



# CITY OF IOWA COLONY

12003 Iowa Colony Blvd.  
Iowa Colony Tx. 77583  
Phone: 281-369-2471  
Fax: 281-369-0005  
[www.cityofiowacolony.com](http://www.cityofiowacolony.com)

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

### MAYORAL DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

**WHEREAS**, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV-2 (“the virus”) which causes the disease COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

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

**WHEREAS**, 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**, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Iowa Colony, Texas, is taking extraordinary measures to prevent the spread of this potentially devastating disease in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, said state of disaster requires that certain emergency protective measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management and Public Health, pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF IOWA COLONY, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Iowa Colony, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

**SECTION 2.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code the state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this declaration, unless continued or renewed by the City Council of the City of Iowa Colony, Texas.

**SECTION 3.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code this declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.

**SECTION 4.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City of Iowa Colony, Texas, emergency management plan, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.

**SECTION 5.** That pursuant to Section 418.108(g) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration authorizes the Mayor to control ingress and egress from the City and control the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in the City.

**SECTION 6.** That the virus is a nuisance that is or may become injurious to the public health, and this declaration authorizes the City to take actions to abate that nuisance, pursuant to Section 122.005(a) of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

**SECTION 7.** That this declaration also authorizes the City to take any actions necessary to promote health or suppress the virus, including the quarantine of persons and occupied structures, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the City, regulating ingress and egress to occupied structures, establishment of quarantine stations, emergency hospitals, and other hospitals, and insuring compliance for those who do not comply with the City's rules, pursuant to Section 122.005 of the Health and Safety Code and Section 418.108(g) of the Texas Government Code.

**SECTION 8.** That people are urgently encouraged to limit the size of gatherings to not more than 10 people and to cancel all such gatherings until further notice. A "gathering" refers generally to a scheduled event or common endeavor where 10 persons are present either in close proximity to each other or in a confined space, room, or area.

**SECTION 9.** That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools. Nothing herein shall be construed to limit any authority of the Mayor or the City, and no mention of authority for any action shall be construed to exclude any other authority.

**SECTION 10.** That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

**DECLARED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.**

  
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**MICHAEL BYRUM-BRATSEN**  
**MAYOR**  
**CITY OF IOWA COLONY, TEXAS**