

**RATIFICATION AND CONTINUATION OF THE JUNE 26, 2020
DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER SIGNED BY THE MAYOR
OF THE CITY OF SEGUIN, TEXAS**

WHEREAS, in December 2019 a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Outcomes have ranged from mild to severe illness, and in some cases death; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2020, the City Council extended the General Declaration of Emergency to continue until such time as the Governor declares that the state of emergency has ended; and

WHEREAS, after May, as businesses reopened the number of reported cases of COVID-19 began to climb; and

WHEREAS, the spike in the number of COVID-19 cases, along with the number of hospitalizations, increased at a rate that began taxing the number of available hospital beds and capacity to care for patients; and

WHEREAS, the continued spike in cases in Seguin has increased the chance that first responders and other essential employees come into contact with persons spreading COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in order to assure that all city services remain available to the public, including businesses located within the City, the city needs to take measures to protect its employees as well as its citizens; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the increased number of cases the Governor issued Executive Order GA-28 that imposed limits on restaurants and closed bars; and

WHEREAS, under Executive Order GA-28 the Governor granted authority to local governments to require that businesses adopt and implement a health and safety plan that includes the requirement that employees and visitors wear face masks; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Seguin signed a Declaration of Local Disaster adopting, in most parts, the Governor's Executive Order.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF SEGUIN, TEXAS:

PART ONE. The June 26, 2020, Declaration of Disaster signed by the Mayor of Seguin, Texas is hereby approved, ratified and continued in full, except Section 2(b) which is amended to read as follows:

Health and Safety Policy - Commercial Entities. That all commercial entities in the City of Seguin providing goods or services directly to the public must develop, post and implement a health and safety policy ("Policy"). The Policy must require, at a minimum, that all employees or visitors to the commercial entity's business premises or other facilities wear face coverings when in an area or performing an activity which will necessarily involve close contact or proximity to co-workers or the public where six (6) feet of separation is not feasible. The Policy required to be developed and implemented by this Order may also include the implementation of other mitigating measures designed to control and reduce the transmission of COVID-19, such as temperature checks or health screenings. Commercial entities must post the Policy required by this Order in a conspicuous location sufficient to provide notice to employees and visitors of all health and safety requirements.

In accordance with Texas Local Government Code Section 54.012 a failure to comply with above paragraph regarding developing and implementing a health and safety plan that at a minimum requires all employees and visitors to wear a face mask may result in a civil fine assessed in accordance with Section 1-14 of the Seguin Code of Ordinances.

PART TWO. The Declaration of Disaster shall continue in force as a health and safety ordinance of the City of Seguin until either repealed by the City Council; or until the issues, both health and economic, tied to the COVID-19 pandemic have dissipated and the President of the United States and the Governor of the State of Texas have lifted all related emergency orders.

SIGNED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of July 2020.

DON KEIL, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Naomi Manski, City Secretary