

**Diana Martinez**  
*Mayor*

**Robert De La Garza**  
*Mayor Pro-Tem*

**Oscar Salinas**  
*Commissioner*

**Pete Morales**  
*Commissioner*

**Maria Del Pilar Garza**  
*Commissioner*

**Robert L. Salinas**  
*City Manager*



## NEWS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Friday, March 27, 2020

City of Alamo Office of the Mayor  
Office of Emergency Management

### COVID-19-SHELTER-AT-HOME

Dear Alamo Citizens,

The City of Alamo is working with our State and Hidalgo County leaders in taking ALL precautionary measures regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Hidalgo County Judge Richard Cortez has issued a EMEGENCY SHELTER-AT-HOME ORDER regarding COVID-19 and we will be following the outlined details in order to keep everyone safe. We are taking several steps to protect our citizens, businesses, visitors and employees.

Effective immediately, we are prohibiting mass gatherings of 10 or more within our city limits and respectfully requesting your assistance to ensure these gatherings do not occur. In order to make sure we do our part, the following is effective until April 10, 2020.

All Individuals are ORDERED to SHELTER-AT-HOME in their residence and may leave ONLY for:

**“Essential Activities” are going to the doctor, obtaining medical supplies, cleaning supplies, groceries, exercise, going to work for an essential business, caring for a family member, child, or pet.**

Businesses (except Essential Businesses) are required to **CEASE ALL** Activities at facilities, including but not limited to:

- Conference, festivals, parades, concert venues, sporting venues, wedding venues, flea-markets, & other type of similar assembly venues.
- All public or private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited.

- Church services may only be provided by video and teleconference. Religious institutions must limit in-person staff to ten (10) people or less when preparing for or conducting video or teleconference services
- Restaurants, Bars, lounges, food courts, and private clubs: drive thru, delivery or take-out service is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the duration of this Order.
- Fitness Centers and Gyms, spas and massage parlors, tattoos and piercing parlors, and tanning salons
- Hair and nail salons, barber shops, estheticians, and related personal care business
- Entertainment facilities such as bowling alleys, movie theaters and other types of non-essential entertainment establishments
- All elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures are prohibited.

Essential Businesses shall comply with:

- Social Distancing including maintaining six-foot social distancing for both employees and the general public;
- often washing hands with soap and water at least twenty seconds or using hand sanitizer;
- covering coughs or sneezes; cleaning high-touch surfaces; not shaking hands.

Permitted Businesses include: Essential Healthcare Operations, Essential Government Functions, Essential Critical Infrastructure, Essential Retail, Essential Services, Essential Services Necessary to Maintain Essential Operations of Residences or Other Essential Businesses, News Media, Childcare Services – **for a more complete list of these types of businesses, please review Alamo’s complete order.**

Other orders:

- No evictions or foreclosure proceedings for the next thirty days (April 26, 2020)
- If someone in a household has tested positive for coronavirus, the household is ordered to isolate at home. Members of the household cannot go to work, school, or any other community functions.
- Nursing homes, retirement, and long-term care facilities are instructed by this order to prohibit non-essential visitors from accessing their facilities unless to provide critical assistance or for end-of-life visitation.
- Public and private schools and institutions of higher education are instructed by this order to provide a safety plan to the City of Alamo, the Hidalgo County Health Department and the Hidalgo County Office of Emergency Management 72 hours before students return to classroom settings and/or allowed to congregate in groups of 10 or more.
- Residents shall conduct essential business online or via phone or regular mail, to the extent possible so as to avoid unnecessary traffic at facilities of the City of Alamo.
- Businesses that provide child care services, must implement the Texas Health and Human Services *COVID-19 Guidance to Child Care Providers*.
- In compliance with Governor Abbot’s March 19, 2020 Executive order, businesses that operate a Day Activity and Health Services (DAHS) Facility must comply with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission *Guidance on COVID 19 Response in DAHS Facilities*.
- Any individual, business, or entity conducting COVID-19 testing MUST provide notice of said testing operations, including number of test administered on a daily basis, to the Hidalgo County Health Department by calling (956) 318-2426 or emailing [epi@hchd.org](mailto:epi@hchd.org).

