

**ORDER NO. 2020-1-D**

**FOURTH AMENDED ORDER OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF RIO GRANDE CITY INSTITUTING EMERGENCY MEASURES DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RELATED TO CORONA VIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Federal Government declared a national emergency on March 13, 2020 due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Abbott declared a State of Disaster in Texas on March 13, 2020, due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Villarreal declared a local disaster on March 17, 2020, due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 24, 2020, Mayor and City Commission further determined it reasonable and necessary to extend the Order to be effective until April 13, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 9, 2020, Mayor and City Commission further determined it reasonable and necessary to extend the Disaster Declaration and Order to be effective until April 30, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 27, 2020, Governor Abbott issued The Governor's Report to Open Texas and Corresponding Executive Order (GA-18); and

**WHEREAS**, GA-18 suspended Sections 418.1015(b) and 418.108 of the Texas Government Code and other relevant statutes, to the extent necessary to ensure that local officials do not impose restrictions inconsistent with GA-18; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 5, 2020, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order GA-21 to expand openings of certain businesses and activities; and

**WHEREAS**, all other previous local regulations imposed by the City of Rio Grande City are still valid to the extent that they are not inconsistent with GA-18, GA-21, and other directives issued by the Texas Governor; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Rio Grande City Commission has determined that it is reasonable and necessary to extend the Disaster Declaration until June 19, 2020 and approve the revised Order, as compliant with GA-18 and GA-21, to remain effective until June 19, 2020.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF RIO GRANDE CITY, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 418, HEREBY FIND AND ORDER:**

**Section 1.** All residents, visitors, and businesses, shall comply with the Governor's Executive Orders (GA-18 and GA-21) and the Starr County's Amended Emergency Order and Recommendations Related to the Expanded Reopening of Select Services During the Public Health Emergency, such regulations as identified shall be made available upon request with the City Secretary's Office.

**Section 2.** People are highly encouraged and recommended to continue to “Shelter-at-home,” until further orders or recommendations are made, unless obtaining or providing for essential or reopened services as allowed under GA-18 and GA-21.

**Section 3.** The City Commission insists that the public continues to follow CDC guidelines including wearing masks and other appropriate face coverings in public.

**Section 4.** The following businesses are explicitly closed: that operate coin operated amusement machines, tattoo shops, bar and night clubs, massage establishments, piercing studios, sexually oriented businesses, and interactive amusement venues such as bowling alleys, video arcades, amusement parks, water parks, and splash pads.

**Section 5.** People shall not visit nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, or long-term facilities unless to provide critical assistance as determined through guidance from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, and long-term care facilities should follow infection control policies and practices set forth by the HHSC, including minimizing the movement of staff between facilities as appropriate.

**Section 6.** People at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and people who are sick are urged to stay in their residences to the extent possible except as necessary to seek medical care.

**Section 7.** The City Commission insists that any person, including international travelers, who enters the City of Rio Grande City from outside of the Rio Grande Valley self-quarantine, to the extent possible, for a period of 14 days from the time of entry into Rio Grande City, Texas or duration of the person’s presence in Rio Grande City, Texas. Self-quarantine shall not apply to people traveling in connection with employment, commercial activity, military service, emergency response, health response, or critical infrastructure functions, as allowed under Governor’s Executive Order GA-18, or as allowed under GA-21, “Reopened Services.”

**Section 8.** In accordance with Governor Abbott’s Executive Orders GA-18 and GA-21, “Reopen Services” shall meet all State of Texas Minimum Health Protocols for each corresponding business and service sector that can be found at <https://www.starrcounty.org/texas-opens-checklists> or that can be requested by email at the Starr County Judge’s office prior to being operational.

**Section 9.** The City of Rio Grande City shall post this Order on its website. In addition, the owner, manager or operator of any facility that is likely to be impacted by this Order is strongly encouraged to post a copy of this Order onsite and to provide a copy to any member of the public asking for a copy.

**Section 10.** In the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the provisions set herein and the National Emergency Declaration, Governor Abbott’s Declaration of Disaster and Executive Orders GA-18 and GA-21, the Starr County Disaster Declaration, and the Emergency Management Orders and Recommendations, then the priority of interpretation shall be the following order: National Emergency Declaration, Governor Abbott’s Declaration of Disaster and Executive Orders GA-18 and GA-21, the Starr County Disaster Declaration, and the Emergency Management Orders and


Recommendations, the City of Rio Grande City's Disaster Declaration and Fourth Amended Emergency Order.

**Section 11.** If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this Order or application of it to any person, structure, gathering or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the rest of the order.

**Section 12.** This Disaster Declaration and Order is extended and shall expire upon **June 19, 2020**, unless otherwise terminated or renewed earlier by the City of Rio Grande City – City Commission.

**ORDERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE** on this the 27th day of May 2020.

  
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**JOEL VILLARREAL, MAYOR**

Attest:  
  
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Melissa Garza, Interim City Secretary

Approved as to Form:

  
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Calixtro Villarreal, City Attorney