

MAR 13 2020



**DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER  
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY  
CITY OF NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS**

**WHEREAS**, in December 2019, Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China; and

**WHEREAS**, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, and outcomes have ranged from mild to severe illness and in some cases death; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and advised countries to prepare for the containment, including active surveillance, early detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing, and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, continuous spread of the disease presents an imminent threat of widespread illness or loss of life resulting from a global pandemic and other public calamity resulting therefrom, which requires emergency action; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Greg Abbott issued a State of Disaster for all Texas counties for COVID-19 on March 13, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, County Judge Glen Whitley issued a Declaration of Local Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency for Tarrant County for COVID-19 on March 13, 2020, and the City will adhere to the recommendations as set forth in accordance with the County's Declaration; and

**WHEREAS**, President Donald Trump declared a State of National Emergency for the United States of America on March 13, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the City Code of Ordinances Chapter 22, Article II, Section 22-32 of the City of North Richland Hills, and the Texas Government Code Section 418.108(a), the Mayor of the City of North Richland Hills is authorized to declare a local state of disaster if a disaster has occurred or is imminent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the City of North Richland Hills has determined that due to the global outbreak of COVID-19, extraordinary measures must be taken to prevent and to alleviate the suffering of the citizens of North Richland Hills and to protect the public health and safety, and

**WHEREAS**, the City of North Richland Hills Emergency Management Plan should be activated to provide for disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED AND PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** That a state of local disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for the city of North Richland Hills pursuant to the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 22, Article II, Section 22-32 of the City of North Richland Hills and Texas Government Code Section 418.108(a).

**SECTION 2.** That this declaration of local disaster shall be in effect for a period not to exceed seven days from this date, unless earlier terminated, and may be continued or extended as deemed necessary by the City Council of the City of North Richland Hills, Texas.

**SECTION 3.** That this declaration activates the recovery and rehabilitation aspects of the North Richland Hills Emergency Management Plan, all applicable local or interjurisdictional emergency management plans, further authorizes the furnishing of all aid and assistance as deemed necessary or desirable by those administering such plans, and activates the preparedness and response aspects of such plans as provided therein.

**SECTION 4.** That this declaration authorizes the procurement of all necessary supplies and equipment, including acceptance of private contributions which may be offered for the purpose of improving emergency management within the City.

**SECTION 5.** That this declaration authorizes agreements, after approval by the City Attorney, for the City to use any private property, temporarily acquire, by lease or other means, sites required for temporary housing units or emergency shelter or evacuees, subject to compensation requirements, pursuant to Texas Government Code 418.020.

**SECTION 6.** That this declaration authorizes the Mayor to order the evacuation of all or part of the population from a stricken or threatened area under his/her authority if the Mayor considers the action necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response or recovery.

**SECTION 7.** That this declaration authorizes the Mayor to control ingress and egress from a disaster area under his/her jurisdiction or authority and to control the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in that area.

**SECTION 8.** That this declaration authorizes the City to adopt rules to protect the health of persons in the city, including quarantine rules to protect the residents against communicable disease, provide for the establishment of quarantine stations, and hospitals pursuant to Health and Safety Code 122.006.

**SECTION 9.** That this declaration shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary, and shall be given prompt and general publicity.

**SECTION 10.** That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

**SO DECLARED AND ORDERED** this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Oscar Trevino". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Oscar Trevino

Mayor, City of North Richland Hills, Texas