



LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY ON COVID-19 CRISIS – 4/17/20

Dear Leon Valley Citizens and Businesses:

The weekly conference call between County Judge Nelson Wolff 's representative and the Suburban Mayors was held on April 16, 2020.

Bexar County amended its Emergency Order, effective April 17th to include:

- All people 10 years or older *must* wear a **cloth face covering** over their nose and mouth when in a public place. Coverings include homemade masks, scarfs, bandanas or a handkerchief. Residents must continue to maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet outside their residence. Face masks do not need to be worn when exercising or engaging in physical activity outside, while driving alone or with family members, when pumping gas, when consuming food or drink, or while in a building that requires security surveillance, like banks. The face covering requirement also includes employees working at exempted businesses who are working in an area which involves close contact with co-workers or the public. Everyone is still encouraged to socially distance, wash hands and, when sick, self-isolate. Voluntary compliance is preferred.
- **Opening up our Community** – Judge Wolff and Mayor Nirenberg have appointed eight medical experts to advise when it's safe to ease stay-at-home restrictions (in effect until April 30). These experts are tasked with determining, based on medical evidence, the circumstances necessary to ease these

restrictions, as well as a step- by- step plan for re-opening our metroplex.

Deadline for this report is April 27, 2020.

- **Retail Occupancy Restrictions** will go into effect April 19th . For any exempted businesses such as grocery stores, warehouse stores, big-box stores, liquor stores, gas stations, bodegas and farmers markets, which sell food product and household staples, the total number of people who can be in the store at one time is restricted (including employees) to 25% of the Certificate of Occupancy limit. For example, if the occupancy limit is 100, then only 25 people can be in the store at one time. Staff will be stationed outside the business to monitor the numbers.
- **Limiting the transfer of seniors transferred from outside the county to inside the county.** This is a strategy for keeping the number of nursing home deaths down. 17 of the 37 deaths in Bexar County have come from seniors in nursing homes.
- **Increase testing for COVID 19** – Metro Health is working with WalMart to set up testing at one of their stores. An analysis of what part of the county has had the least testing may determine which store is set up for additional testing. As of April 16, 2020, the total number of persons in Bexar County tested for COVID-19 was 9,790. Please call (210) 207-5779 or email COVID-19@sanantonio.gov for more information about testing yourself or a loved one.
- **Golf Courses** – Following the guidance from the Texas Attorney General's office, private golf courses may allow playing of golf, if there are no caddies, no

golf course personnel involved, and no rentals. Social distancing must be maintained.

- As of April 16, 2020, the total number of cases reported in Bexar County is 918 (up from 615 as of April 10th) with 37 deaths (22 deaths were reported April 10th).
- Regarding where COVID-19 cases are occurring: the highest number of cases (21+ cases) are in the 78222, 78245, 78207, 78209, 78212, 78223, 78228, **78240**, 78249, 78250, 78251 and 78254 zip codes; 17-20 cases in zip codes 78109, 78218, 78221, 78229, 78233, 78253 & 78260. 13-16 cases in zip codes 78224, 78227, 78230, 78244, 78247, 78258, & 78259. 16 zip codes have 9-12 cases. 12 zip codes in Bexar County have reported 5-8 cases, including 78238 in Leon Valley and City of San Antonio, and 15 zip codes have reported 1-4 cases.
- **Status of Stimulus Checks** – You can track the status of your stimulus check at **[irs.gov/stimulus check status](https://irs.gov/stimulus-check-status)**. If you paid Internal Revenue by direct deposit or if you are have a direct deposit from the government with a disability or other check, the stimulus check will be deposited into your account. If you paid IRS taxes by a check, the stimulus check may be delayed. If you had a 3rd party tax preparer help you with filing your 2018- or 2019-income tax return, those checks may have been mailed to the 3rd party tax preparer and will have to be returned for reissuing. Call Congressman Joaquin Castro's office (210) 348-8216 for assistance in getting your check.

Hope everyone had a nice Easter weekend, in spite of the restrictions placed on us with the pandemic. The next city council meeting is set for May 5, 2020,

unless some emergency action needs to be taken before then. Thank you for staying vigilant!

Continued **THANKS AND APPRECIATION** to all the health care workers and first Responders, who continue to put their lives on the line to treat and save other lives during this emergency. Also, thanks to all essential personnel who work at grocery stores, gas stations, exempted retail establishments and postal and transportation workers who are at risk to allow us to obtain essentials. Take care. Stay healthy, safe and remain positive!

Sincerely, Chris

(210) 618-2092 – Please call with any questions or concerns.