



**DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER PURSUANT TO  
§418.108(A) OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE  
AND ORDERS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 (coronavirus) is a contagious respiratory virus; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Federal Government declared a national emergency on March 13, 2020 due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Abbot declared a State of Disaster in Texas on March 13, 2020, due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect public health and welfare,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF LOS FRESNOS,  
TEXAS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That a local state of disaster was hereby declared on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, for the City of Los Fresnos, Texas pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. Pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Government Code, the local state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the City Commission of Los Fresnos, Texas
3. Pursuant to §418.018(c) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.
4. Pursuant to §418.018 (d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the city emergency management plan and all procedures and authority vested in the Emergency Management Office are hereby invoked.
5. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

**THE CITY IS TAKING THE FOLLOWING STEPS TO MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19. ALL ITEMS BELOW TAKE EFFECT BEGINNING MARCH 20, 2020 AT 11:59 PM EXCEPT ITEM 17 WHICH TAKES EFFECT BEGINNING MARCH 22, 2020 AT 12:00 AM (MIDNIGHT):**

1. The City will follow directives issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the President, the Governor, the County Judge and the Mayor as well as the Emergency Management Coordinator in enacting such regulation as may be necessary to preserve life and property.
2. City offices will remain open to the public with the use of the drive through lanes and the night drop box. Office staff will handle the transactions and calls daily from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. Payments can be made on line or utilize the option of automatic withdrawal on a monthly basis. Face to face meetings can be requested if necessary to handle other business but every effort will be made to handle transactions through phone calls, emails or other options.
3. Court appearances are suspended. Arrangements can still be made with many options available by calling or emailing the court.
4. City parks will remain open for use of the walking trails only as long as groups are limited to 10 or less. Playground and other equipment will be made inoperable and use of anything at the park is suspended except the walking trail.
5. City Library will be closed to the public.
6. Recycling services are suspended.
7. All other services such as garbage, water, wastewater, police, fire and ambulance will continue uninterrupted.
8. Los Fresnos Chamber of Commerce offices are closed to the public but staff is working remotely to continue to provide services. Contact the Chamber for assistance in disseminating information for changes in hours, services or other information.
9. If you are sick you must have no contact with the public. Contact your physician, county health services or a local hospital if you are sick for directions.
10. Being in the public should be avoided as much as possible. Safety must be practiced when in public by social distancing, washing of hands, covering when coughing or sneezing, disinfecting and not touching your mouth, nose or eyes as well as any other recommended practices by health officials.
11. All businesses, churches, and places of worship or other public places will limit groups to 10 persons or less and will institute social distancing of a minimum space of 6 feet apart, except grocery stores, pharmacies, hospitals, clinics and government agencies.
12. Restaurants are limited to drive thru services, take out services, curbside delivery or home delivery services. Dining on premises is prohibited. Restaurants must close at 10:00 pm.
13. Convenient stores or other places with self-service areas or buffet style food areas are not allowed. Condiments, cups, lids, straws and other supplies must be removed from the public and given from employees as requested. Coffee areas that are available to the public must have napkins and sanitizer available. Self-service portions of the equipment must be sanitized at a minimum every hour, preferably after each service.

14. Hotels are required to completely sanitize all touch surfaces before check in and in individual rooms.
15. Schools will continue to be regulated by the Superintendent and School Boards through consultation with the Texas Education Agency, appropriate governing bodies and the City.
16. Child and adult day care centers shall adhere to State Department of Health Services, Governor Abbott's order and CDC rules and guidelines. When possible the child and adult should remain at home. If not possible, safety must be practiced when in public by social distancing, washing of hands, covering when coughing or sneezing, disinfecting and not touching your mouth, nose or eyes as well as any other recommended practices by health officials.
17. A person shall not remain or travel upon any public or private property including highways, roads and streets, in Cameron County between the hours of 12:00 am (midnight) to 5:00 am. This shall not apply to (a) A person authorized by the Emergency Management Director to assist in the production of the health, safety or welfare of the public. (b) Law Enforcement and other first responders. (c) A person going to or from work on an essential function for their government, school, medical, nursing or business entity. (d) A person going to a pharmacy, hospital, medical clinic, gas station for fuel or grocery store with no deviations. (e) A person who remain or travels upon private property which is owned by him or upon which the person has been invited.
18. Travel out of the area is strongly discouraged so as to not contaminate multiple areas.
19. Shelter in place is recommended for a minimum of 14 days. This recommendation could become mandatory depending on further developments and further Emergency Management Orders.
20. A person who violates any provision of these regulations, upon conviction, is punishable by a fine up to the maximum amount allowed by law and or confinement in jail up to the maximum time allowed by law.
21. These guidelines will remain in effect until further notice.

SO ORDERED this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
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Polo Narvaez, Mayor