services, retail firearm sales, defense and national security-related operations, essential manufacturing operations provided that they carry out those services or that
work in compliance with social distancing requirements of six-feet, to the extent possible. Essential Businesses providing essential infrastructure should implement screening precautions to protect employees, and all activity shall be performed in compliance with Social Distancing Guidelines as set forth by the CDC.

v. Essential Retail. Foodservice and household providers including; grocery stores, warehouse stores, big-box stores, liquor stores, gas stations and convenience stores, and farmers markets. Food gathering including; farming, hunting, fishing, and livestock to the extent allowed by law. Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences. Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for delivery, carry out, or drive thru. Schools and other entities that typically provide free services to students or members of the public on a pick-up and take-away basis only. The restriction of delivery or carry out does not apply to cafes and restaurants located within hospitals and medical facilities. Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers. Gas stations, auto-supply, auto and bicycle repair shops, construction supply stores, and hardware stores. Businesses supplying products people require to work from home.

vi. Providers of Basic Necessities to Economically Disadvantaged Populations. Businesses, including non-profit organizations, that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals.

vii. Essential Services Necessary to Maintain Essential Operations of Residences or Other Essential Businesses. Trash and recycling collection, processing and disposal, mail and shipping services, building cleaning, maintenance and security, warehouse/distribution and fulfillment, storage for essential businesses, funeral homes, crematoriums and cemeteries. Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operations of residences and Essential Businesses. Professional services, such as legal services, accounting services, property management, and real-estate services, RV sales and services for housing, when required to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities. Businesses that supply other Essential Businesses with support or supplies needed to operate.


ix. Childcare Services. Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in this Order to work as permitted.

2. Any manufacturer who retools their business for the purpose of manufacturing and producing ventilators and other medical equipment may qualify for an “Essential Business” exemption under this Order.

3. Grocery stores, supermarkets, warehouse stores, hospitals, and medical facilities are experiencing high levels of demand for a large number of products, requiring more deliveries from manufacturers and distribution centers to serve their customers. Many Texas cities and local associations have implemented restrictions on delivery hours to stores to mitigate truck noise and traffic. Due to the need to deliver products as quickly and
efficiently as possible during this critical timeframe, this Order hereby suspends all
delivery hour restrictions for transport to or from any entity involved in the selling or
distribution of food products, medicine, or medical supplies and equipment in Denton
County for the next 60 days.

4. Retail suppliers shall use commonsense rationing of household products and groceries
that are in limited supply.

5. If someone in a household has tested positive for COVID-19, the household is ordered to
isolate at home. Members of the household cannot go to work, school, or any other
community function until cleared by a medical professional.

6. 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.

7. Public and private schools and institutions of higher education are instructed by this order
to review and update their Emergency Management Plans at least 72 hours before students
return to a classroom setting.

8. Texas Commissioned Peace Officers are hereby authorized to enforce this order. A
violation of this order may be punishable through criminal or civil enforcement. A violation
of this order is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed $1,000 or confinement
in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days. A violation of this order may be enforced by the
filing of a probable cause affidavit alleging the criminal violation with the appropriate court
or by issuing a citation to the person violating, that contains written notice of the time and
place the person must appear before a magistrate of this state, the name and address of the
person charged, and the offense charged.

9. The County of Denton must promptly provide copies of this Order by posting on
dentoncounty.gov. In addition, the owner, manager, or operator of any facility that is likely
to be impacted by this Order is strongly encouraged to post a copy of this Order on site and
to provide a copy to any member of the public asking for a copy. If any subsection,
sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Order or any application of it to any person,
structure, gathering, or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision
of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the
remaining portions or applications of this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this 24th day of March 2020.

[Signature]
Andy Eads
County Judge

[Signature]
Juli Luke
County Clerk

3-24-20
Date Filed and Attested: Denton County
MEMORANDUM ON IDENTIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKERS DURING COVID-19 RESPONSE

FROM: Christopher C. Krebs
Director
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

As the Nation comes together to slow the spread of COVID-19, on March 16th, the President issued updated Coronavirus Guidance for America. This guidance states that:

“If you work in a critical infrastructure industry, as defined by the Department of Homeland Security, such as healthcare services and pharmaceutical and food supply, you have a special responsibility to maintain your normal work schedule.”

