

Executive Order

BY THE
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF IOWA COLONY, TEXAS

March 19, 2020

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-01

Relating to COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation.

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

WHEREAS, I, Michael Byrum-Bratsen, Mayor of the City of Iowa Colony, Texas ("the City"), issued a Mayoral Declaration of Local State of Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency on March 18, 2020, declaring that a state of disaster exists throughout the City due to COVID-; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to spread and to pose an increasing, imminent threat of disaster throughout the City; 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, Governor Greg Abbott of the State of Texas issued Executive Order GA-08 dated March 19, 2020, with the same orders as this mayoral executive order, except for the expiration terms; and

WHEREAS, under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, "[t]he governor is responsible for meeting . . . the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters" (Section 418.011 of the Texas Government Code); and the mayor, who is also the emergency management director of the City, has the same powers granted to the

governor by Subchapter 418E of the Texas Government Code within the City (Section 418.1015(b) of the Texas Government Code); and the legislature has given the governor, and consequently the mayor, broad authority to fulfill that responsibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael Byrum-Bratsen, Mayor of the City of Iowa Colony, Texas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, do city wide basis effective 11:59 p.m. on March 24, 2020, and continuing until lawfully terminated:

Order No. 1. In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, every person in the City of Iowa Colony shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.

Order No. 2 In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the limited duration of this executive order.

Order No. 3 In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, all restrooms in public and private parks in the City shall be closed, and no person shall enter those restrooms except for cleaning and sanitation.

Order No. 4 In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, schools shall temporarily close.

Order No. 5. In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, the Iowa Colony City Hall shall be closed, except for police personnel on official business. All city employees except for those police personnel shall work from home, but employees may enter City Hall briefly to obtain copies of materials needed to work from home. Original City records shall remain in City Hall.

This executive order does not prohibit people from visiting a variety of places, such as grocery stores, gas stations, parks, and banks, so long as the necessary precautions are maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. This executive order does not mandate sheltering in place. All critical infrastructure will remain operational, domestic travel will remain unrestricted, and government entities and businesses will continue providing essential services. For offices and workplaces that remain open, employees should practice good hygiene and, where feasible, work from home in order to achieve optimum isolation from COVID-19. The more that people reduce their public contact, the sooner COVID-19 will be contained and the sooner this executive order will expire.

This executive order supersedes all previous orders on this matter that are in conflict or inconsistent with its terms, and this order shall remain in effect and in full force until lawfully terminated.

Given under my hand this 23rd day of March, 2020.



Michael Byrum-Bratsen, Mayor
City of Iowa Colony, Texas

ATTEST:



Kayleen Rosser, City Secretary

