



FROM THE DESK OF THE CITY MANAGER

This afternoon, Texas Governor Greg Abbott announced plans to move into a phased approach of reopening Texas. Beginning at 12:01 am on May 1, all businesses except hairdressers/barber shops/salons, gyms, and bars are allowed to reopen under a reduced capacity system. These reopened businesses can only utilize up to 25% of their maximum capacity and must continue to practice and encourage social distancing in their businesses. Museums, libraries, and church services are also allowed to resume, but with social distancing guidance and restrictions in place that they must follow. Individuals who are most vulnerable to COVID-19 are still encouraged to stay at home as much as possible. Governor Abbott has released guidance on how this first phase of reopening should be handled and we strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with that guidance. You can find it at:

<https://gov.texas.gov/organization/opentexas>

In addition to this Open Texas plan, Governor Abbott issued three new Executive Orders today. These address the Open Texas plans, hospital's keeping at least 15% capacity open for COVID-19 cases, and travel restrictions. You can find Executive Order GA-18 at:

https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/press/EO-GA-18_expanded_reopening_of_services_COVID-19.pdf

Executive Order GA-19 can be found at:

https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/press/EO-GA-19_hospital_capacity_COVID-19.pdf

Executive Order GA-20 can be found at:

https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/press/EO-GA-20_expanding_travel_without_restrictions_COVID-19.pdf

In addition to the above actions, Governor Abbott announced today that he will not be extending his stay at home Executive Order, allowing it to expire and go out of effect on May 1. These actions are a big step toward reopening our economy but it remains extremely important that we continue to practice social distancing. Experts will be looking at COVID-19 numbers closely over the next two weeks to determine if further easing of restrictions is possible at this time. Let's all be responsible and careful in the days ahead so we can continue to see good results in the fight against COVID-19.

Below is a list of official resources that you can utilize to stay up to date on the latest official news and information.

Tarrant County

(<https://www.tarrantcounty.com/content/main/en/county/tarrant-county-covid-19-information.html>)

Tarrant County Public Health

(<https://www.tarrantcounty.com/en/public-health/disease-control---prevention/coronaviruses.html>)

Texas Department of Health Services

(<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>)

White Settlement Independent School District

(<https://www.wsisd.com/>)

Thank you,

Jeffrey J. James

City Manager, City of White Settlement