

**CITY OF FOREST HILL, TEXAS**  
**ORDER OF MAYOR GERALD JOUBERT**  
Order Issued March 24, 2020

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization has declared the coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, as a global pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the 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**, the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19 presents an imminent threat of widespread illness, which requires emergency action for the protection of the people of the City of Forest Hill; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 16, 2020, President Trump acknowledged the gravity of the COVID-19 pandemic, releasing strict new guidelines to limit people's interactions, including that Americans should avoid groups of more than 10 people; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, Texas Governor Gregg Abbott issued Executive Order No. GA-08 providing directives for COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tarrant County Judge issued a Declaration of Local Disaster due to Public Health Emergency on March 13, 2020 and the County Commissioners issued a Renewal of Declaration of Local Disaster due to Public Health Emergency on March 17, 2020, and thereafter, the County Judge has issued amended declarations of local disaster due to public health emergency on March 18, 2020, March 21, 2020, and March 24, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 23, 2020, the City Council of the City of Forest Hill issued a Declaration of Local Disaster due to Public Health Emergency, activating the City's Emergency Management Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 23, 2020, the Mayor issued an Order providing directives for COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation consistent with the March 21, 2020 Tarrant County Judge Order; and

**WHEREAS**, to remain consistent with the declaration of the Texas Department of State Health Services and the executive order issued by Governor Greg Abbott as of March 19, 2020 and to harmonize to the extent possible, the executive orders of Governor Greg Abbott and the Tarrant County Judge, the Mayor issues this Order of Mayor Gerald Joubert dated March 24, 2020.

**THEREFORE, Pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 418, Be It Proclaimed and ORDERED by the Mayor that:**

1. This Order shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary, pursuant to § 418.108 of the Texas Government Code.
2. The City of Forest Hill Emergency Management Plan is activated and implemented, pursuant to § 418.108 of the Texas Government Code.
3. All persons currently residing within the incorporated territory of the City of Forest Hill shall stay at their place of residence, except as allowed by this Order. All persons may leave their residences only for Essential Travel, to work in Essential Businesses, Government Service, or Essential Critical Infrastructure, or to perform Minimum Basic Operations, as defined below.

To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must at all times as reasonably as possible maintain Social Distancing, defined below.

4. All businesses operating in the City of Forest Hill, except Essential Businesses as defined below, are required to close to the public. Non-essential businesses may continue Minimum Basic Operations consisting exclusively of the following as long as Social Distancing is maintained between all employees and contractors during the activities:
  - a. Operations necessary to maintain security, upkeep, and maintenance of premises, equipment or inventory, including but not limited to the care and maintenance of livestock or animals;
  - b. IT or other operations that facilitate employees working from home;
  - c. Facilitate online or call-in sales performed by employees in a store or facility closed to the public;
  - d. In-store repair services performed by employees in a store or facility closed to the public.
5. It is ordered that a restaurant with or without drive-in or drive-through services; drive-in restaurant; drive-through restaurant; liquor stores; or microbrewery, micro-distillery, or winery may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-in or drive-through services as allowed by law. Social Distancing is required.
6. All public or private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household are prohibited, except as otherwise provided herein. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of members of a household or living unit.
7. All elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in the City of Forest Hill. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices, and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed "elective" by assessing which procedures can be postponed or cancelled based on patient risk considering the emergency need for redirection of resources to COVID-19 response.
8. If someone in a household has tested positive for COVID-19, the household is ordered to isolate at home. Members of the household cannot go to work, school, or any other community function until cleared by a medical professional but may seek medical services as needed from medical personnel and facilities.
9. Nursing homes, retirement homes, and long-term care facilities are to prohibit non-essential visitors from accessing their facilities unless to provide critical assistance or for end-of-life visitation.
10. Individuals experiencing homelessness are strongly urged to obtain shelter and maintain social distancing of 6 feet when feasible. If a homeless person is sheltered and exhibits symptoms or is diagnosed, the shelter's isolation center shall be deemed the residence of the homeless person solely for the purpose of complying with the requirements of this Order. Medical personnel shall make the decision whether any other shelter residents shall be required to isolate based on potential exposure. Available shelters, to the maximum extent practicable, must use COVID-19 risk mitigation practices in their operations.
11. No person shall sell any of the following goods or services for more than the price the person charged for the goods or services on March 16, 2020 and continuing during the pendency of this Order:

- a. groceries, beverages toilet articles, ice;
- b. restaurant, cafeteria, and boarding-house meals; and
- c. medicine, pharmaceutical and medical equipment and supplies.

