

ORDER OF CITY OF WACO MAYOR KYLE DEAVER

DATE ORDER ISSUED: March 17, 2020

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 as a pandemic and urged that all countries take urgent and aggressive action; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency regarding COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott declared a state of disaster due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the City of Waco closed to the public the Waco-McLennan County libraries, the Cameron Park Zoo, City of Waco Community Centers, City of Waco Senior Centers, Waco Convention Center & Visitors' Bureau, and the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame, said closure to occur on March 14, 2020 and last through at least March 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Waco and the Waco-McLennan County Public Health District ("Health District") continued to urge persons to cancel, reschedule, and/or not attend gatherings attended by more than 250 people and made other recommendations regarding social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control ("CDC") lowered the recommended number of persons at mass gatherings to 50 persons; and

WHEREAS, large gatherings of individuals pose a risk of the spread of COVID-19. COVID-19 spreads between people who are in close proximity to each other through respiratory droplets produced when a person coughs or sneezes. The CDC recommends that persons maintain a distance of six feet from others when possible; and

WHEREAS, limiting large gatherings is essential and proactive to prevent and slow down community spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, because of the risk of the rapid spread of the virus, and the need to protect the most vulnerable members of the community, this Order prohibits community gatherings of 50 persons or more anywhere in the City of Waco as defined by Section 7 herein; and

WHEREAS, for all other gatherings, the Mayor of the City of Waco and the Waco-McLennan County Public Health District ("Health District") strongly recommends following the social distancing protocols attached to this Order, including canceling, rescheduling, or not attending non-essential events with more than 10 persons; and