

**FOURTH AMENDED DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY
CITY OF MANSFIELD, TEXAS**

WHEREAS, in December 2019 a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, with symptoms including fever, cough, and shortness of breath and with outcomes ranging from mild to severe illness and in some cases, death;

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 (PHEIC), advising countries to prepare for the containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread of the disease;

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;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic;

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is closely monitoring the growing number of cases that have spread into the United States and the identification of “community spread” cases of COVID-19 in the United States signals that transmission of the virus is occurring;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes;

WHEREAS, the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19 presents an imminent threat of widespread illness, which requires emergency action;

WHEREAS, County Judge Glen Whitley issued multiple Declarations of Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency for Tarrant County for COVID-19 as early as March 13, 2020, and as recent as April 3, 2020;

WHEREAS, Governor Greg Abbott issued a State of Disaster for all Texas counties for COVID-19 on March 13, 2020;

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump declared a State of National Emergency for the United States of America on March 13, 2020;

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;

WHEREAS, the Mayor of Mansfield, Texas has been notified by the Texas Department of State Health Services and, Tarrant County and Johnson County health officials of twenty-seven (27) positive cases of COVID-19 within the city limits of Mansfield, Texas, one (1) in Johnson County and twenty-six (26) in Tarrant County, Texas, with five (5) of those individuals having recovered from COVID-19;

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;

WHEREAS, the Governor of Texas, Greg Abbott, has issued multiple Executive Orders and because certain counties in Texas have been more impacted than other counties by COVID-19 case, the Governor of Texas has requested local county and municipal officials to implement actions necessary locally, to protect the general public in the City of Mansfield;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the Mayor is designated as the Emergency Management Director of the City of Mansfield, and may exercise the powers granted to the governor on an appropriate local scale;

WHEREAS, a declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, compel persons to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease, including isolation, surveillance, quarantine, or placement of persons under public health observation, including the provision of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons misplaced or evacuated and request assistance of State resources from the Governor of Texas;

WHEREAS, by this Declaration of Local Disaster and Public Health Emergency, I declare all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat suspended for the duration of the incident;

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;

WHEREAS, I, David L. Cook, the Mayor of the City of Mansfield, 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;

WHEREAS, I, David L. Cook, the Mayor of the City of Mansfield, Texas, have previously issued a Declaration of Public Health Emergency on March 18, 2020, a First Amended Declaration of Public Health Emergency on March 20, 2020, a Second Amended Declaration of Public Health Emergency on March 24, 2020, and a Third Amended Declaration of Public Health Emergency on March 31, 2020, in order to implement additional measures consistent with Governor Greg Abbott's Executive Orders, and in order to ensure the protection of the general public in the City of Mansfield; and

WHEREAS, I, David L. Cook, the Mayor of the City of Mansfield, Texas, now find it necessary to issue this Fourth Amended Declaration of Public Health Emergency on this 7th day of April, 2020 in order ensure the protection of the general public in the city of Mansfield.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MANSFIELD, TEXAS: