

CITY OF PORT ARANSAS

EXECUTIVE ORDER OF CITY MAYOR  
ISSUED June 19, 2020

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108, Port Aransas Mayor declared a state of local disaster due to imminent threat arising from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, there currently still exists a declaration of public health disaster in and for the State of Texas as declared by Texas Governor Greg Abbott and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS); and

WHEREAS, the transmission of COVID-19 has not dissipated but remains a significant threat to the health and safety of the Port Aransas Community.

I hereby issue the following Order.

Effective as of 12:01 p.m. on Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020 ("*Effective Date*"), and continuing through 11:59 p.m. on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 unless extended, modified or terminated earlier or as otherwise indicated below:

- I. Face Masks – Commercial Entities. From the effective date of this Order, all commercial entities in Port Aransas providing goods and/or services directly to the public must require that all employees, customers and visitors to the commercial entity's business premises or other facilities wear face coverings when in an area or performing an activity which will necessarily involve close contact or proximity to co-workers or the public where six feet of separation is not feasible. Commercial entities must post this Order in a conspicuous location sufficient to provide notice to employees, customers and visitors. Failure to abide by and comply with this Order may result in a fine not to exceed \$1,000 for each violation.
  
- II. Miscellaneous Recommendations. **IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT YOU NOT OBTAIN OR WEAR MEDICAL MASKS or N-95 RESPIRATORS AS THEY ARE A NEEDED RESOURCE FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS.** Our healthcare workers and first responders on the front-line combating COVID-19 must have priority access to medical masks or other personal protective equipment. Face coverings do not need to be worn in the following circumstances:
  - When outside
  - While driving alone or with passengers who are part of the same household as the driver
  - When doing so poses a greater mental or physical health, safety, or security risk
  - While pumping gas or operating outdoor equipment
  - While in a building or activity that requires security surveillance or screening, for example, banks
  - When consuming food or drink

- When indoors exercising

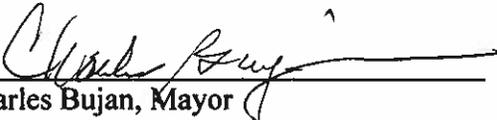
Please note that face coverings are a secondary strategy to other mitigation efforts. **Face coverings are *not* a replacement for social distancing, frequent handwashing, and self-isolation when sick.** All people should follow CDC recommendations for how to wear and take off a mask. Residents should keep up the following habits while in public:

- washing hands before you leave home and when you return,
- staying at least six feet away from others,
- avoiding touching nose or face,
- not using disposable masks more than three times, and
- washing reusable cloth masks regularly to prevent the spread of the virus.

Consistent with Executive Order GA-26 issued by Governor Greg Abbott, no civil or criminal penalty will be imposed on individuals for failure to wear a face covering.

- III. No Fine. Consistent with Executive Order GA-26 issued by Governor Greg Abbott, no civil or criminal penalty will be imposed on employees, customers or visitors for failure to wear a face covering.
- IV. Severability. The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Executive Order are severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Executive Order should be declared invalid by the final judgment or decree of any court or competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections that can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end, the provisions of this Executive Order are severable.
- V. Interpretation and Additional Terms. To the greatest extent possible, this Executive Order shall be interpreted as consistent with and supplemental to any executive order issued by the Texas Governor.
- VI. Enforcement. In accordance with the limitations contained in the executive orders of Governor Greg Abbott, any peace officer or other person with lawful authority is hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this Order in accordance with the authority granted under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975.

ORDERED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.

  
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Charles Bujan, Mayor