

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

**WHEREAS**, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and,

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

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

**WHEREAS**, on March 19<sup>th</sup> the initial Disaster Declaration was issued for the City of Center to ratify the Governor's Disaster Declaration and implement immediate local measures; and,

**WHEREAS**, On March 20<sup>th</sup>, Shelby County Judge issued a local Disaster Declaration to implement the Governor's Declaration; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Center, Texas, is taking additional measures to address the health concerns, ensure provision of primary services and address the potential spread of this disease in our community in accordance with the orders of the Governor and County; 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 CENTER, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Center, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

**SECTION 2.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code the state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this declaration, unless continued or renewed by the City Council of the City of Center, Texas.

**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 and State of Texas.

**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 Center, 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 actions to promote health of staff and continuity of service provision through the alteration of access to public facilities and general operations.

**SECTION 6.** That this declaration hereby specifically authorizes:


- a. Suspension of local ordinances and laws requiring compliance with deadlines for administrative enforcement actions or before the Center Municipal Court;
- b. Authorizing the Municipal Judge to suspend and defer current proceedings pending in the Center Municipal Court.
- c. Suspension of sections of Code of Ordinances, Chapter 90, Article IV, Billing Procedure, limiting payment extension agreements and additional fees;
- d. Suspending the terms of the City's purchasing policy more restrictive than State purchasing laws to allow for the local acquisition of goods, materials and supplies;
- e. Suspending the Sections of Code of Ordinances, Chapter 62 Application for and Issuance of Permits for Garage Sales, Itinerant Vendors, Door-to-Door, and Chapter 30 Application for permitting of Oil/Gas Wells.
- f. Authorizing the City Manager to act in the hiring and employment of temporary staff for public safety and utility operations to maintain staffing levels due to unforeseen absences or inability to report to work.

**SECTION 7.** 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 8.** That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

**SECTION 9.** That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

**DECLARED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.**

  
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David Chadwick, Mayor  
City of Center, Texas

FILED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Barbara Boyd, City Secretary



**ORDER CONTINUING  
DECLARATION OF STATE OF LOCAL DISASTER  
FOR CITY OF CENTER, TEXAS**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of City of Center, Texas declared a state of local disaster on March 19, 2020 and March 27, 2020 due to threat from COVID19/Coronavirus;

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), the declaration of local state of disaster may not be continued or renewed for a period of more than seven (7) days except with the consent of the City Council of City of Center;

**WHEREAS**, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

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

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

**WHEREAS**, a declaration of disaster activates the City of Center Emergency Management Plan in conjunction with the interjurisdictional aspects of the Shelby County Emergency Management Plan;

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of City of Center has determined that measures must be taken to respond to health threats to people and to protect property; and

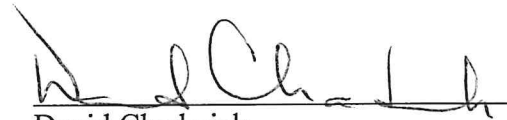
**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Center, Texas, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), has consented to continue the declaration of local state of disaster for City of Center, Texas.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CENTER, TEXAS, that:**

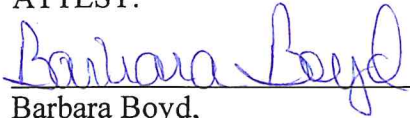
- 1.) The declaration of state of local disaster issued by the Mayor on March 27, 2020 for the City of Center, Texas resulting from public health emergency is hereby continued;
- 2.) This Declaration continues to activate the City's Emergency Management Plan;
- 3.) This Declaration continues to activate the recovery and rehabilitation aspects of all applicable local or interjurisdictional emergency management plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the Declaration, and the preparedness and response aspects of the plans are activated as provided in the plans;

- 4.) This Declaration continuing a local state of disaster shall be effective for thirty (30) days on and from its date of issuance, provided however that this declaration may be terminated before the expiration of thirty days by subsequent order of the Mayor, and may be continued or renewed beyond thirty days from its date of issuance only with the consent of the City Council of the City of Center, Texas;
- 5.) The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Declaration are severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Declaration should be declared invalid by the final judgment or decree of any court or competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this Declaration that can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end the provisions of this Order are severable.
- 6.) This Declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary of City of Center; and
- 7.) This Declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

It is hereby **ORDERED**, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
David Chadwick,  
Mayor of Center, Texas

ATTEST:

  
Barbara Boyd,  
City Secretary

