CITY MANAGER’S OFFICE

On Thursday, March 12th, Dallas County issued a Disaster Declaration for Public Health Emergency.

Subsequently, on Friday, March 13th, Rowlett Mayor Tammy Dana-Bashian issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency. This order is effective 11:01am on March 20, 2020, continuing through 11:00am on April 30, 2020.

**In summary:** The virus that causes 2019 Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) is easily transmitted through person to person contact, especially in group settings, and it is essential that the spread of the virus be slowed to protect the ability of public and private health care providers to handle the influx of new patients and safeguard public health and safety.

Because of the risk of the rapid spread of the virus, and the need to protect the most vulnerable members of the community, this Order prohibits community gatherings of 50 persons or more anywhere in the City of Rowlett. Additionally, this Order prohibits social gatherings of 10 persons or more anywhere in the City.

For more information and to keep up with all the updates coming from the City of Rowlett, Dallas County and the State of Texas, go to www.Rowlett.com/COVID-19

**Important City Meetings**

- **City Council** – Regular Meetings: April 7 & 21; 5:30 pm @ City Hall; *check agenda on website* Friday before mtg
- **Special Council Meetings:** Monday nights on off weeks of Regular Meetings.
  - March 23 & 30, 5:30pm @ City Hall
- **P&Z Commission** – March 24 – ***Meeting CANCELLED***
  - Will meet on an as needed basis on regular nights.
- **Board of Adjustment** – Will meet as needed, 7pm @ City Hall

We ask that you watch these meetings on Rowlett’s Cable Channel RTN16 or streaming online through our website.

ALL OTHER BOARDS & COMMISSIONS ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Texas Governor Greg Abbott issued an Executive Order on Thursday, March 19th mandating statewide COVID-19 control measures. The governor’s executive order is in effect 11:59pm on March 20, 2020, through 11:59pm on April 3, 2020, subject to extension. The order states: In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, every person in Texas shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.

Restaurants with or without drive-in or drive-through services may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-through services. The use of restaurant drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the limited duration of this executive order. Bars, food courts, and gyms will be closed.

In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.

In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, schools shall temporarily close. This executive order does not prohibit people from visiting a variety of places, including grocery stores, gas stations, parks, and banks, so long as the necessary precautions are maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19.
This executive order does not mandate sheltering in place. All critical infrastructure will remain operational, domestic travel will remain unrestricted, and government entities and businesses will continue providing essential services. For offices and workplaces that remain open, employees should practice good hygiene and, where feasible, work from home in order to achieve optimum isolation from COVID-19. The more that people reduce their public contact, the sooner COVID-19 will be contained and the sooner this executive order will expire.

If you missed the COVID-19 Virtual Town Hall Meeting held on Monday, March 16th, it is available for viewing now. Hosted by Mayor Tammy Dana-Bashian, City Manager Brian Funderburk, City of Rowlett Emergency Manager Coordinator Ed Balderas and Garland Health Authority Public Health Manager Diana Beeler.

Current City Facility Closures, Fee Suspensions, and Event Cancellations

The City of Rowlett has closed the following facilities as of 11:59pm on Monday, March 16th:

- Rowlett Community Centre
- Rowlett Public Library
- Kids Kingdom Park (an outdoor “Community Gathering” under this Order is limited to events in confined outdoor spaces, which means an outdoor space that is enclosed by a fence, physical barrier, or other structure and where people are present and they are within six feet of one another for extended periods.)

Also, American Golf, the City’s 3rd party management company has closed Waterview Golf Course.