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) executes the Secretary of Homeland Security’s responsibilities as assigned under the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide strategic guidance, promote a national unity of effort, and coordinate the overall federal effort to ensure the security and resilience of the Nation’s critical infrastructure. CISA uses trusted partnerships with both the public and private sectors to deliver infrastructure resilience assistance and guidance to a broad range of partners.

In accordance with this mandate, and in collaboration with other federal agencies and the private sector, CISA developed an initial list of “Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers” to help State and local officials as they work to protect their communities, while ensuring continuity of functions critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security. The list can also inform critical infrastructure community decision-making to determine the sectors, sub-sectors, segments, or critical functions that should continue normal operations, appropriately modified to account for Centers for Disease Control (CDC) workforce and customer protection guidance.

The attached list identifies workers who conduct a range of operations and services that are essential to continued critical infrastructure viability, including staffing operations centers, maintaining and repairing critical infrastructure, operating call centers, working construction, and performing management functions, among others. The industries they support represent, but are not necessarily limited to, medical and healthcare, telecommunications, information technology systems, defense, food and agriculture, transportation and logistics, energy, water and wastewater, law enforcement, and public works.
We recognize that State, local, tribal, and territorial governments are ultimately in charge of implementing and executing response activities in communities under their jurisdiction, while the Federal Government is in a supporting role. As State and local communities consider COVID-19-related restrictions, CISA is offering this list to assist prioritizing activities related to continuity of operations and incident response, including the appropriate movement of critical infrastructure workers within and between jurisdictions.

Accordingly, this list is advisory in nature. It is not, nor should it be considered to be, a federal directive or standard in and of itself.

In addition, these identified sectors and workers are not intended to be the authoritative or exhaustive list of critical infrastructure sectors and functions that should continue during the COVID-19 response. Instead, State and local officials should use their own judgment in using their authorities and issuing implementation directives and guidance. Similarly, critical infrastructure industry partners will use their own judgment, informed by this list, to ensure continued operations of critical infrastructure services and functions. All decisions should appropriately balance public safety while ensuring the continued delivery of critical infrastructure services and functions.

CISA will continue to work with you and our partners in the critical infrastructure community to update this list as the Nation’s response to COVID-19 evolves. We also encourage you to submit how you might use this list so that we can develop a repository of use cases for broad sharing across the country.

Should you have questions about this list, please contact CISA at CISA.CAT@cisadhs.gov.


Version 1.1 (March 23, 2020)

THE IMPORTANCE OF ESSENTIAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKERS

Functioning critical infrastructure is imperative during the response to the COVID-19 emergency for both public health and safety as well as community well-being. Certain critical infrastructure industries have a special responsibility in these times to continue operations.

This guidance and accompanying list are intended to support State, Local, and industry partners in identifying the critical infrastructure sectors and the essential workers needed to maintain the services and functions Americans depend on daily and that need to be able to operate resiliently during the COVID-19 pandemic response.

This document gives guidance to State, local, tribal, and territorial jurisdictions and the private sector on defining essential critical infrastructure workers. Promoting the ability of such workers to continue to work during periods of community restriction, access management, social distancing, or closure orders/directives is crucial to community resilience and continuity of essential functions.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS

This list was developed in consultation with federal agency partners, industry experts, and State and local officials, and is based on several key principles:

1. Response efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic are locally executed, State managed, and federally supported
2. Everyone should follow guidance from the CDC, as well as State and local government officials, regarding strategies to limit disease spread.
3. Workers should be encouraged to work remotely when possible and focus on core business activities. In-person, non-mandatory activities should be delayed until the resumption of normal operations.
4. When continuous remote work is not possible, businesses should enlist strategies to reduce the likelihood of spreading the disease. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, separating staff by off-setting shift hours or days and/or social distancing. These steps can preserve the workforce and allow operations to continue.
5. All organizations should implement their business continuity and pandemic plans, or put plans in place if they do not exist. Delaying implementation is not advised and puts at risk the viability of the business and the health and safety of the employees.

6. In the modern economy, reliance on technology and just-in-time supply chains means that certain workers must be able to access certain sites, facilities, and assets to ensure continuity of functions.

7. Government employees, such as emergency managers, and the business community need to establish and maintain lines of communication.

8. When government and businesses engage in discussions about critical infrastructure workers, they need to consider the implications of business operations beyond the jurisdiction where the asset or facility is located. Businesses can have sizeable economic and societal impacts as well as supply chain dependencies that are geographically distributed.

