

**CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS  
MAYORAL ORDER  
RELATING TO COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS**

**WHEREAS**, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has been recognized globally as a contagious respiratory virus; and

**WHEREAS**, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, issued a disaster proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the state of Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 continues to spread and to pose an increasing, imminent threat of disaster throughout Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has advised that person-to-person contact heightens the risk of COVID-19 transmission; and

**WHEREAS**, the President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America, as promulgated by President Donald J. Trump and the CDC on March 16, 2020, call upon Americans to slow the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people, using drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options at restaurants and bars, and avoiding visitation at nursing homes, among other steps; and

**WHEREAS**, the Texas Department of State Health Services has now determined that, as of March 19, 2020, COVID-19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Port Lavaca, 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; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. GA-08 was issued by the Governor of the State of Texas relating to COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation on March 19, 2020.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PORT LAVACA, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, every person in Texas shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.

**SECTION 2.** In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the limited duration of this order.

**SECTION 3.** In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.

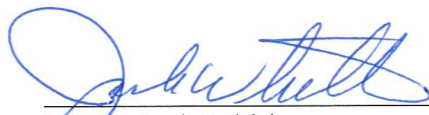
**SECTION 4.** That this order authorizes the City to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress the virus, including the quarantine of persons and occupied structures, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the City, regulating ingress and egress to occupied structures, establishment of quarantine stations, emergency hospitals, and other hospitals, and insuring compliance for those who do not comply with the City's rules, pursuant to Section 122.006 of the Health and Safety Code.

**SECTION 5.** In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order 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.

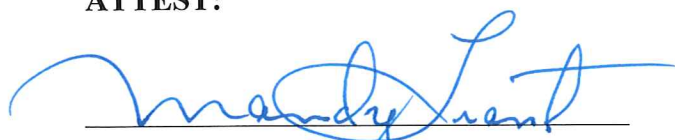
**SECTION 6.** That this order hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

**SECTION 7.** That this order shall take effect on Friday, March 20, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. from and after its issuance.

**ORDERED this 19th day of March, 2020.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Jack Whitlow

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Secretary Mandy Grant