

**TOWN OF LITTLE ELM, TEXAS
MAYORAL DECLARATION OF 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, on March 13, 2020, the Denton County Judge issued Executive Order AE-20-03, declaring a local state of disaster for Denton County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Little Elm, 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 TOWN OF LITTLE ELM, TEXAS, WITH THE CONSENT OF THE LITTLE ELM TOWN COUNCIL:

SECTION 1. That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for the Town of Little Elm, 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 the state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue until March 31, 2020, as this declaration has been approved by an affirmative vote of the Town Council of the Town of Little Elm, Texas.

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

SECTION 4. That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Town of Little Elm, Texas, emergency

management plan, Chapter 30 of the Little Elm Code of Ordinances, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.

SECTION 5. That this declaration authorizes the Town 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 Town, 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 Town's rules, pursuant to Section 122.006 of the Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 6. In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this declaration 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 7. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

SECTION 8. That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance and shall continue until March 31, 2020.

DECLARED this 17th day of March, 2020, and with the consent of the Little Elm Town Council.



David Hillock, Mayor
Town of Little Elm, Texas