



Mayor's Message – March 18,2020

Neighbors –

Bi-weekly conference calls are being held with Llano County Judge Ron Cunningham, Burnet County Judge James Oakley, Llano County Health Authority Jack Franklin and Burnet County Dr. Madrigal, Rep. Murr and Sen. Buckingham's office, Emergency Management Coordinator Gilbert Bennett, in concert with area school district Supts and Mayors. YOUR city Emergency Management Response Team has verified our city's preparedness and posted info  on the city website. As a summary of key notes:

- According to the CoVid-19 "Heat Map", we are in Phase 2 as there is at least one *person under investigation* (PUI) in Llano County; Over 74 cases in Texas (with 2 deaths) /at least 3 confirmed cases in Austin, triggering a CDC Stage 2 **recommendation to limit gatherings to less than 10.**
- Anyone with flu systems SHOULD immediately contact your doctor and/or go through the local hospital website (bswhealth.com) an on-line screening. **DO NOT go to the hospital without completing this and receiving authority.** This will help to not overwhelm hospitals. **Baylor Scott-White is prepared to test as needed.** Once tested, you will "self quarantine" until results are received and you are given further instructions.
- Anyone with coughing/sneezing should wear a mask around others (and STAY HOME); this prevents you expelling moisture, but these masks DO NOT keep you from receiving the virus. Only a medical level (M-95) does and limited supplies are for medical and emergency workers.
- Most important **to maintain the 6 foot 'social distancing' in any small groups** (keep all gatherings UNDER 10 please AND with social distancing). When we find we have low levels of cases, it is not because there was not a threat – but because our actions thwarted the threat.
- **Wash frequently** (soap is as effective as alcohol-based sanitizers as the virus is "Lipid" based which means it has a fatty layer that is permeated by soaps just as greasy dishes would be). Evidence indicates the **virus may live on metal or other smooth services for 2-3 days.** It is critical that counters and surfaces that may be publicly touched are washed repeatedly.
- **Emergency 1st responders** will take more caution when responding to a call. You may see them have only one staff enter a home/setting with protective gear and bring the patient out to the EMS vehicle rather than entering the home. Our EMT/Fire Dept is fully staffed and prepared.
- **The resort and other businesses remain open, but** are adhering to restricted safety measures/ groupings. We want to support our workers/service providers while using cautious practices.

City office lobbies are closed but staff remain ready to serve via calls and emails. Be sure you are signed up for **CIVIC READY** alert notices and access www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov for updated CoVid19 info. The city has authority to declare 'disaster' status – but will do this only if extraordinary expenditures are incurred (necessary for reimbursement) or public behavior does not appear to be taking safe measures. For now, we do not want to accelerate unnecessary fear – and will rely upon best practices by all.

Thank you for joining hands (or just elbow bumping) as we heed the call of the President and State/County leaders who have asked us to show our citizenship in times of potential danger. I trust Horseshoe Bay to boldly accept the challenge with a positive spirit. **Our neighbor, Mimi Blackmon, is leading the optimism by hanging a string of twinkle lights** on her front entry. As we take on an abundance of caution, what a great way to visibly show our faith in better days ahead. **Join the 'shine'**, look out for neighbors in need, care for yourself, and always call upon your city staff where needed.

Cynthia Clinesmith, Mayor