All Travel is prohibited except for **Essential Travel**:

Travel Allowed:

- Into and out of the City/County to perform Essential Personal Activities
- Healthcare Operations
- Operate Essential Businesses or
- Maintain Essential Governmental Functions and Essential Infrastructure Operations

**“Essential Travel” includes travel for any of the following purposes:**

- Any travel related to the provision of or access to Essential Personal Activities, Essential Governmental Functions, Essential Businesses, or Minimum Basic Operations
- Travel to care for elderly, minors, dependents, persons with disabilities, or other vulnerable persons
- Travel to or from educational institutions for purposes of receiving materials for distance learning, for receiving meals, and any other related services
- Travel to return to a place of residence from outside the jurisdiction
- Travel to return from a place of employment from outside the jurisdiction
- Travel required by law enforcement or court order
- Travel required for non-residents to return to their place of residence outside the City/County. Individuals are strongly encouraged to verify that their transportation out of the County remains available and functional prior to commencing such travel

Public Transportation may only be used for purposes of performing:

- Essential personal activities
- To travel to and from work for the purposes of: 1) operating Essential Businesses, and 2) maintaining Essential Government Functions and Essential Critical Infrastructure
- Shall comply with social distancing including (when possible): maintaining six-foot social distancing for both employees and the general public; often washing hands with soap and water at least twenty seconds or using hand sanitizer; covering coughs or sneezes; cleaning high-touch surfaces; not shaking hands.

**CITY OF ALAMO OPERATIONS SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:**

**City of Alamo Facilities:** members of the public are encouraged to limit any in person transactions or visits to City facilities that are NOT related to emergency and essential services, as necessary.

“Essential services” to the extent practicable, will be available online, by regular U.S. Mail and over the phone. In person visits may be limited to appointments when necessary.

Visit the City of Alamo website for the most current information as to hours of operation and plans for continuing services.

**City of Alamo Parks:** City owned park trails, walking tracks shall remain OPEN;

- **CLOSED AND SHALL NOT** be used/rented for the duration of this order are outdoor playscapes, splash pads, and pavilions

**City of Alamo Committees and Boards:**

- All City boards and advisory committees shall limit the total number of people present at a meeting to no more than 10.

**PRICE CONTROLS REMAIN IN EFFECT;**

A person and/or business shall not sell any goods or service, including but not limited to the following, for more than the price the person charged for the goods or services on **March 17, 2020:**

- 1) groceries, beverages, toilet articles, ice
- 2) construction and building materials and supplies, and earthmoving equipment and machinery
- 3) electrical and gas generating and transmission equipment, parts and accessories
- 4) charcoal briquettes, matches, candles, lamp illumination and heat unit carbides, dry batteries, light bulbs, flashlights, and hand lanterns
- 5) hand tools (manual and power), hardware and household supplies, and equipment rental
- 6) automotive parts, supplies, and accessories
- 7) plumbing and electrical tools and supplies
- 8) apartment, duplex, multi-family dwelling, rooming house, hotel and motel rental
- 9) gasoline, diesel oil, motor oil, kerosene, grease, and automotive lubricants
- 10) restaurant, cafeteria, and boarding-house meals
- 11) services of roofing and building contractors, plumbers, electricians, mechanics,
- 12) medicine, pharmaceutical, and medical equipment and supplies
- 13) blankets, quilts, bedspreads, bed linens, mattresses, bedsprings, bedsteads, towels, & toilet paper
- 14) furniture and clothing

Report any Alamo business violating price controls to Alamo Police Department

Please be assured we are working diligently to keep our community safe and we respectfully request your assistance to do so.

Respectfully,



Mayor Diana Martinez

Additional COVID-19 update Resources:

City of Alamo: <https://alamotexas.org/>

Hidalgo County: <https://www.hidalgocounty.us/coronavirusupdates>

State of Texas Office of Risk Management: <http://www.sorm.state.tx.us/>