



For Immediate Release
March 26, 2020

Hallsville Declaration of Local Disaster & Public Health Emergency

[Hallsville, Texas] On March 26, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., City of Hallsville Mayor Jesse Casey issued a Declaration of Local Disaster and Public Health Emergency Related to Communicable Disease in conjunction with Harrison County Judge Chad Sims as a positive test of the coronavirus (COVID-19) has been reported in Harrison County, Texas. Additional information and data are being collected at this time. You can find all updated information on the City's Facebook Page and the City's Website.

Declaration of Local Disaster and Public Health Emergency Related to Communicable Disease

WHEREAS, the disease Covid-19 currently poses a significant health risk to the residents of the City of Hallsville and has been declared a World, National and State Health Emergency; and,

WHEREAS, the Covid-19 disease was confirmed to exist in Harrison County as of March 26, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, as City of Hallsville Mayor, I have concerns regarding finite accommodations for an influx of local Covid-19 patients, personal protective equipment shortages for emergency response personnel and the potential for the escalating spread of the disease in pandemic form; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary to preserve and protect the public health of the residents of the City of Hallsville with the disease already present in the County; and,

WHEREAS, on the date of this declaration, the Harrison County Judge has also issued a declaration of a public health emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY JESSE CASEY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HALLSVILLE, TEXAS:

1. That a local state of disaster and public health emergency is hereby declared in the City of Hallsville pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. Pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the local state of disaster and 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 Hallsville City Commission.
3. Pursuant to §418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.
4. Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency activates the Hallsville Emergency Management Plan.
5. Pursuant to §418.108(g) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster authorizes the Mayor to control ingress to and egress from the City of Hallsville and to control the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises within the City of Hallsville.
6. All officers and employees of the City of Hallsville, including without limitation all law enforcement officers employed by the City of Hallsville and all emergency medical personnel employed by the City of Hallsville, are hereby authorized and directed to cooperate to the fullest extent allowed by law with the health authority designated by the City of Hallsville pursuant to Chapter 121 of the Texas Health and Safety Code to

enforce any and all communicable disease control measure by said health authority pursuant to Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code or other applicable law.

This declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance. ORDERED and DECLARED this 26th day of March 2020.

**Jesse Casey
Hallsville City Mayor**

Citizens are urged to follow following the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) national guidelines and the Executive Order GA-08 by Governor Greg Abbott.

It has been expressed that our community practice Social Distancing which includes:

1. Restrict physical contact and publicly used areas.
2. Maintain a safe distance of six (6') feet between individuals.
3. Every person in Texas shall avoid social gatherings in groups of 10 or more per Executive Order of Governor Abbott.
4. Residents should not visit nursing homes, retirement, or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.
5. In accordance with the CDC, people shall avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors. Residents may still utilize drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options through the Executive Order.
6. Regularly wash hands with warm soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
7. Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth.
8. If soap is not available, use at least a 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
9. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. All persons should remain in the home if one person in the home exhibits symptoms.

If you are experiencing fever, cough or difficulty breathing, been exposed to a sick traveler or been exposed to a person with COVID-19 in the last 14 days, contact your healthcare provider immediately. Be sure to call before going to your doctor or an emergency department to prevent any potential spread.