9. Whenever possible, jurisdictions should align access and movement control policies related to critical infrastructure workers to lower the burden of workers crossing jurisdictional boundaries.

IDENTIFYING ESSENTIAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKERS

The following list of sectors and identified essential critical infrastructure workers are an initial recommended set and are intended to be overly inclusive reflecting the diversity of industries across the United States. CISA will continually solicit and accept feedback on the list (both sectors/sub sectors and identified essential workers) and will evolve the list in response to stakeholder feedback. We will also use our various stakeholder engagement mechanisms to work with partners on how they are using this list and share those lessons learned and best practices broadly. We ask that you share your feedback, both positive and negative on this list so we can provide the most useful guidance to our critical infrastructure partners. Feedback can be sent to CISA.CAT@cisa.dhs.gov.
HEALTHCARE / PUBLIC HEALTH

- Workers providing COVID-19 testing: Workers that perform critical clinical research needed for COVID-19 response
- Caregivers (e.g., physicians, dentists, psychologists, mid-level practitioners, nurses and assistants, infection control and quality assurance personnel, pharmacists, physical and occupational therapists and assistants, social workers, speech pathologists and diagnostic and therapeutic technicians and technologists)
- Hospital and laboratory personnel (including accounting, administrative, admitting and discharge, engineering, epidemiological, source plasma and blood donation, food service, housekeeping, medical records, information technology and operational technology, nutritionists, sanitarians, respiratory therapists, etc.)
- Workers in other medical facilities (including Ambulatory Health and Surgical, Blood Banks, Clinics, Community Mental Health, Comprehensive Outpatient rehabilitation, End Stage Renal Disease, Health Departments, Home Health care, Hospices, Hospitals, Long Term Care, Organ Pharmacies, Procurement Organizations, Psychiatric Residential, Rural Health Clinics and Federally Qualified Health Centers)
- Manufacturers, technicians, logistics and warehouse operators, and distributors of medical equipment, personal protective equipment (PPE), medical gases, pharmaceuticals (including materials used in radioactive drugs), blood and blood products, vaccines, testing materials, laboratory supplies, cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting or sterilization supplies, and tissue and paper towel products
- Public health / community health workers, including those who compile, model, analyze and communicate public health information
- Blood and plasma donors and the employees of the organizations that operate and manage related activities
- Workers that manage health plans, billing, and health information, who cannot practically work remotely
- Workers who conduct community-based public health functions, conducting epidemiologic surveillance, compiling, analyzing and communicating public health information, who cannot practically work remotely
- Workers performing cybersecurity functions at healthcare and public health facilities, who cannot practically work remotely
- Workers conducting research critical to COVID-19 response
- Workers performing security, incident management, and emergency operations functions at or on behalf of healthcare entities including healthcare coalitions, who cannot practically work remotely
- Workers who support food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals, such as those residing in shelters
- Pharmacy employees necessary for filling prescriptions
- Workers performing mortuary services, including funeral homes, crematoriums, and cemetery workers
- Workers who coordinate with other organizations to ensure the proper recovery, handling, identification, transportation, tracking, storage, and disposal of human remains and personal effects; certify cause of death; and facilitate access to mental/behavioral health services to the family members, responders, and survivors of an incident
LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, FIRST RESPONDERS

- Personnel in emergency management, law enforcement, Emergency Management Systems, fire, air medical, and corrections, including front line and management
- Emergency Medical Service Technicians
- 911 call center employees
- Fusion Center employees
- Hazardous material responders from government and the private sector.
- Workers – including contracted vendors – who maintain, manufacture, or supply digital systems infrastructure supporting law enforcement emergency service, and response operations.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

