

# COVID-19 Update

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION — APRIL 2, 2020



# Texas Governor Executive Order No. GA-14

- Order becomes effective April 2, 2020 at 12:01a.m.
- Limits business and activity to “essential services”
- Essential critical infrastructure sectors identified by CISA
  - *Similar to COSA “Stay Home Work Safe” Order*
- Identifies religious services as an essential service:
  - Must conduct services while following White House and CDC mitigation strategies to slow the spread of COVID-19

# Essential Businesses / Enforcement

- Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) will maintain a list of essential businesses and activities at <https://tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices/>
- Violation may be punishable by fine of \$1,000 or jail time of 180 days
- Order may be enforced by any law enforcement officer in the State of Texas
- Governor Abbott made clear during press conference that violation of the Order could result in a quarantine order by Dr. Hellerstedt, Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services

# “Stay Home Work Safe” Consistency

- Except for church services there is no significant conflict with current Order
- Definition of essential determined by TDEM guided by CISA
  - Cities cannot conflict with Governor’s order on “essential businesses”
  - Prohibited from relaxing rules on gatherings
- COSA enforcement activities will continue
  - Will be calibrated to additional State guidance