

For Immediate Release

March 16, 2020

Plano City Council to Consider Extending Disaster Declaration

Plano City Council members will consider extending the City's disaster declaration for a public health emergency from 7 to 60 days at their meeting Tuesday evening. The conditions necessitating the declaration are expected to last for at least 60 days.

Under Texas Government Code, a local state of disaster may not continue for more than 7 days without the consent of the local government body, in this case, the Plano City Council.

Earlier today, Collin County, along with our neighboring Cities of Allen, Frisco and McKinney made similar public health emergency declarations.

If Council members approve the extension, the following orders will continue to apply throughout the City of Plano for 60 days:

1. Pursuant to Government Code §418.108(d), the City of Plano Emergency Management Plan shall remain active through the duration of this disaster declaration.
2. Pursuant to Government Code §418.020(d), the City of Plano is authorized to: (1) temporarily or permanently acquire by lease, purchase, or other means sites required for installation of temporary housing units or emergency shelters for disaster victims; and (2) enter into arrangements necessary to prepare or equip the sites to use the housing units or shelters, including arrangements for the purchase of temporary housing units or shelters and the payment of transportation charges.
3. Pursuant to Section 122.006 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, the City of Plano is authorized to adopt rules to protect the health of persons in the City of Plano, including quarantine rules to protect its residents against communicable disease and provide for the establishment of quarantine stations, emergency hospitals, and other hospitals.
4. All public, private, and commercial labs within the City of Plano are encouraged to report the number of COVID-19 tests conducted on a daily basis to the City of Plano.
5. It is recommended that large gatherings be restricted throughout the City of Plano in accordance with guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
6. The City of Plano will activate the Emergency Operations Center and will operate during normal business hours.
7. All Parks and Recreation facilities are closed until March 27th at which time the closure will be re-assessed and may be extended at the discretion of the City Manager.

8. All Library facilities are closed until March 27th at which time the closure will be reassessed and may be extended at the discretion of the City Manager.
9. All City Board and Commission meetings, with the exception of Plano City Council, Planning and Zoning and any other meeting required by law, will be postponed for the duration of this disaster declaration.
10. All youth sports leagues will be suspended through March 27th for practice and play at which time the closure will be reassessed and may be extended at the discretion of the City Manager.
11. All citizens are encouraged to watch City Council and Planning and Zoning meetings online rather than attend in person. For City Council meetings people can submit comments of public interest or comments on agenda items electronically to the City of Plano City Secretary Lisa Henderson at lisah@plano.gov. For Planning and Zoning meetings people can submit comments of public interest and/or comments on agenda items electronically to April Castor at acastor@plano.gov.
12. All cancelled meetings at the Plano Event Center, Special Events, and Facility rentals will be offered refunds of deposit and/or fees for events.
13. In a state of disaster, it is important to maintain the City workforce ensuring continuity in staffing while continuing City services. Certain facilities and/or operations may need to be temporarily closed or suspended and/or certain personnel may encounter disaster related events that prevent them from working at full capacity during the public health emergency. The City Council authorizes the City Manager to make any staffing and compensation related decisions necessary to adapt to the rapidly changing environment created by the public health emergency to meet the objectives stated herein and authorizes the expenditure of City funds to accommodate same.

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Editor's Note: Go to the City's [Media Center](#) for comprehensive information about the City of Plano.

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About Plano

Plano, Texas, is the largest city in Collin County with a population of 277,720 as of January 2017. Incorporated in 1873, the city is located 20 miles north of Dallas. Plano was recently named the third Best Run City in America by 24/7 Wall Street. The City offers a high quality of life that includes: nationally-recognized schools, award-winning parks and sustainability initiatives, designation as one of America's safest cities by Forbes magazine, and a wide variety of multi-cultural neighborhoods appealing to families, young singles and retirees. Plano is home and future home to the headquarters or regional operations of major international corporations such as Toyota, Liberty Mutual, JPMorgan Chase, Fannie Mae, FedEx Office, JC Penney, Dr. Pepper/Snapple Group, Rent-A-Center, Cinemark Holdings, Denbury Resources and Alliance Data Systems. The dynamic community features excellent restaurants, vibrant shopping and entertainment venues, a lively historic downtown

district and active local arts scene. Easy access to DART light rail and major highways makes Plano a convenient place to live, work and visit. To learn more about Plano, go to our website at plano.gov.