- Workers supporting groceries, pharmacies, convenience stores, and other retail that sells human food, animal/pet food, and beverage products
- Restaurant carry-out and quick serve food operations - Carry-out and delivery food employees
- Food manufacturer employees and their supplier employees—to include those employed in food processing (packers, meat processing, cheese plants, milk plants, produce, etc.) facilities; livestock, poultry, seafood slaughter facilities; pet and animal feed processing facilities; human food facilities producing by-products for animal food; beverage production facilities; and the production of food packaging
- Farm workers to include those employed in animal food, feed, and ingredient production, packaging, and distribution; manufacturing, packaging, and distribution of veterinary drugs; truck delivery and transport; farm and fishery labor needed to produce our food supply domestically
- Farm workers and support service workers to include those who field crops; commodity inspection; fuel ethanol facilities; storage facilities; and other agricultural inputs
- Employees and firms supporting food, feed, and beverage distribution, including warehouse workers, vendor-managed inventory controllers and blockchain managers
- Workers supporting the sanitation of all food manufacturing processes and operations from wholesale to retail
- Company cafeterias - in-plant cafeterias used to feed employees
- Workers in food testing labs in private industries and in institutions of higher education
- Workers essential for assistance programs and government payments
- Employees of companies engaged in the production, storage, transport, and distribution of chemicals, medicines, vaccines, and other substances used by the food and agriculture industry, including pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, minerals, enrichments, and other agricultural production aids
- Animal agriculture workers to include those employed in veterinary health; manufacturing and distribution of animal medical materials, animal vaccines, animal drugs, feed ingredients, feed, and bedding, etc.; transportation of live animals, animal medical materials; transportation of deceased animals for disposal; raising of animals for food; animal production operations; slaughter and packing plants, renderers, and associated regulatory and government workforce
- Workers who support the manufacture and distribution of forest products, including, but not limited to timber, paper, and other wood products
- Employees engaged in the manufacture and maintenance of equipment and other infrastructure necessary to agricultural production and distribution
ENERGY

Electricity industry:
- Workers who maintain, ensure, or restore, or are involved in the development, transportation, fuel procurement, expansion, or operation of the generation, transmission, and distribution of electric power, including call centers, utility workers, reliability engineers and fleet maintenance technicians
- Workers needed for safe and secure operations at nuclear generation
- Workers at generation, transmission, and electric blackstart facilities
- Workers at Reliability Coordinator (RC), Balancing Authorities (BA), and primary and backup Control Centers (CC), including but not limited to independent system operators, regional transmission organizations, and balancing authorities
- Mutual assistance personnel
- IT and OT technology staff – for EMS (Energy Management Systems) and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems, and utility data centers; Cybersecurity engineers; cybersecurity risk management
- Vegetation management crews and traffic workers who support
- Environmental remediation/monitoring technicians
- Instrumentation, protection, and control technicians

Petroleum workers:
- Petroleum product storage, pipeline, marine transport, terminals, rail transport, road transport
- Crude oil storage facilities, pipeline, and marine transport
- Petroleum refinery facilities
- Petroleum security operations center employees and workers who support emergency response services
- Petroleum operations control rooms/centers
- Petroleum drilling, extraction, production, processing, refining, terminal operations, transporting, and retail for use as end-use fuels or feedstocks for chemical manufacturing
- Onshore and offshore operations for maintenance and emergency response
- Retail fuel centers such as gas stations and truck stops, and the distribution systems that support them

Natural and propane gas workers:
- Natural gas transmission and distribution pipelines, including compressor stations
- Underground storage of natural gas
- Natural gas processing plants, and those that deal with natural gas liquids
- Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facilities
- Natural gas security operations center, natural gas operations dispatch and control rooms/centers natural gas emergency response and customer emergencies, including natural gas leak calls
- Drilling, production, processing, refining, and transporting natural gas for use as end-use fuels, feedstocks for chemical manufacturing, or use in electricity generation
- Propane gas dispatch and control rooms and emergency response and customer emergencies, including propane leak calls
- Propane gas service maintenance and restoration, including call centers
Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce

- Processing, refining, and transporting natural liquids, including propane gas, for use as end-use fuels or feedstocks for chemical manufacturing
- Propane gas storage, transmission, and distribution centers

WATER AND WASTEWATER

Employees needed to operate and maintain drinking water and wastewater/drainage infrastructure, including:
- Operational staff at water authorities
- Operational staff at community water systems
- Operational staff at wastewater treatment facilities
- Workers repairing water and wastewater conveyances and performing required sampling or monitoring
- Operational staff for water distribution and testing
- Operational staff at wastewater collection facilities
- Operational staff and technical support for SCADA Control systems
- Chemical suppliers for wastewater and personnel protection
- Workers that maintain digital systems infrastructure supporting water and wastewater operations

