



DECLARATION OF DISASTER 2020 D-2

ORDER OF CITY OF COLUMBUS MAYOR LORI AN GOBERT

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, City of Columbus, Mayor Lori An Gobert, signed a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency for the City of Columbus, Texas related to COVID-19 pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, a Declaration of State of Disaster was issued by Governor Abbott to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of Texans; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Commissioner of State Health Services declared a Public Health Disaster for the entire State of Texas on Thursday, March 19, 2020 and outlines certain control measures and mitigation strategies;

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, a Joint Declaration of Emergency was signed by the County Judge for Colorado County and the Mayors of Columbus, Eagle Lake & Weimar, Texas, which extended the State of Local Disaster to COVID-19 until March 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout City of Columbus; and

BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

1. Effective immediately, and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on April 3, 2020:
 - 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.



- To the greatest extent possible, all businesses in City of Columbus shall comply with the Social Distancing Guidelines attached, including maintaining six foot social distancing for both employees and the general public. Businesses are also strongly urged to maximize telecommuting and suspend or discourage nonessential employee travel. Businesses shall monitor the health and well-being of their employees on a daily basis and take appropriate measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace.
- In accordance with the Guidelines from the President, Governor and the CDC, all public or private gatherings of more than 10 people occurring outside a single household or residence are prohibited. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of members of a household or residence.
- Religious institutions are strongly urged to provide religious and worship services by video and/or teleconference.
- Restaurants with or without drive-in or drive-through services and bars, microbreweries, micro-distilleries, or wineries may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law.
 - This order does not apply to the following: Food Establishments located in hospitals, long term medical care facilities, rehabilitation or medical facilities, child care facilities, group homes, crisis and homeless shelters, assisted living facilities, retirement communities, congregate care facilities, long term care facilities, jails and detention facilities.
- Consuming alcoholic beverages within the enclosed premises of any Food Establishment or bar shall cease until April 3, 2020. Businesses within the City of Columbus that have permits to operate as bars, nightclubs, lounges, taverns, or private clubs shall close, unless the business is also permitted to operate as a Food Establishment and such operation shall be limited as provided herein. Hotel and Country Club bars must close, except that any permitted food or beverage service, including alcoholic beverages, may be continued as take out, delivery, or drive-through services. Additionally, hotels may provide room service. Nothing in this order affects the sale of alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption as permitted by State or local law.



- In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall avoid visiting gyms and massage parlors. Additionally, for Columbus, people shall avoid visiting hair salons, barber shops, and nail salons.
 - In accordance with the Guidelines from the Governor and the CDC, 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 an end-of-life event, as allowed by the facility.
 - If someone in a household has tested positive for coronavirus, the household is ordered to isolate at home for 14 days until or unless otherwise directed by the Local Health Authority. Members of the household cannot go to work, school, or any other community functions during the isolation period.
 - In accordance with the Guidelines from the Governor schools shall temporarily close.
 - City of Columbus residents are strongly encouraged to remain in their residences as much as possible and limit trips outside their residences to work and trips for essential items only. Any residents that are AT RISK should to the greatest extent feasible remain at home at all times.
 - Curfew hours will begin at 9:00 pm and end at 6:00 am for any person under the age of 17.
 - Parks and public spaces may be utilized by members of the city as long as at least six feet distance is maintained between individuals and/or family units.
2. Pursuant to Government Code §418.173, violation of this Order is an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days.

ORDERED this 28th day of March, 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lori An Gobert". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Lori An Gobert
City of Columbus Mayor