



THE CITY OF LAKE JACKSON

25 OAK DRIVE • LAKE JACKSON, TEXAS 77566 • 979-415-2400 • FAX 979-297-0021

NEWS RELEASE

William P. Yenne, City Manager
City Manager's Office
(979) 415-2500

For Immediate Release
April 28, 2020
Lake Jackson, Texas

GOVERNOR ABBOTT'S NEW ORDER UPDATE

On Monday April 27th, Governor Abbott announced his plans to begin to slowly re-open the Texas economy. The Governor is letting his current executive order expire on April 30th and issued Executive Order GA-18 effective May 1st.

In this order, the Governor maintains the safety and hygiene protocols already in place. These include encouraging citizens to social distance, wash their hand, wear masks and the like. The new order still allows essential services to continue. You can find the list of these services by going to www.tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices.

In the Texans Helping Texans booklet, the Governor lists retailers, restaurants, movie theatres, museums, libraries, golf courses, places of worship and single person offices that can now operate under certain restrictions and guidelines. All other non-essential businesses are still to remain closed. For a full list of re-opened business and the restrictions and guidelines please refer to the Texans Helping Texans booklet.

We and the County have been following the previous orders of the Governor and we will now follow these new orders. As for the City, we will go back to our regular shifts beginning on Monday May 4th. We will resume collection of heavy trash, brush and recycling on their regular schedule. We very much appreciate those who complied with our request to stop putting those items out for the last few weeks. The mulch site on Canna Lane stayed quite busy with residents taking brush and recyclables to the site.

We will also resume selling garbage and recycle bags at city hall. You are welcome to come to the lobby and purchase those items. We ask you to follow social distancing protocols while in the building. Access to the rest of city hall will remain restricted to City employees only.

The Civic Center, Recreation Center and Jasmine Hall will remain closed in keeping with the Governor's orders. All city parks remain open but access to playground equipment continues to be prohibited.

The May 4th City Council meeting will be held at city hall at 6:30pm as regularly scheduled. We will be following strict social distancing protocol. All other board and commission meetings are still cancelled until at least June.

On May 18th the Governor may further open the Texas economy if the COVID-19 outbreak does not worsen in the state. Let's hope that is the case.

As of Monday the 27th, Brazoria County saw another 15 positive cases of COVID-19. Ten of these cases were in the various prison units in the county. Tragically, two inmates have now died of COVID-19 bringing the total number of deaths in our county to 5. These inmates were already housed in units in the county and were not part of the 128 positive inmates that were relocated here a few weeks ago.

So, as of 4/27 the county had 464 positive cases. Of these 250 have recovered leaving 209 active cases. Of those 209 active cases, 115 are in the various prison units in the county. That leaves 94 active cases among the citizens of Brazoria County. Lake Jackson still has only 2 active cases as of Monday. But that is subject to change. Again, this pandemic is far from over.

We cannot let our guard down. Please continue to practice social distancing, proper hygiene and the wearing of masks when you go out.

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