

**LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY  
COVID-19 CRISIS –12/31/2020**

Dear Leon Valley Citizens and Businesses:

**UPDATE ON VACCINES**

What a year 2020 has been with the onset of COVID-19 in March of this year! None of us knew that this pandemic would continue for as long as it has, but there is hope on the horizon – the vaccine! There are a total of 140,000 health care workers in Bexar County and 50,000 vaccines have been received. An additional 90,000 vaccines have been allocated and are on their way to San Antonio. Vaccines have been distributed to local hospitals, the Metropolitan Health District and private pharmacies. The goal is to get as many people vaccinated as quickly as possible, with front line health care workers and medically underserved areas having priority. The next priority for vaccinations is people over 65 and anyone 16 years of age or older who has a medical condition. These categories comprise 60% of the population. There is no charge for the vaccine and no prescription necessary, but a second dose is necessary for full protection.

**GOVERNOR’S AMENDED EXECUTIVE ORDER**

With the current number of hospitalizations expected to pass the record number of hospitalizations of 1,267 reached last July, Governor

Abbott has amended his Executive Order to reduce occupancy rates for non-essential businesses from 75% to 50%, and to postpone elective surgeries until the COVID numbers come down. The reduced occupancy rate will affect restaurants, sporting events, swimming pools, museums and libraries, zoos, aquariums, rodeos and amusement parks. There is a temporary halt in residential evictions and foreclosure sales have been cancelled. Once the hospital rate is below 15% for seven consecutive days, the occupancy rate will go back to 75%.

## **COVID-19 UPDATE OF CASES-BEXAR COUNTY**

As of December 30th, there were 115,685 total cases reported, a 16.7% increase in 13 days. There were 1,538 total deaths reported on December 30<sup>th</sup>, a 6.8% increase in 13 days. There were 1,136 hospitalizations reported yesterday (up from 837 on 12/17).

The positivity rate, the percentage of tested COVID cases which are positive, actually was at 12.5% for the week ending December 13<sup>th</sup>. The following week it increased to 14.4% (12/20) and this week dramatically increased to 19.2% (12/27). The highest positivity rate our community reached was last summer at around 24%. Let's do our best not to reach that percentage and keep the spread under control.

## **WHAT WE CAN DO TO CURB THE SPREAD OF COVID-19?**

- Wear masks and socially distance yourself 6 feet from someone not in your household;
- Stay home if you are sick and wash your hands;
- Keep any gatherings to 10 or less people, preferably outside. If you are inside, open up windows for circulation and do not have lengthy gatherings.
- The above measures, and of course getting the vaccine when available, will also protect you from the mutant virus that first showed up in England.

### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

- **Need Help?** Lost Your Job or trouble paying rent or utilities because of COVID? **Call (210) 335-1777 or visit Bexar County Strong for assistance.**
- **The City of Leon Valley offices will reopen on January 4<sup>th</sup> accepting phone calls/appointments.** *The exception is the police and fire departments, which continues to provide 24/7 service.*
- **Please call (210) 684-8897** to report a non-emergency issue. Report code violations to ON-IT by calling (210) 684-6648.

Wishing everyone a very happy, safe and healthy New Year. With 2020 now in our rear view mirror, let's look to a better and brighter 2021!

Sincerely, Chris  
(210) 618-2092 (cell)