

**CITY OF SELMA**  
**DECLARATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER AND**  
**PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, in December 2019 a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, with symptoms including fever, cough and shortness of breath, and patient outcomes ranging 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, advising countries to prepare for the containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing, and prevention of onward spread of the disease and on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared that the COVID-19 outbreak should be characterized as pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code, the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, as the presiding officer of the City of Selma City Council, the City's governing body, the Mayor is designated as the emergency management director of the City of Selma and may exercise the powers granted of the Governor on an appropriate local scale; and

**WHEREAS**, a declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, compel persons to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease, including isolation, surveillance, quarantine, or placement of persons under public health observation, including the provision of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons misplaced or evacuated, request assistance from the governor of state resources, and access funds available for disaster relief and reimbursement at the state and federal level; and

**WHEREAS**, by this Declaration of Public Health Emergency, all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat are declared suspended for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the authority granted to the Mayor under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the use of all available resources of state government and political subdivisions to assist in the City's response to this situation is authorized; and

**WHEREAS**, I, Tom Daly, the Mayor of the City of Selma have determined that extraordinary and immediate measures must be taken to respond quickly, prevent and alleviate the suffering of people exposed to and those infected with the virus, as well as those that could potentially be infected or impacted by COVID-19.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY OF SELMA:**

1. That a local state of disaster and public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Selma pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

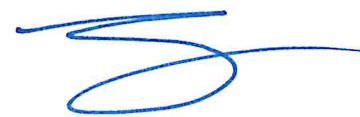
2. Pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster and public health emergency shall continue **for seven (7) days unless continued or renewed by the City Council.**
3. Pursuant to §418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.
4. Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency activates the City of Selma's emergency management plan.
5. Pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, I, Tom Daly, as Mayor of the City of Selma, in coordination and consultation with local health authorities, may issue further guidance and restrictions set out within the Declaration Regarding Public and Private Gatherings as set out by the Governor of the State Texas and the Center for Disease Control.
6. As Mayor, I further reserve all other authority and powers conferred by state law to respond as necessary to this situation.
7. Activation of the City Emergency Management Plan. Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Disaster Act, this declaration of a local state of disaster due to this public health emergency activates the City of Selma's Emergency Management Plan.
8. Effective Date. This proclamation shall take effect immediately upon its issuance by the Mayor of the City of Selma.

ORDERED THIS THE 19<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2020.



Attest:

  
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Johnny Casias, City Administrator

  
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Tom Daly, Mayor  
City of Selma