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

- Employees supporting or enabling transportation functions, including truck drivers, bus drivers, dispatchers, maintenance and repair technicians, warehouse workers, truck stop and rest area workers, and workers that maintain and inspect infrastructure (including those that require cross-jurisdiction travel)
- Employees of firms providing services that enable logistics operations, including cooling, storing, packaging, and distributing products for wholesale or retail sale or use.
- Mass transit workers
- Workers responsible for operating dispatching passenger, commuter and freight trains and maintaining rail infrastructure and equipment
- Maritime transportation workers - port workers, mariners, equipment operators
- Truck drivers who haul hazardous and waste materials to support critical infrastructure, capabilities, functions, and services
- Automotive repair and maintenance facilities
- Manufacturers and distributors (to include service centers and related operations) of packaging materials, pallets, crates, containers, and other supplies needed to support manufacturing, packaging staging and distribution operations
- Postal and shipping workers, to include private companies
- Employees who repair and maintain vehicles, aircraft, rail equipment, marine vessels, and the equipment and infrastructure that enables operations that encompass movement of cargo and passengers
- Air transportation employees, including air traffic controllers and maintenance personnel, ramp workers, aviation and aerospace safety, security, and operations personnel and accident investigations
- Workers who support the maintenance and operation of cargo by air transportation, including flight crews, maintenance, airport operations, and other on- and off-airport facilities workers

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PUBLIC WORKS

- Workers who support the operation, inspection, and maintenance of essential dams, locks and levees
- Workers who support the operation, inspection, and maintenance of essential public works facilities and operations, including bridges, water and sewer main breaks, fleet maintenance personnel, construction of critical or strategic infrastructure, traffic signal maintenance, emergency location services for buried utilities, maintenance of digital systems infrastructure supporting public works operations, and other emergent issues
- Workers such as plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences
- Support, such as road and line clearing, to ensure the availability of needed facilities, transportation, energy and communications
- Support to ensure the effective removal, storage, and disposal of residential and commercial solid waste and hazardous waste

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Communications:

- Maintenance of communications infrastructure- including privately owned and maintained communication systems- supported by technicians, operators, call-centers, wireline and wireless providers, cable service providers, satellite operations, undersea cable landing stations (including cable marine depots and submarine cable ship operators), Internet Exchange Points, and manufacturers and distributors of communications equipment
- Workers who support radio, television, and media service, including, but not limited to front line news reporters, studio, and technicians for newsgathering and reporting
- Workers at Independent System Operators and Regional Transmission Organizations, and Network Operations staff, engineers and/or technicians to manage the network or operate facilities
- Engineers, technicians and associated personnel responsible for infrastructure construction and restoration, including contractors for construction and engineering of fiber optic cables
- Installation, maintenance and repair technicians that establish, support or repair service as needed
- Central office personnel to maintain and operate central office, data centers, and other network office facilities
- Customer service and support staff, including managed and professional services as well as remote providers of support to transitioning employees to set up and maintain home offices, who interface with customers to manage or support service environments and security issues, including payroll, billing, fraud, and troubleshooting
- Dispatchers involved with service repair and restoration

Information Technology:

- Workers who support command centers, including, but not limited to Network Operations Command Center, Broadcast Operations Control Center and Security Operations Command Center
- Data center operators, including system administrators, HVAC & electrical engineers, security personnel, IT managers, data transfer solutions engineers, software and hardware engineers, and database administrators
- Client service centers, field engineers, and other technicians supporting critical infrastructure, as well as
manufacturers and supply chain vendors that provide hardware and software, and information technology equipment (to include microelectronics and semiconductors) for critical infrastructure

- Workers responding to cyber incidents involving critical infrastructure, including medical facilities, SLTT governments and federal facilities, energy and utilities, and banks and financial institutions, and other critical infrastructure categories and personnel
- Workers supporting the provision of essential global, national and local infrastructure for computing services (incl. cloud computing services), business infrastructure, web-based services, and critical manufacturing
- Workers supporting communications systems and information technology used by law enforcement, public safety, medical, energy and other critical industries
- Support required for continuity of services, including janitorial/cleaning personnel

