

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BRAZORIA
CITY OF FREEPORT

DECLARATION OF DISASTER

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, there is currently at least 61 cases of COVID-19 confirmed in Brazoria County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020 Mayor Bass, signed a Declaration of Disaster governing the City of Freeport, Texas; and

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2020 Matt Sebesta, Brazoria County Judge, issued a county-wide disaster order entitled the "Brazoria County Stay Safe at Home Order" restricting activities for all persons in Brazoria County; and

WHEREAS, Gregg Abbott, Governor of the State of Texas Declared a State of Disaster for the State of Texas on March 13, 2020 due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Dr. John Hellerstedt, Commissioner of the Department of State Health Services signed a Public Health Disaster Declaration for the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Gregg Abbott, Governor of the State of Texas, issued Executive Orders related to COVID-19 on March 19, March 24 and March 26, 2020; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is extremely contagious and extraordinary measures must be taken to contain the virus and prevent its spread throughout the City of Freeport, Brazoria County and the region, including the quarantine of individuals, groups and property, and additionally, includes compelling individuals, groups or property to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to take extraordinary steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health of the residents of Freeport Texas; and

WHEREAS, it is the primary responsibility of the emergency management organization of the City of Freeport, including but not limited to the Freeport Police Department, to enforce and ensure compliance with all COVID-19 related orders governing the jurisdiction of the City of Freeport, whether issued by the state, county, or the Mayor of Freeport;

BE IT THEREFORE PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF FREEPORT, TEXAS

1. That a local state of disaster has been declared for the City of Freeport Texas pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code

2. Pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, this state of disaster has been consented to by the City Council of the City of Freeport, Texas and shall continue until it is cancelled by the City Council of the City of Freeport, Texas.

3. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas, this proclamation also authorizes the City of Freeport to take any and all further lawful actions necessary to contain, control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the City of Freeport.

4. All persons that violate any disaster order applicable to the jurisdiction of the City of Freeport may be charged and prosecuted pursuant to Freeport City Ordinance Section 36.08, Texas Government Code Section 418.173, and/or Texas Health and Safety Code Section 81.087.

5. All beaches within the city limits of the City of Freeport, Texas are closed to the public and no person shall enter the beach.

6. For the purposes of this Order, the term "beach" shall refer to all portions of Bryan Beach, all public property from the intersection of F.M. 1495 and County Road 723 to the West, continuing to the New Brazos River, and for all other beach areas, from the dune line or vegetation line to the water line of the Gulf of Mexico.

7. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this the 30th day of March, 2020.



Brooks Bass, Mayor
City of Freeport, Texas