

# **City of San Marcos**

## **City Council Special Meeting**

April 16, 2020

# Status Report

## Item 1

Receive status reports and updates on response to COVID-19 pandemic; hold Council discussion, and provide direction to Staff.

## **Known Cases – as of Wednesday 4/15 at 4:00 p.m.**

- **579,005 U.S. cases with at least 22,252 deaths in 55 states or territories including D.C.**
- **14,624 cases in 181 Texas counties with 318 deaths**
- **104 in Hays County with 1 death (19 active in San Marcos, 43 recovered)**
  - 638 tests returned negative
  - 43 recovered (60 active)
  - 18 still awaiting results
  - 10 cases have required hospitalization, 2 current

# Updates to Governor Abbott's Actions

- **April 2 – Increase EMS, First Responder workforce**
  - Permitted individuals who are qualified, though not formally certified, to provide critical emergency response services for patients for licensed EMS providers
- **April 5 – Expand Health Care workforce**
  - Allowed emergency licenses to Physician Assistants, Medical Physicists, Perfusionists, and Respiratory Care candidates for licensure who have completed all other requirements
- **April 7 – Temporary closure of State parks and historic sites**
  - Directed Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Texas Historical Commission to close all state parks and historic sites.
- **April 12 – Extends Disaster Declaration for COVID-19**
  - Extended original Disaster Declaration issued on March 13 for all Texas counties in response to COVID-19

## **Efforts to date (updated)**

- **Installed portable restrooms, handwashing stations**
  - Facilities temporarily installed at two locations adjacent to Southside Community Center and the Dog Park
- **Held regularly scheduled City Council (4/7) and Planning and Zoning Commission (4/14) meetings in virtual environment**
- **Processed Late Fee Exemptions for 76 commercial utility accounts, 54 residential utility accounts since implementation on March 26**
  - Set up payment arrangements totaling over \$136,000 for 537 utility customer accounts over that same time period
- **Closed all parks Easter weekend**
- **Providing daily Council email updates and message board additions**

## Efforts to date (updated)

- **Installing signs at gas pumps**
  - 228 signs installed at pumps at 28 different locations; 100 more on order to install at 9 additional locations
- **Acquiring personal protective equipment (PPE) for City staff**
  - Includes face masks, disinfectant
  - Paid for from new COVID-19 line item from existing budget funds
    - General Fund, Water/Wastewater and the Electric Utility Funds proposed to contribute \$50,000 from Special Services accounts
  - Budget amendment will be brought for Council consideration on April 21
  - Continue to emphasize social distancing measures

# Additional City actions

- **Applying for COVID-19 grant funding**
  - All Together ATX Central Texas COVID-19 Rapid Response Grant – application submitted
    - \$24,900 funding request to the Austin Community Foundation and United Way for Greater Austin
    - provide utility assistance to needy customers
  - Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF), Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance – in development
    - allocation of \$51,345 to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus
    - SMPD is identifying needs including PPE and cleaning supplies
  - The Grills Fund for Main Street Revitalization – under consideration
    - five \$10,000 awards to Accredited Main Street America Programs nationwide to help fund innovative revitalization efforts to address the impacts of COVID-19

## April 21 meeting

- Financial update during work session
  - Economic outlook
  - Financial policy review
  - Cost reduction measures
  - Capital improvement projects and debt issuance
- Budget amendment to allocate \$50,000 from the Special Services budgets in each of the three major funds: General, Electric, Water/Wastewater to be used for COVID-19 Response



# Disaster Recovery Process

- **Provide general overview of how the disaster recovery process will be structured.**
  - Emergency Management Framework
  - Community support and involvement

- <http://www.sanmarcostx.gov/covid19info>
- <http://haysinformed.com/health-update/>
- <https://hayscountytexas.com/covid-19-information-for-hays-county-residents/>
- <https://www.smcisd.net/>
- <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>
- <https://sanmarcostexas.com/>