

PROCLAMATION
CITY OF ARANSAS PASS, TEXAS
DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER DUE TO PUBLIC
HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan, China; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, and can range from mild to severe illness; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19, as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, advising countries to prepare for the containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General urged aggressive preparedness and activation of emergency plans to aggressively change the trajectory of this epidemic; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention is closely monitoring the growing number of COVID-19 cases that have spread into the United States; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus spreads between the 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; and

WHEREAS, Texas Government Code Chapter 418, Section 418.108 authorizes the Mayor of a municipality to declare a local state of disaster, and exercise the powers granted therein on an appropriate local scale; and

WHEREAS, a declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to take measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, prevent the spread of the disease and promote the health and safety of individuals in the City of Aransas Pass, Texas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the mayor is designated as the emergency management director of the City of Aransas Pass, and may exercise the powers granted to the governor on an appropriate local scale; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted to the Mayor under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, I authorize the use of all available resources of state government and political subdivisions to assist in the City's response to this situation; and

WHEREAS, I, Ramiro Gomez, the Mayor of the City of Aransas Pass, Texas, have determined that extraordinary and immediate measures must be taken to respond quickly, prevent and alleviate the suffering of people exposed to and those infected with the virus, as well as those that could potentially be infected or impacted by COVID-19;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY OF ARANSAS PASS, TEXAS:

1. That a local state of disaster and public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Aransas Pass, Texas pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code
2. Pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster and public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the City Council.
3. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.
4. Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency activates the City of Aransas Pass, Texas' emergency management plan. It also activates the appropriate recovery and rehabilitation aspects of all applicable local or interjurisdiction emergency management plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration, as approved.
5. This proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this 16th day of March, 2020.



MAYOR RAMIRO GOMEZ
City of Aransas Pass, Texas