

**DECLARATION NO. 2020-02**

**A DECLARATION OF THE CITY OF HELOTES, TEXAS, EXTENDING A DECLARATION ORDER OF LOCAL DISASTER AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR THE CITY OF HELOTES AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS; ESTABLISHING THE COMMENCEMENT DATE AND PERIOD; INCORPORATING RECITALS; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY.**

**WHEREAS**, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has been recognized globally as a contagious respiratory virus; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 continues to spread and to pose an increasing, imminent threat of disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, on Friday, March 13, 2020 Bexar County Judge issued a declaration of a local disaster and public health emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Helotes has followed the Bexar County declaration and cancelled non-essential events; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the Mayor is designated as the emergency management director of the City of Helotes, and may exercise the powers granted to the governor on an appropriate local scale; and

**WHEREAS**, on Friday, March 20, 2020 Mayor Thomas A. Schoolcraft determined that there was an imminent threat resulting from COVID-19 and issued a declaration of local disaster for the City of Helotes for a period of not more than seven (7) days; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Helotes has determined that the declaration of local disaster and public health emergency must be extended to respond quickly, prevent and alleviate the suffering of people exposed to and those infected with the virus, as well as those that could potentially be infected or impacted by COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, a declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, compel persons to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of the disease, including isolation, surveillance, quarantine, or placement of persons under public health observations, including the provision of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons misplaced or evacuated and request assistance from the governor of state resources.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HELOTES, TEXAS THAT:**

**SECTION ONE.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code, the Mayor declared a local state of disaster for the City of Helotes on Friday, March 20, 2020.

**SECTION TWO.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of the declaration unless continued or renewed by the City Council of the City of Helotes. The declaration is hereby renewed and extended by the City Council for a period of sixty (60) days commencing on Friday, March 27, 2020.

**SECTION THREE.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.

**SECTION FOUR.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City of Helotes's emergency management plan.

**SECTION FIVE.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(f) of the Texas Government Code, the Mayor may control ingress to and egress from a disaster within the City and may control movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in the area.

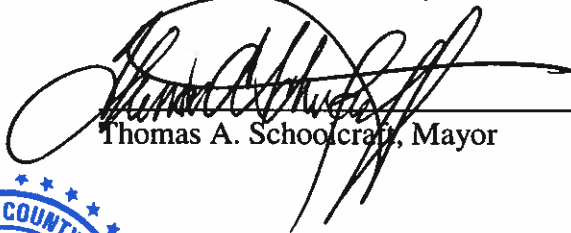
**SECTION SIX.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(h) of the Texas Government Code, the City of Helotes will, as a minimum standard, follow the evacuation, ingress to and egress from the City and movement and occupancy of premises as ordered by the Bexar County Judge.

**SECTION SEVEN.** The City Council finds all of the above recitals to be true and correct and incorporates the same in this Order as findings of fact.


**SECTION EIGHT.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Order is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or illegal, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections of this Order. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Order, and each section, subsection, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared void.

**SECTION NINE.** This Order shall commence on Friday, March 27, 2020 for a period of sixty (60) days.

**ORDERED** by the City Council of the City of Helotes this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
Thomas A. Schoolcraft, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Celina Perez, City Secretary