In addition, this list of items is in place now:

- **Municipal Court Dockets** postponed through April 3rd.
- All City athletic leagues will be postponed.
- Utility disconnects for non-payment are suspended.
- Late fees on water bills are suspended.
- Library fines are suspended.
- Code Enforcement will still provide notices, but citations are suspended.
- Classes, tours and other non-essential gatherings at the Police Department and Fire Stations are suspended.
- Playgrounds other than Kids Kingdom remain open at this time.
- Parks remain open at this time, but port-a-potties will be removed due to the lack of hand-washing stations. Permanent restroom facilities will remain open.
- Non-essential City events scheduled through April 30 are canceled or postponed (each event will be separately evaluated to determine if it will be postponed or canceled).
- City Council, Planning & Zoning, and Board of Adjustments will still meet on their regular schedule. Economic Development Advisory Board will meet on an as needed basis. All other Boards & Commission meetings have been postponed but have been empowered to establish smaller sub-committees to continue work on time-sensitive items.
Rowlett Ready
Community Organizations Active in Disaster

This community has a long, notable history of helping our neighbors in need when disaster strikes. Rowlett residents are strong and resilient.

To help those in need right now, and to provide an avenue for those who wish to help, the City of Rowlett has formed the Rowlett Community Organizations Active in Disaster Committee (RCOAD). This is a permanent committee and will provide assistance to our citizens and community during and after disaster situations.

The RCOAD is ready to help you through the COVID-2019 outbreak. Visit RowlettReady.com to find resources for spiritual and emotional care, business assistance information, local food bank and utility assistance, and more. RowlettReady.com is also now able to accept donations, coordinate volunteer opportunities, and facilitate needs for Rowlett residents.

#MyRowlett #BetterTogether #RowlettReady

If you have to go to the grocery store, make sure you do it wisely. And please be patient with the folks serving you in our stores, this is a stressful time for them as well and your smile would really brighten their day 🤗.

#MyRowlett #BetterTogether #KindnessCounts

2020 US Census – While you are home, you can respond to the Census!

- Easy, Safe, + Confidential – NO Online ID required – NO Citizenship question
- Online - My2020Census.gov
- By Phone - 844-330-2020
- By Mail

Ensuring that Texas has a complete count is vital to the quality of life Texans enjoy. The Census Bureau estimates that in 2010, Texas had an undercount of 1%, costing us at least $1 billion that could have been used for education, roads and more throughout our state.

Together, We Count. Be sure to fill out your Census and encourage your family, neighbors and community to do the same. More questions?

Visit 2020 Census

United States
Census 2020

Your City Government

Mission – The City of Rowlett provides innovative citizen-centered services that exceed the expectations of our residents, businesses, and guests. Our purpose is to serve.

Strategic Plan

Govern Transparently & Inclusively
Foster Economic Vitality
Ensure a Safe Community
Invest In Transportation & Infrastructure
Strengthen Neighborhood Liveability
Promote Operational Excellence
Enhance Quality of Life

Strategic Plan Community Dashboard

Use Chrome or Firefox

FRIDAY@5 – WEEKLY UPDATE FOR 03.20.20

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Email your questions to AskTheMayor@Rowlett.com

The newest video is now available for viewing and all are on the City’s YouTube channel – @RowlettTexasVideo.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT


The Rowlett Chamber of Commerce is here to help small businesses weather the COVID-19 crisis. And by doing so, asks you to help our small businesses during this time. As of March 19th, they have compiled a restaurant listing that offers drive-through, curbside pickup, delivery as well as delivery through other companies such as Door Dash, etc. Restaurants are allowed to let customers in to order, pay and leave but customers are NOT allowed to hangout or consume their food on premises. Care should be taken to avoid physical contact with employees. After getting your food employees and customers who interact should both wash their hands or use hand sanitizer. The list is subject to change, so check back often!

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS ➔ Additionally, businesses are being asked to take this online survey in order to ascertain how they are being affected by COVID-19 and what potential resources may be of use to them. Please take it today!

LIBRARY

In compliance with Dallas County’s amended Disaster Declaration, Rowlett Public Library is closed to the public until further notice. While the Library is closed, materials will not be due and fines will not accrue. If you wish to return materials, the Library’s overnight drop (located to the left of the entrance) will be available.

