

LOCAL ORDER RELATING TO OUTDOOR GATHERINGS
DATE ISSUED: October 29, 2020

WHEREAS, on July 2, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott issued a Proclamation amending Executive Order GA-28, requiring the approval of the County Judge or Mayor for any outdoor gathering in excess of 10 people and Executive Orders GA- 30 and GA-32 continue to require the same approval for outdoor gatherings in excess of 10 people; and

WHEREAS, on August 13, 2020, Williamson County Judge Bill Gravel issued an order permitting outdoor gatherings in excess of 10 people in the unincorporated areas of Williamson County provided such gatherings otherwise comply with Governor Greg Abbott's Executive Order GA-28, as amended, and future executive orders that may be issued by Governor Greg Abbott; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor acts as the emergency management director for the city and serves as the Governor's designated agent in the administration and supervision of duties during a state of emergency declared by the Governor in accordance with Section 418.1015(a) and (b) of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor, serving as the Governor's designated agent in the administration and supervision of duties during a state of emergency declared by the Governor, may exercise the powers granted to the governor on an appropriate local scale in accordance with Section 418.1015(b) of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, upon the declaration of a local disaster, the Mayor is authorized to control ingress to and egress from a disaster area and control the movement of persons and occupancy of premises on an appropriate local scale in accordance with Section 418.108(g) of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, in order to remain consistent with and to harmonize, to the extent possible, the executive orders of Governor Greg Abbott, as extended or modified, it is necessary to issue this Local Order; and

WHEREAS, by the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the City of Georgetown and as the Emergency Management Director for the City of Georgetown to continue to protect the health and safety of the community and address developing and rapidly changing circumstances when presented by the current public health emergency, I issue this Order in their place;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN, TEXAS, PURSUANT TO THAT AUTHORITY GRANTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DECLARATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER DATED MARCH 14, 2020, AND SECTION 418.108 OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE

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AND SECTION 122.006 OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE THAT:

Section 1. Findings. The findings and recitations set out in the preamble to this Order are found to be true and correct and they are hereby adopted by the Mayor and made part of this Order for all purposes.

Section 2. Declaration and Duration of Emergency Order. The regulations in this local order shall take effect immediately upon execution and shall remain in full force and effect unless extended, modified, or terminated by the Mayor or City Council, or if superseded by the County Judge or Governor.

Section 3. Outdoor Gatherings. Outdoor gatherings in excess of 10 people in Georgetown are hereby allowed provided that all attendees, employees, and customers wear a face covering (over the nose and mouth) wherever it is not feasible to maintain six feet of social distancing from another individual not in the same household or, for individuals engaging in physical activities outdoors, wherever the individual is not able to maintain a safe physical distance from others not in the same household and such gatherings otherwise comply with Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-28, as amended, Executive Order GA-29, Executive Order GA-30 and Executive Order GA-32, and future executive orders that may be issued by Governor Greg Abbott,

Section 4. Outdoor Gatherings Requiring a Special Event Permit. In addition to comply with Section 3 above, Special Events, as defined in Sec. 12.24.020 (Definitions) of the Code of Ordinances, must develop and implement a health and safety policy ("Health and Safety Policy"). The Health and Safety Policy must require, at a minimum, that all employees, contractors, vendors, customers, and attendees of a special event wear face coverings in the manner described in Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-29, as amended, and future executive orders that may be issued by Governor Greg Abbott, when in an area or performing an activity which will necessarily involve close contact where six (6) feet of separation is not feasible.

The Health and Safety Policy required to be developed and implemented by this emergency order may also include the implementation of additional mitigating measures designed to control and reduce the transmission of COVID-19, such as temperature checks or health screenings. Special event permit holders must post the Health and Safety Policy required by this emergency order in a conspicuous location sufficient to provide notice to employees, contractors, vendors, customers, and attendees of all health and safety requirements. Failure to develop and implement the Health and Safety Policy required by this emergency order may result in a fine not to exceed \$1,000 for each day the violation occurs.

A sample Health and Safety Policy and signage containing the minimum requirements of this Order is attached as Exhibit A and may be used by a Special Event Permit Holder as its own Health and Safety Policy, and it can include recommended requirements in the Governor's health minimum standard protocols applicable to each Special Event, and additional requirements as

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determined by each Special Event Permit Holder.

Section 5. Enforcement. Any Georgetown Police Officer is hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this emergency order in accordance with the authority granted under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975.

Section 6. Penalties.

A. The regulation contained in this emergency order shall have the effect of an ordinance when duly filed with the City Secretary.

B. Failure to comply with Section 4 of this local emergency order by a special event permit holder shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.

C. Following a verbal or written warning for a first-time violator of Section 4's face-covering requirement, failure to comply with Section 3 of this local emergency order shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250. Each subsequent violation shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250 per violation.

Section 7. Public Notice. This Order shall be posted on the City's website and social media site.

Section 8. Severability. If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word contained in this emergency order is held invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of this emergency order.

Section 9. Interpretation and Additional Terms. To the greatest extent possible, this emergency order shall not be interpreted in a manner that conflicts with the Governor's Executive Order GA-30 or any subsequent orders of the Governor. In the event of a conflict, the Governor's Executive Orders shall supersede. All provisions of the executive orders of the Governor either existing or issued in the future, which are made applicable to all jurisdictions by law, shall be automatically incorporated into this order and shall constitute terms of this order, enforceable as if set forth herein without necessity for the issuance of further orders.

THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN:



Dale Ross
Mayor

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