

**ORDER CONTINUING THE
DECLARATION OF DISASTER AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR THE CITY OF PHARR,
TEXAS**

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubel Province, China. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Outcomes have ranged from mild to severe illness, and in some cases death; and

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), advising countries to prepare for the containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and

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

WHEREAS, continuous spread of the disease presents an imminent threat of widespread illness or loss of life resulting from a global pandemic and other public calamity resulting therefrom, which requires emergency action; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a state of emergency due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Governor Greg Abbott issued a State of Disaster for all Texas counties for COVID-19 on March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Pharr previously declared a local state of disaster pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108(a) due to COVID-19 on March 13, 2020 and subsequently renewed the declaration on March 16, 2020 for 45 days (April 29, 2020); and

WHEREAS, on April 7, 2020, the County of Hidalgo extended their Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency until April 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2020, Governor Abbott issued a proclamation extending the State of Disaster for all Texas counties for an additional thirty (30) days; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pharr, Texas declares it in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of the public to adopt this extension; and

WHEREAS, all prerequisites for the adoption of this order have been met, including, but not limited to, the Open Meetings Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY OF PHARR:

1. That a local state of disaster and public health emergency is hereby extended for the City of Pharr pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 and Texas Government Code Section 418.108(a).

2. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Government Code, the state of disaster and public health emergency shall be extended and continue to be extended until terminated by the Pharr Board of Commissioners..
3. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of emergency and public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Clerk.
4. Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Government Code, this declaration continues to activate the city emergency management plan.
5. Pursuant to Section 418.020(c) of the Government Code, this declaration authorizes the city to commandeer or use any private property, temporarily acquire, by lease or other means, sites required for temporary housing units or emergency shelters for evacuees, subject to compensation requirements.
6. Pursuant to Section 122.006 of the Health and Safety Code, this declaration authorizes the City to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress disease, including quarantine, and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the City, and fining those who do not comply with the City's rules.
7. This declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this the 20th day of April 2020.



Ambrosio Hernandez
City of Pharr Mayor

ATTEST:

Hilda Pedraza, City Clerk