

**CITY OF CANTON, TEXAS
MAYORAL DECLARATION REGARDING
EVENTS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF CANTON, TEXAS**

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, after several weeks of businesses being shut down throughout the State of Texas, Governor Abbott has allowed businesses to reopen by category at designated points in time throughout the past month;

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued Executive Order GA-28, prohibiting municipal outdoor gatherings in excess of 100 persons (unless subject to a specified exemption) unless the event is approved by the Mayor and such approval can be made subject to certain conditions or restrictions not inconsistent with Executive Order GA-28;

WHEREAS, on July 2, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott issued Executive Order GA-29 and a Proclamation amending GA-28 that mandated masks whenever a person could not socially distance, and prohibited most outdoor gatherings in excess of ten people, unless the Mayor of a city approved the gathering. Under GA-28 as amended, the Mayor may subject outdoor gatherings to additional conditions or restrictions.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CANTON, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. In an effort to provide event organizers with a level of certainty, an outdoor event in excess of ten (10) people is approved by the Mayor and may take place in the city limits without further approval required if the following additional safety measures are adhered to:

1. Event organizers are required to encourage event participants to social distance, or wear a face covering if social distancing is not feasible. All persons attending are strongly recommended to follow DSHS and CDC-recommended practices to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. The City will rely upon the event organizer and the event attendees to self-regulate and use common sense in the application of this requirement.
2. Events with more than thirty (30) attendees must have hand washing or hand sanitizing stations available. There should be one station for every thirty attendees. The City will rely upon the event organizer to self-regulate and use common sense in the application of this requirement.
3. Event organizers wishing to host an outdoor event with 300 people or more must first submit a written plan to maintain social distancing to the City of

Abilene. It will be reviewed by the Mayor and a decision will be made upon the request within three business days. Social distancing plans for events with 300 or more people should be emailed to djohnson@cantontx.gov.

4. The following outdoor gatherings are not prohibited by the Governor and therefore do NOT need approval by the Mayor:
 - a. Essential services;
 - b. Religious services;
 - c. Local government operations;
 - d. Child-care services;
 - e. Youth camps;
 - f. Youth and adult recreational sports programs;
 - g. Professional and collegiate sporting events;
 - h. Swimming pools;
 - i. Water parks;
 - j. Museums;
 - k. Libraries;
 - l. Zoos;
 - m. Aquariums;
 - n. Natural caverns;
 - o. Rodeos;
 - p. Equestrian events;
 - q. Amusement parks.

Other restrictions issued by the Governor may apply to these outdoor events.

SECTION 2. Nothing herein shall prevent or restrict the Mayor from revoking approval at any outdoor event, nor prevent or restrict the Mayor from adding to or removing the additional conditions stated above, with or without prior notice to an event organizer or the public.

SECTION 3. In addition, and insofar as weddings and funerals are considered religious services or religious worship as set out in the Governor's Executive Orders GA-28 and GA-29, the Governor's face-covering requirement does not apply, whether the wedding or funeral takes place inside or outside.

SECTION 4. That persons in vulnerable populations (including those over the age of 65) are encouraged to stay at home as much as possible, however, if attending these events, persons in vulnerable populations are encouraged to practice social distancing, good hygiene, and due care to avoid the transmission of COVID-19;

SECTION 5. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

SECTION 6. That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance and continue for a period of thirty (30) days unless revoked sooner by the Mayor.

DECLARED this 29th day of July, 2020.



Lou Ann Everett
Lou Ann Everett, Mayor
City of Canton, Texas

ATTEST:

Debra Johnson
Debra Johnson, City Secretary