**12. Definitions:**

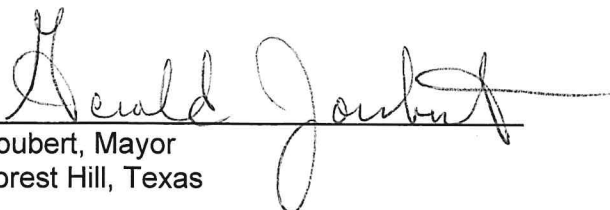
- a. Social Distancing means maintaining at least 6 feet distance from other individuals, frequently washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer, covering coughs or sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not the hands), regularly disinfecting high touch surfaces, and not shaking hands.
- b. Minimum Basic Operations include the following, provided that employees comply with Social Distancing:
  - i. The minimum necessary activities to maintain the value of the business's inventory, ensure security, process payroll and employee benefits, or for related functions.
  - ii. The minimum necessary activities to facilitate employees of the business being able to continue to work remotely from their residences.
- c. Essential Activities includes any of the following:
  - i. To engage in activities or perform tasks essential to their health and safety, or to the health and safety of their family or household members (for example, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies need to work from home).
  - ii. To obtain necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or to deliver those services or supplies to others (for example, food, pet and livestock supplies, and any other household consumer products, and products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences). It is strongly recommended that households, to the greatest extent possible, send only one person to businesses for the purpose of picking up food or other essential items.
  - iii. To engage in outdoor activity, provided the individuals comply with social distancing requirements of 6 feet (for example, walking, biking, hiking, golfing, or running).
  - iv. To perform work providing essential products and services at an Essential Business or to otherwise carry out activities specifically permitted in this Order.
  - v. To care for a family member or pet in another household.
- d. Essential Businesses means:
  - i. Essential Health Care Services. Healthcare operations, including hospitals, clinics, doctors, dentists, pharmacies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other healthcare facilities, healthcare suppliers, home healthcare services providers, mental health providers, substance abuse providers, blood banks, medical research, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services, veterinary care provided to animals. Home-based care for seniors, adults, or children. Residential facilities and shelters for seniors, adults, and children. Healthcare operations do not include fitness and exercise gyms and similar facilities. Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures as established in accordance with this Executive Order.
  - ii. Essential Government Functions. All services provided by local, state and federal governments needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public. All Essential Government Functions shall be performed in compliance with social distancing requirements of 6 feet, to the extent possible.
  - iii. Essential Critical Infrastructure Work necessary to the operations and maintenance of the 16 critical infrastructure sectors as identified by the National Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA) including public works construction, residential and commercial construction, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation and other transportation network companies, and ride-sharing services that provide transportation services necessary for the performance of essential activities, essential businesses, essential



- infrastructure, and essential government function, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications, and web-based services), financial institutions, defense and national security-related operations, essential manufacturing operations.
- iv. Essential Retail. Food service providers, including grocery stores, warehouse stores, liquor stores, bodegas, gas stations, convenience stores, and farmers' markets and other retail stores that sell food products and household staples, pet and feed stores. Businesses not open to the public that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences. Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for delivery, take out, drive-in, drive-through or carry out. Schools and other entities that typically provide free services to students or members of the public on a pick-up and take-away basis only. The restriction of delivery or carry out does not apply to cafes and restaurants located within hospital and medical facilities. Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers. Businesses that provide for the delivery of, or preparation of vehicles. Businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home, including businesses providing mail and shipping and post office box. Businesses that supply products necessary for essential repairs and maintenance of a home or business. Hotel, motels, and shared rental units, except that all bars, cafes, or restaurants in hotels, motels, and shared rental units are closed except for pick-up and room service.
  - v. Providers of Basic Necessities to Economically Disadvantaged Populations. Social services and charitable organizations that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals; that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise vulnerable individuals.
  - vi. Essential Services Necessary to Maintain Essential Operations of Residences or Other Essential Businesses. Trash and recycling collection, processing and disposal, mail and shipping services, building cleaning and maintenance, auto repair, warehouse/distribution and fulfillment, and storage for essential businesses. Plumbers, pool services, security services, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operations of residences, Essential Activities, and Essential Businesses. Professional services, such as legal or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities.
  - vii. News Media. Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services.
  - viii. Financial Institutions. Banks and related financial institutions, consumer lenders, alternative financial services companies, sales and finance lenders, credit unions, appraisers, and title companies. As much business as possible shall be conducted with web-based technology to limit in-person contact.
  - ix. Real Estate Transactions. Services related to current real estate transactions. As much business as possible shall be conducted with web-based technology to limit in-person contact.
  - x. Childcare Services. Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees who perform Essential Activities or work for an Essential Business to work as permitted.
  - xi. Animal Shelters, Zoos, and Other Businesses that Maintain Live Animals. Businesses that maintain and care for live animals are not permitted to allow any visitors or patrons but may continue to operate to the extent necessary to provide the necessary care for the animals. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a non-employee from entering the premises to perform a health care services or another Essential Business service.
  - xii. Construction. Construction under a valid permit issued by a governmental entity.