OTHER COMMUNITY-BASED GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Workers to ensure continuity of building functions
- Security staff to maintain building access control and physical security measures
- Elections personnel
- Federal, State, and Local, Tribal, and Territorial employees who support Mission Essential Functions and communications networks
- Trade Officials (FTA negotiators; international data flow administrators)
- Weather forecasters
- Workers that maintain digital systems infrastructure supporting other critical government operations
- Workers at operations centers necessary to maintain other essential functions
- Workers who support necessary credentialing, vetting and licensing operations for transportation workers
- Customs workers who are critical to facilitating trade in support of the national emergency response supply chain
- Educators supporting public and private K-12 schools, colleges, and universities for purposes of facilitating distance learning or performing other essential functions, if operating under rules for social distancing
- Hotel Workers where hotels are used for COVID-19 mitigation and containment measures

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

- Workers necessary for the manufacturing of materials and products needed for medical supply chains, and for supply chains associated with transportation, energy, communications, food and agriculture, chemical manufacturing, nuclear facilities, the operation of dams, water and wastewater treatment, emergency services, and the defense industrial base. Additionally, workers needed to maintain the continuity of these manufacturing functions and associated supply chains.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

- Workers at nuclear facilities, workers managing medical waste, workers managing waste from pharmaceuticals and medical material production, and workers at laboratories processing test kits
- Workers who support hazardous materials response and cleanup
- Workers who maintain digital systems infrastructure supporting hazardous materials management operations
FINANCIAL SERVICES

- Workers who are needed to process and maintain systems for processing financial transactions and services (e.g., payment, clearing, and settlement; wholesale funding; insurance services; and capital markets activities)
- Workers who are needed to provide consumer access to banking and lending services, including ATMs, and to move currency and payments (e.g., armored cashcarriers)
- Workers who support financial operations, such as those staffing data and security operations centers

CHEMICAL

- Workers supporting the chemical and industrial gas supply chains, including workers at chemical manufacturing plants, workers in laboratories, workers at distribution facilities, workers who transport basic raw chemical materials to the producers of industrial and consumer goods, including hand sanitizers, food and food additives, pharmaceuticals, textiles, and paper products.
- Workers supporting the safe transportation of chemicals, including those supporting tank truck cleaning facilities and workers who manufacture packaging items
- Workers supporting the production of protective cleaning and medical solutions, personal protective equipment, and packaging that prevents the contamination of food, water, medicine, among others essential products
- Workers supporting the operation and maintenance of facilities (particularly those with high risk chemicals and/or sites that cannot be shut down) whose work cannot be done remotely and requires the presence of highly trained personnel to ensure safe operations, including plant contract workers who provide inspections
- Workers who support the production and transportation of chlorine and alkali manufacturing, single-use plastics, and packaging that prevents the contamination or supports the continued manufacture of food, water, medicine, and other essential products, including glass container manufacturing

DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE

- Workers who support the essential services required to meet national security commitments to the federal government and U.S. Military. These individuals, include but are not limited to, aerospace; mechanical and software engineers, manufacturing/production workers; IT support; security staff; security personnel; intelligence support, aircraft and weapon system mechanics and maintainers
- Personnel working for companies, and their subcontractors, who perform under contract to the Department of Defense providing materials and services to the Department of Defense, and government-owned/contractor-operated and government-owned/government-operated facilities
WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has spread throughout 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, 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 the City of Denton; and

WHEREAS, the known cases of COVID-19 diagnosed in the State of Texas is currently increasing daily with 200 positive or presumed positive cases across North Texas; and

WHEREAS, since the original Declaration issued by the Mayor on March 13, 2020, there have been eight (8) positive COVID-19 cases in the City of Denton, with six of those being confirmed on Sunday, March 22, 2020; and

WHEREAS, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout the City of Denton, including the limitation of all gatherings to no more than ten (10) people; and

WHEREAS, this Order continues the activation of the City of Denton Emergency Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor issued a Declaration of Local Disaster due to Public Health Emergency on March 13, 2020, which was renewed and amended by the Denton City Council on March 17, 2020 (Ordinance No. 20-721) and March 20, 2020 (Ordinance No. 20-740). Now the Mayor issues this Second Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency to implement additional measures to ensure the protection of the residents of the City of Denton, Texas.

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

1. This Second Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency is hereby declared and shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from 11:59 p.m., March 25, 2020 unless continued or renewed by the Denton City Council.
2. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108(c) and Section 9-25 of the City of Denton Code of Ordinances, this Second Declaration of Local State of Disaster for Public Health Emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.

3. Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this Second Declaration of Local State of Disaster for Public Emergency continues the activation of the City of Denton emergency management plan and grants the Mayor the powers set forth in Section 9-22 of the City of Denton Code of Ordinances.

