Hugh Coleman
Precinct 1

Ron Marchant
Precinct 2

Bobbie J. Mitchell
Precinct 3

Dianne Edmondson
Precinct 4

Denton County Commissioners Court
Judge Andy Eads

DISASTER DECLARATION
AND
EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE DENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108, Denton County Judge Andy Eads issued the first Executive Order on March 13, 2020, due to a novel coronavirus now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, County Commissioners have renewed and extended the initial Executive Order and Disaster Declarations to maintain the safety and security of the public while working to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the County recognizes the authority of Texas Governor Greg Abbott through the use of his Executive Orders to protect Texas from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Governor Gregg Abbott, on or about April 27, 2020, expressed that local officials cannot require individuals to wear masks to ensure that individual liberty is not infringed upon by government; and

WHEREAS, Governor Gregg Abbott, on June 17, 2020, stated that local governments can require stores and businesses to require masks; and

WHEREAS, Governor Gregg Abbott, on June 26, 2020, released an update that rolls back the reopening of Texas in some areas; and

WHEREAS, an innovative response is required to mitigate the future spread of COVID-19 to protect the citizens and businesses of Denton County and all incorporated and unincorporated areas; and

THEREFORE, the June 30, 2020, Executive Order of the Denton County Commissioners Court is hereby CONTINUED as follows:

Summary: The virus that causes 2019 Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) is easily transmitted through person to person contact, making it essential to slow the spread of the virus. Denton County has had over 6208 positive cases and 51 deaths related to COVID-19 in 39 of the 45 municipalities and the unincorporated areas of Denton County.

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 418.108, DENTON COUNTY JUDGE ANDY EADS AND DENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT ORDERS:

Effective as of 11:59 p.m. on July 28, 2020, this Disaster Declaration shall continue through September 8, 2020, by Order of the Denton County Commissioners Court unless rescinded by the County Judge, pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Government Code:

1. The Denton County Emergency Operations Plan and the Denton County Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plan shall remain activated through the end of the COVID-19 disaster.
2. As allowed by Local Government Code 262.024, exempt bidding requirements for the purpose of purchasing items necessary to preserve or protect the public health or safety of the residents of the county. This exemption shall remain in effect until a time when the Disaster Declaration is lifted.
3. On March 31, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order GA-14 which superseded any local Disaster Declaration. Any restriction imposed after that date was made by the Governor, not Denton County. Nothing in this Order is intended to impose restrictions inconsistent with Order GA-29, or any other subsequent order issued by the Governor in effect relating to COVID-19. Please visit www.gov.texas.gov/news to read the current Executive Orders of the Governor.
4. Any peace officer or other person with lawful authority is hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this Executive Order as permitted by law with a fine not to exceed $500.00 (five hundred Dollars).
5. The County of Denton must promptly provide copies of this Order by posting on dentoncounty.gov. If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Order or any application of it to any person, structure, gathering, or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Order.

The purpose of this Order is for emergency protective measures, mitigation procedures and response plans to the current public health emergency;

DONE IN OPEN COURT, this the 28th day of July 2020, upon motion made by:

Judge Eads and seconded by Commissioner Coleman, and all five members of the court being present and voting.

ANDY EADS, COUNTY JUDGE

HUGH COLEMAN,
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 1

RON MARCHANT,
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2

BOBBIE J. MITCHELL,
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 3

DIANNE EDMONDSON,
COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 4

ATTEST:

JULI LUKE, County Clerk and Ex-Officio
Clerk of the Commissioners Court of Denton County

BY:

TEXAS COMMISSIONER'S COURT OF DENTON COUNTY