



## Mayor's Message – May 20, 2020

As we continue to **count our blessings in Horseshoe Bay for ZERO active cases of COVID\***, we remain aware of the activity across our State (see charts below). This past week, the federal health officials tested an additional 60 random citizens at a Kingsland church helping us to measure the safety of our gradual re-opening across the county. Results will arrive next week, though no Horseshoe Bay residents are identified as having been in this sample group. **For the State, as of May 13:**

### Texas total people tested

Total	623,284
Public Labs	19,759
Private Labs	603,525
Lab Confirmed Patients in Texas Hospitals	1,648

### Texas COVID-19 Cases

Total Statewide Cases	43,851
Fatalities	1,216
Active Cases	18,148
Est. Patients Recovered	24,487

* County/ Area Testing for HSBay	
BSWhite Hosp	50+ (referral only)
Fed Health Auth	135 (no positives)
Private Physicians	Unknown; 2x+ public
Burnet Co/Fed	195/Antibody -31*

\*Burnet Co will open Antibody testing for those who indicate prior COVID in the next two weeks; details to come

- In this week's call with the Governor we learned of potential federal support for cities' financial losses due to sales revenue depletion. While **the City of Horseshoe Bay will experience significant financial loss (over \$200,000 so far)**, we have prepared for catastrophic events (floods, tornado, pandemic?) and have a reserve fund to help in the interim. Careful budgeting by the City has allowed for quality services while maintaining this responsible safety net fund. All actual expenditures due to COVID (equipment, training, staffing) will be reimbursed. **Our direct costs have been limited to date** – just over \$15,000 as of this week. This does not include costs for personnel overtime/replacement as some officers have been quarantined for various potential exposure incidents. All our first responders are safe and cleared.

For Horseshoe Bay, **our cautious - yet forward-moving opening appears to be successful.**

Individuals (most citizens) are appropriately wearing masks in mixed commercial settings, maintaining distancing, and using hand sanitation practices. This will continue to allow us all to open even more social engagement, business access and return to work opportunities. Our citizens recognizing that their actions impact their neighbors reinforces that we are a caring, responsible community prepared for success. **THANK YOU! All businesses are now able to operate with some stipulations in Horseshoe Bay** – as they choose when ready to open. We are working with larger venue opportunities at the Resort and with area events for summer experiences as our friends and family travel to join us – and social life begins to safely open.

- Your **City Council will meet Tuesday in isolation** (access through live audio feed) with a limited agenda. The Council Chambers will open (with spaced seating) for the June meeting before budget and program plans for the 2020-21 year begin. At the June meeting we will **recognize the exceptional work of our partner, Baylor, Scott & White**, in caring for our health needs now AND throughout the year. Plans for a shared blood drive are in discussion.

- As we begin plans for the coming years, **your Long-Range Plan survey** responses will be crucial. Please take a few moments to complete the survey ([horseshoebaysurvey.com](https://horseshoebaysurvey.com)), also available as a link on the [www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov](http://www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov) website. Scroll down the website for all the most current City news. **The LRPlan committee** (Elsie Thurman, **Cecil Burdick**, Mike Kolar, Brooks Herring, Rick Pitts, Dan Gillean, and Frank Van Horn – with advisors Bud Nichols, Lynnette Morrison, Forest Covin and Jerry Gray) have worked on your behalf to ensure all voices are heard. They have conducted multiple interviews with business owners and special interest groups – and will host town forums as we begin to open small group gatherings. Please **THANK THEM** when you see them for their time and dedication!
- Remembering surveys, please be sure you complete the **2020 Census** so we have accurate and full representation for our City in future State and Federal plans. ([2020Census.gov](https://2020census.gov)). It matters!
- Plans have begun for summer with the Business Alliance announcing it will hold its **Boogie at the Bay concerts at Quail Point (abbreviated to 3 events) beginning in mid-June**. This safely managed venue will allow us to have some much needed fun social time together. Unfortunately, **the 4<sup>th</sup> of July annual event will be cancelled this year** as ensuring safe engagement is just too extensive for the potential crowds and children involved. Information will be coming to encourage all to ‘raise’ a celebration flag on the 4<sup>th</sup> and ‘shine’ that red, white, and blue’ as we reflect on the independence we all experience as Americans. **RAISE and SHINE!**

The Resort will host some events and area Firework Displays are under review. Keep in mind those sponsoring such events are usually businesses that have suffered significant loss during the pandemic – so frequent our local merchants as they open to help lift them up. **SHOP LOCAL!**

- Local businesses **DO** indicate they have felt the support.....with strong drive-thru and on-line purchases. They appreciate everyone engaging their services for a win-win for us all. The hope is that **new habits of shopping/frequenting local services** is a positive outcome of the times.
- One area mainstay for us all over the years has been the BlueBonnet Café – when 20+ years ago they were nearly our only dining/social outlet providing excellent breakfast, home cooked lunch, and the essential Happy Hour Pie experiences! **It is with heartfelt sadness that we learned of the passing of the owner John Kemper this week**. His family has provided not just a legendary eating establishment....but has been a key philanthropic donor and supporter of programs and needs throughout the community for decades. While his family will continue the tradition of great service at the Bluebonnet, John will be missed by all.
- Road work continues on Hwy 2147 as well as resurfacing efforts throughout the community. See the maps on the city website for work and related closure dates.
- People wondering about the **‘odd shaped building’ near the reclamation center** are discovering it is the completed training facility for the City Fire Department. With moveable walls and varied entries and challenges, it allows our firefighters access to preparing for response to all needs in the community. The reclamation center will also be seeing some expansions and reworked traffic patterns in the coming year to assist in better citizen access for recycling.

The drenching rain this weekend makes us greener and fresher than ever – reflecting the spirit of reawakening we are all beginning to feel. Stay safe...but breathe - **you are home** in a place like no other.

Cynthia Clinesmith, Mayor

City Website - [www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov](http://www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov)



for CoVid19 details/county and state actions