

**CITY OF WEST UNIVERSITY PLACE, TEXAS  
MAYORAL DECLARATION OF A 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**, 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**, 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**, the City of West University Place, Texas, is taking extraordinary measures to prevent the spread of this potentially devastating disease in our community; 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 WEST UNIVERSITY PLACE, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** That a local state of disaster due to public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of West University Place, 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 this declaration of a local state of disaster due to 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 West University Place, Texas.

**SECTION 3.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code this declaration of a local state of disaster due to public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.



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**SECTION 4.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster due to public health emergency activates the City of West University Place, Texas, emergency management plan, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.

**SECTION 5.** That this declaration of a local state of disaster due to public health emergency authorizes the City to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress the virus, including the quarantine of persons and occupied structures, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the City, regulating ingress and egress to occupied structures, establishment of quarantine stations, emergency hospitals, and other hospitals, and insuring compliance for those who do not comply with the City's rules, pursuant to Section 122.006 of the Health and Safety Code.

**SECTION 6.** That this declaration of a local state of disaster due to public health emergency hereby limits the size of gatherings to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendation of not more than 10 people and mandates the cancellation of all such gatherings until further notice. A "gathering" refers generally to a scheduled event or common endeavor where 10 or more persons are present in a confined space, room, or area.

**SECTION 7.** In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this declaration of a local state of disaster due to public health emergency 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 of a local state of disaster due to public health emergency hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

**SECTION 9.** That this declaration of a local state of disaster due to public health emergency shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

DECLARED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

Signed:   
Mayor