4. That this declaration shall take effect at 11:59 p.m. on March 25, 2020.

DECLARED this the 25th day of March, 2020.

Honorable Chris Watts
City of Denton Mayor
Summary: The virus that causes 2019 Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) is easily transmitted through person to person contact, especially in group settings, and it is essential that the spread of the virus be slowed to protect the ability of public and private health care providers to handle the influx of new patients and safeguard public health and safety. As the number of positive cases of COVID-19 continue to increase in the City of Denton, there is an immediate need to undertake the following measures described in this Order. This Order amends the Order of the City Council adopted on Friday, March 20, 2020 (Ordinance No. 20-740) for a period of not more than seven (7) days, beginning at 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, 2020, and continuing through 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 2020.

PURSUANT TO THE MAYORAL DECLARATION OF MARCH 24, 2020 AND THE AUTHORITY IN SECTION 9-22 OF THE DENTON CODE OF ORDINANCES AND SECTION 416.108 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE, CITY OF DENTON MAYOR CHRIS WATTS HEREBY ORDERS:

1. This Order pertaining to a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency, originally enacted on March 13, 2020 and renewed by the City Council on March 17 and March 20, 2020, amends the Order of the City Council adopted on Friday, March 20, 2020 via Ordinance No. 20-740 for a period of not more than seven (7) days, unless continued or renewed by the City Council. The Order shall take effect at 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 and continue through 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 2020.

2. Effective as of 11:59 p.m. on March 25, 2020:
   
a. All individuals currently living within the City of Denton are ordered to STAY AT HOME or their current place of residence. For the purposes of this Order, residences include hotels, motels, shared rentals, and similar facilities. To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must at all times as reasonably as possible maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any other person when they are outside their residence. All persons may leave their residences only for Essential Activities, travel to businesses outside of the City of Denton, provide or perform Essential Governmental Functions, or to operate Essential Businesses, all as defined in Section 3.

b. All businesses operating within the City of Denton, except Essential Businesses as defined below in Section 3, are required to cease all activities at facilities located within the City of Denton. For clarity, businesses may continue operations consisting exclusively of employees or contractors performing activities at their residences (i.e. working from home). To the greatest extent possible, all Essential Businesses shall comply with the Social Distancing Guidelines attached, including maintaining six-foot social distancing for both employees and the general public.
c. All public or private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited, except as otherwise provided herein. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of members of a household or living unit (an apartment or house for use by one family).

d. Restaurants and beverage bars with or without drive-in or drive-through services and microbreweries, micro-distilleries, or wineries may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law.

e. Religious and worship services may only be provided by video and teleconference. All individuals preparing for or conducting video or teleconference services must follow the Social Distancing Guidelines including the six-foot social distancing.

f. All elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in the City of Denton. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices, and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed "elective" by assessing which procedures can be postponed or canceled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for the redirection of resources to COVID-19 response.

3. Definitions:

a. For purposes of this Order, “Essential Business” means:

i. Essential Healthcare Operations. Healthcare operations, including hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other healthcare facilities, healthcare suppliers, mental health providers, substance abuse service providers, blood banks, medical research, laboratory services, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services. Home-based and residential-based care for seniors, adults, or children are also considered healthcare operations. Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare. Healthcare operations do not include fitness and exercise gyms and similar facilities. Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures, pursuant to Section 2(f) of this Order.

ii. Essential Government Functions. All services provided by local governments needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Further, nothing in this order shall prohibit any individual from performing or accessing “Essential Government Functions.” All Essential Government Functions shall be performed in compliance with social distancing requirements of six feet, to the extent possible. State or Federal government agencies shall follow State or Federal guidance to the extent
iii. **Essential Critical Infrastructure.** Work necessary to the operations and maintenance of the critical infrastructure sectors, including public works construction, residential and commercial construction, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications, and web-based services), banks, financial institutions, pawn shops, safety and security related services, retail firearm sales, defense and national security-related operations, essential manufacturing operations provided that they carry out those services or that work in compliance with social distancing requirements of six feet, to the extent possible. Essential Businesses providing essential infrastructure should implement screening precautions to protect employees, and all activity should be performed in compliance with social distancing guidelines as set forth by the CDC.

