



March 17, 2020

Fellow citizens:

As of today, the second case of COVID-19 has been reported in Galveston County. The City of Dickinson is taking proactive measures to ensure the safety of our community by joining in county initiatives by limiting large, city-sponsored gatherings and closing two City facilities. Beginning Wednesday, March 18, 2020, the Historic Railroad Depot and the Dickinson Public Library will be closed until further notice.

Additionally, the City is directing City employees to cancel and/or reschedule all non-essential training and travel until further notice. The City Administrator will continue to evaluate and, if necessary, modify department activity. The Emergency Management team is continuing to monitor the COVID-19 situation and will take proper precautions to limit the spread of the virus, as directed by the CDC.

The City is not compelling any businesses to close due to COVID-19; however, citizens and business owners should take all precautions to protect themselves, family members, staff, and the public from possible exposure by practicing social distancing as defined by the CDC.

We stress that you:

- Continue to wash your hands with soap for at least 20 seconds, **always** after blowing nose, coughing, sneezing
- Avoid close contact with others
- Avoid small public places
- Wash your hands before and after touching anything anyone else has handled
- Avoid touching your face, eyes and mouth with unclean hands
- Keep a paper towel or napkin in hand to open doors; Push doors open with shoulder or elbow
- Use soap or cleanser to clean touched surfaces and disinfect frequently
- **STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK!** The Flu and allergies are still prevalent in this area, please stay home if experiencing affects from either

Over the coming days and weeks, the City will continue to assess the situation and we will update residents regularly about future closures and impacts to the community through the City's website and social media pages. PLEASE NOTE: The health and the health of our loved ones is priority for us all. The COVID-19 response presents a very fluid situation, please stay in tune with the ever-changing situation and use the upmost precaution if any public interaction is necessary (ie: grocery and retail stores, Doctor appointments, etc). Stay well!

The **Galveston County Health District** has opened an information call center to answer questions about COVID-19. The center is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The number to call is 409-938-7221. Updated information is also available at <https://www.gchd.org/>. The **Texas Department of State Health Services** is an additional resource available to the public for updates regarding COVID-19 <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/>.

With deepest respect and concern,

Julie Masters
Mayor