- xiii. Funeral Services. Funeral homes, crematoriums and cemeteries may operate but no more than ten non-employees may be present at the same time.
  - xiv. Worship Services. No in-person worship services are permitted. Needed staff can attend to produce audio/video or conduct services for transmission.
  - xv. Moving Services and Supply. Businesses that provide residential and/or commercial moving services and necessary moving supplies.
- e. Essential Travel. For the purposes of this Order, Essential Travel includes travel for any of the following purposes.
- i. Any travel related to the provision of or access to Essential Activities, Essential Governmental Functions, and Essential Businesses Essential Critical Infrastructure, Minimum Basic Operation;
  - ii. Travel to care for elderly, minors, dependents, persons with disabilities, or other vulnerable persons;
  - iii. Travel to or from educational institutions for purposes of receiving materials for distance learning, for receiving meals, and any other related services;
  - iv. Travel to return to a place of residence from outside the jurisdiction;
  - v. Travel required by law enforcement or court order;
  - vi. Travel by church staff or clergy for the purpose of production of remote delivery of religious services and other ministries requiring travel;
  - vii. Travel related to attending a funeral service; or
  - viii. Travel required for non-residents to return to their place of residence outside the City. Individuals are strongly encouraged to verify that their transportation out of the City remains available and functional prior to commencing such travel.
13. Any certified peace officer or other person with lawful authority is hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this Order in accordance with the authority granted under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975. Any person who violates this Executive Order may be subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or confinement in jail for a period not exceeding 180 days.
14. That this Order incorporates the attached table, Disaster Restrictions, as if set forth verbatim herein.
15. The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Order are severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Order should be declared invalid by the final judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences paragraphs and sections that can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.
16. This Order is issued in accordance with and incorporates by reference any declaration of disaster previously issued and adopted by the City of Forest Hill. In the event of a conflict between this Order and a prior City declaration or order pertaining to COVID -19, this Order prevails.
17. This Order shall take effect at 11:59 pm on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020 and shall remain in effect until April 7, 2020, unless terminated or modified by a subsequent Order.

ORDERED this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

  
Gerald Joubert, Mayor  
City of Forest Hill, Texas

Filed In The Office Of  
Forest Hill City Secretary

6:00 pm O'Clock

MAR 24 2020

**Disaster Restrictions**  
**Order Issued March 24, 2020**

Locations / Activities	Restrictions
Persons residing in the City of Forest Hill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stay at place of residence</li> <li>• Practice social distancing</li> <li>• Leave residence for Essential Activities, or to work at Essential Businesses, Essential Governmental Services, Essential Critical Infrastructure, or to perform Minimum Basic Operations</li> </ul>
All businesses except Essential Businesses	No public occupancy permitted Minimum Basic Operations allowed Social Distancing required
Public or Private Gatherings occurring outside a single household	Prohibited
Food Establishments Including those at schools, hotels, motels Excluding those at hospitals	In-house dining - no public occupancy Drive-in, drive-through, take out, and delivery is permitted. Social distancing is required
Worship Services	Closed for in-person services, provided that staff can attend to produce audio/video services Social Distancing required
Elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures	Prohibited
Price Gouging	Prohibited
Nursing homes, retirement, and long-term care facilities	Prohibit non-essential visitors unless to provide critical assistance or for end-of-life visitation
Essential Travel, summary:	Individuals may leave shelter to perform Essential Activities Must practice social distancing
Allowed to carry out activities specifically permitted in this Order.	

<p><u>Essential Businesses. summary:</u></p> <p>hospitals clinics doctors dentists pharmacies pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other healthcare facilities healthcare suppliers mental health providers substance abuse service providers blood banks medical research laboratory services home-based and residential-based care for seniors, adults, or children veterinary care</p> <p>all services to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public</p> <p>food service providers food cultivation- farming, fishing, livestock delivery and shipping not open to the public laundromats, dry cleaners, laundry service gas stations auto-supply &amp; repair, bicycle repair hardware stores businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home social services, charitable organizations trash and recycling collection, processing and disposal mail and shipping services building cleaning, maintenance security services warehouse/distribution and fulfillment storage for essential businesses funeral homes, crematoriums, cemeteries plumbers electricians exterminators legal or accounting news media financial institutions real estate transactions childcare services businesses that maintain live animals construction moving services and supply</p>	<p>Allowed to remain open</p> <p>Social Distancing required</p> <p>Essential Businesses providing essential infrastructure should implement screening precautions to protect employees and all activity shall be performed in compliance with social distancing guidelines attached.</p>
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<p>Essential Critical Infrastructure, summary :</p> <p>Work necessary to the operations and maintenance of the 16 critical infrastructure sectors as identified by the National Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA) including public works construction, residential and commercial construction, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications , and web-based services), financial institutions, defense and national security-related operations, essential manufacturing operations</p>	
<p>Minimum Basic Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- operations necessary to maintain security, upkeep, and maintenance of premises, equipment or inventory, including but not limited to the care and maintenance of livestock or animals;</li><li>- IT or other operations that facilitate employees working from home;</li><li>- facilitate online or call-in sales performed by employees in a store or facility closed to the public;</li><li>- in-store repair services performed by employees in a store or facility closed to the public.</li></ul>	<p>Operations allowed for non-essential businesses</p> <p>Social distancing required</p>