iv. **Essential Retail.** Food service and household providers, including grocery stores, warehouse stores, big-box stores, bodegas, liquor stores, gas stations and convenience stores, and farmers' markets. Food cultivation, including farming, hunting, fishing, and livestock, to the extent allowed by law. Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods, or services directly to residences. Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for drive through, delivery, or carry out. Schools and other entities that typically provide free services to students or members of the public on a pick-up and take-away basis only. The restriction of delivery or carry out does not apply to cafes and restaurants located within hospital and medical facilities. Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers. Gas stations, auto-supply, auto and bicycle repair, hardware stores, construction supply stores, and related facilities. Businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home.

v. **Providers of Basic Necessities to Economically Disadvantaged Populations.** Businesses, including but not limited to non-profit organizations, that provide food, shelter, social services and support for said services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals.

vi. **Essential Services Necessary to Maintain Essential Operations of Residences or Other Essential Businesses.** Trash and recycling collection, processing and disposal, mail and shipping services, building cleaning, maintenance, and security, warehouse/distribution and fulfillment, storage for essential businesses, funeral homes, crematoriums and cemeteries. Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintain the
safety, sanitation, and essential operations of residences, and Essential Businesses. Professional services, such as legal, accounting services, property management, and real-estate services, RV sales and services for housing when required to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities. Businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home.


viii. Childcare Services. Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in this order to work as permitted.

b. For purposes of this Order, “Essential Activities” is defined as the following:

i. 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 including pets and livestock (for example, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies needed to work from home); and

ii. To obtain necessary food, beverage, 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.

iii. To engage in outdoor activity, provided the individuals comply with social distancing requirements of six feet (for example, walking, biking, hiking, or running). Use of public playground equipment is prohibited.

iv. To perform work providing essential products and services at an Essential Business or to otherwise carry out activities specifically permitted in this Order.

v. To care for a family member or pet in another household.

4. Due to increased demand for bath or toilet tissue resulting from stock up buying and individuals who purchase for resale, retail suppliers shall use common sense rationing of household products and groceries that are in limited supply.

5. If someone in a household has tested positive for COVID-19, the household is ordered to isolate at home. Members of the household cannot go to work, school, or any other community function until cleared by a medical professional.

6. Nursing homes, retirement, and long-term care facilities are instructed to prohibit non-essential visitors from accessing their facilities unless to provide critical assistance or for end-of-life visitation.

7. This Order hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools found in Denton City Code, Chapter 9 (Emergency Management), state or federal laws.
8. Pursuant to Section 9-22 of the Code of Ordinances, the following measures are also hereby ordered continued as set forth herein:

a. All City Committee, Commission, and Board meetings are suspended through the term of this order, with the exception of the Planning and Zoning Commission, which shall meet only to consider applications subject to state law-imposed deadlines;

b. City Council meetings shall be rescheduled as posted and may be conducted in accordance with alternate measures as permitted by law;

c. Only electronic purchasing submissions shall be accepted;

d. No development applications listed in Table 2.2-A in the Denton Development Code shall be accepted for the term of this Order or any extension hereof;

e. The City Manager or his designee is authorized to make application for local, state, and federal assistance as necessary and/or applicable;

f. The City Manager or his designee is authorized to accept on behalf of the City services, gifts, grants, equipment, supplies, and/or materials whether from private, nonprofit, or government sources;

g. The City Manager or his designee is authorized to terminate or suspend any event that is or may negatively impact the health, safety, and welfare of persons within the City;

h. The City Manager is authorized to approve individual purchases up to $500,000.00 for general expenditures, which includes: fees, professional services, personal services, and other categories exempted from the bid process by the Local Government Code Section 252.022;

i. All City of Denton utility non-payment shut offs are suspended during the term of this Order and no penalties under Ordinances 19-2140, 19-2136, 19-2137, 19-2138, or 18-1494 shall accrue during the pendency of this order or any extension hereof; and

j. The City Manager is given authority to expend up to $50,000.00 as funding to the United Way of Denton County to assist individuals and families living in the City of Denton, who have experienced income or job loss directly resulting from COVID-19, in eviction avoidance;

k. The City Manager is authorized to expend no more than an additional Five Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($550,000.00) during this period to proceed with the necessary emergency responses and essential functions not already budgeted.
9. Copies of this Order shall be promptly provided to the City Secretary for filing and posting on the City’s website and in other conspicuous places.

IT IS SO ORDERED

[Signature]

Mayor Chris Watts
City of Denton