



## TARRANT COUNTY

### SECOND AMENDED DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

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

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 was first detected in Wuhan, China in December 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe illness and cause further complications including death; 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 Tarrant County; and

**WHEREAS**, a declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, and compel persons to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease. These measures include isolation, surveillance, quarantine, or placement of persons under public health observation, including the provision of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons misplaced or evacuated. A declaration allows the request of assistance from the Governor for state resources; and

**WHEREAS**, this Declaration activates the Tarrant County Emergency Management Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Judge has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to mitigate the effects of this public health emergency and to facilitate the efficient, rapid, and cooperative response to the emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Judge issued a Declaration of Local Disaster due to Public Health Emergency on March 13, 2020, the County Commissioners issued a Renewal of Declaration of Local Disaster due to Public Health Emergency on March 17, 2020, and on March 18, 2020 the County Judge issued a First Amended Declaration of Local Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency. Now, the County Judge hereby issues this Second Amended Declaration of Local Disaster due to Public Health Emergency to implement additional measures to ensure the protection of the residents of Tarrant County.

**THEREFORE**, Be It Proclaimed by the County Judge that:

1. This Second Amended Declaration of Local Disaster due to Public Health Emergency shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from March 21, 2020 unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court.
2. A Declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Tarrant County Emergency Management Plan.
3. This Declaration authorizes the County to commandeer or use any private property as provided by law.

4. This Declaration hereby limits the size of gatherings to no more than 10 people and mandates the cancellation of all such gatherings of more than 10 people until further notice. For purposes herein, a gathering is any indoor or outdoor event that brings together or is likely to bring together more than 10 people at the same time in a single space where people are present and within 6 feet of one another, without regard to the purpose of the gathering.

This Declaration does not prohibit gatherings of people in multiple, separate enclosed spaces (including separate cubicles) in a single building such as different floors of a multi-level office, residential building, or hotel, so long as not more than 10 people are present in any single space at the same time. This Declaration also does not prohibit the use of enclosed spaces where more than 10 people may be present at different times during the day, so long as more than 10 people are not present in the space at the same time. This Declaration does not make a distinction between types of gatherings, i.e. social, community or recreational.

5. This Declaration orders that restaurants with or without drive-in or drive-through services; drive-in restaurants; drive-through restaurants; or microbreweries, micro-distilleries, or wineries may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-in or drive-through services, if permitted by law.
6. This Declaration orders that individuals cannot occupy nor can individuals be permitted to occupy the following: bars, lounges, taverns, commercial amusement establishments, bingo halls, theaters, gyms, private clubs, hair and nail salons and barber shops, estheticians and related personal care businesses, spas, massage parlors, tattoo and piercing parlors, tanning salons, residential meeting spaces, event centers, hotel meeting spaces and ballrooms, outdoor plazas and markets, malls and retail stores that do not sell essential household goods.
7. This Declaration allows the following entities to continue doing business as long as they enforce social separation: grocery stores, stores selling essential household goods, convenience and package stores, pharmacies and drug stores, day care facilities, medical facilities, non-profit service providers, homeless and emergency shelters, office buildings, essential government buildings, airports and transit facilities, transportation systems, residential buildings and hotels, and manufacturing and distribution facilities.

In all such locations, there must be sufficient space for all people to be 6 feet apart at all times to control infection. Where possible, a tracking list of the individuals present, and their contact information shall be maintained.

8. Notwithstanding the above restriction, this Declaration is not intended to apply to any business operations delivering essential services. Essential Services means services, by whomsoever rendered, and whether rendered to the government or to any other person, the interruption of which would endanger life, health or personal safety of the whole or part of the population.
9. 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.
10. This Declaration closes worship services for in-person services, provided that needed staff can attend to produce audio/video services for transmission.
11. This Declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.
12. This Declaration incorporates the attached table, Disaster Restrictions, as if set forth verbatim herein.
13. This Declaration shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
14. This Declaration shall take effect today at 6 p.m., March 21, 2020.

**ORDERED** this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 2020, at 2 p.m.

  
B. Glen Whitley, County Judge

## Disaster Restrictions

Locations	Restrictions
All gatherings without regard to purpose.	No more than 10 people. Practice social distancing - sufficient space for all people to be 6 feet apart at all times. Keep a tracking list of individuals and their contact information.
Bars, lounges, taverns Commercial amusement establishments Bingo halls Theaters Gyms Private Clubs Hair and nail salons and barber shops Estheticians and related personal care businesses Spas and massage parlors Tattoo and piercing parlors and tanning salons Residential meeting spaces Event centers Hotel meeting spaces and ballrooms Outdoor plazas and markets Malls Retail stores that do not sell essential household goods	No occupancy permitted.
Food Establishments	In-house dining – closed. Drive-in, drive-through, take out, and delivery is permitted. Practice social distancing - sufficient space for all people to be 6 feet apart at all times.
Worship Services	Closed for in-person services, provided that staff can attend to produce audio/video services
Grocery stores Stores selling essential household goods Convenience and package stores Pharmacies and drug stores Day care facilities Medical facilities Non-profit service providers Homeless and emergency shelters Office buildings Essential government buildings Airports and transit facilities Transportation systems Residential buildings and hotels Manufacturing and distribution facilities	Practice social distancing - sufficient space for all people to be 6 feet apart at all times.  Keep a tracking list of individuals and their contact information, wherever possible.