Library staff are working to provide as much of the Library experience as possible in a virtual fashion and to inconvenience patrons as little as possible. To help connect more patrons with online services, the Library has temporarily waived blocks on accounts with excessive fines or fees. If you cannot remember your 4-digit PIN or need assistance connecting to any of the Library’s online services, please call at 972-412-6161.


Because of the Disaster Declaration, Rowlett Sings is postponed. The Arts and Humanities Commission is just as disappointed as all of you, and they look forward to resuming as soon as possible. Commission members enjoyed listening to your submissions and appreciate all of the hard work and talent of our citizens. Conversations are taking place about holding this year’s competition in the fall, so stay tuned. The Arts and Humanities Commission is absolutely committed to resuming this competition and having all of our wonderful singers up on that stage!
The Library facility may be closed to the public right now, but your Library staff is working hard to bring their programming to YOU. Follow the City of Rowlett Library on Facebook (@RowlettPublicLibrary), where they are providing weekly virtual storytimes, great links to help your kids in their new learning environment while schools are closed, screen-free games to play, resources to help beat cabin-fever, and so much more. Also, volunteer GED tutors who have students close to taking their tests are interacting with them over the phone so they don't lose their momentum.

This is in addition to all of the great online resources already offered!
- OverDrive — North Texas for eBooks and audiobooks.
- Hoopla to instantly borrow free digital movies, music, eBooks and more.
- Kanopy, which offers over 30,000 titles, including award-winning documentaries and acclaimed films, rare and hard-to-find titles, and classic films, with collections from The Great Courses, Kino Lorber, and PBS among many others.
- RBDigital Magazines & RBDigital Audiobooks.
- Project Gutenberg offers public domain eBooks, with over 30,000 titles to choose from.
- LibriVox eAudiobooks. Search by author, title, genre/subject or language.

Oh, and while the Library is closed, materials will not be due and fines will not accrue. If you wish to return materials, the Library’s overnight drop (located to the left of the entrance) will be available.

#MyRowlett #BetterTogether #LibrariesROCK

**PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

In compliance with Dallas County’s amended Disaster Declaration, Rowlett Community Centre is closed to the public until further notice. Park’s staff is working to provide as much of the “fun” experience as possible in a virtual fashion and to inconvenience patrons as little as possible. Please like our Facebook page and check it often to keep up with all kinds of “virtual fun”! And as soon as we can, we’ll be rescheduling any of the events that are postponed due to the Coronavirus crisis. We appreciate your patience as we work together through the next few weeks.

Below is a listing of what we know so far:

**Athletic Leagues and Partners**
- City of Rowlett leagues have been postponed until further notice.
- Rowlett Hockey League has been postponed until further notice.
- Rowlett Youth Soccer has been postponed until March 28th at this time with the ability to extend.
- Rowlett Adult Softball will be postponed until further notice as of March 18th.
- Solar Soccer will be postponed until further notice as of March 18th.
- Dallas Fastpitch cancelled rentals.

**Facility Rentals**
- Current rentals through Friday, March 20th have been cancelled at the RCC.
- Park Pavilion rentals with groups over 50 will be cancelled through April 30th.
- All baseball and soccer field rentals have been cancelled.

**Parks**
- Waterview Golf Course has been closed by American Golf, the City’s 3rd party management company.
- Port-a-lets are being removed.
- Permanent restrooms will be cleaned three times per day – 8am, noon and 3pm.

**Boards**
- All boards have been notified that meetings are temporarily suspended but could have committee meeting if necessary.

**REMINDER: AARP SURVEY DEADLINE EXTENDED!** The survey will be available through March 31, 2020

[https://aarp.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2se6AqY3FnsI3zv](https://aarp.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2se6AqY3FnsI3zv)
Weekly Crime Reports – Rowlett PD provides a link to the weekly crime reports so you, our citizens, can be informed about what is going on in your City.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CIP) PROJECT UPDATE

LAKE COUNTRY ESTATES RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT – PHASE 1
The contractor completed all punch list items and this project is complete.

LAKE COUNTRY ESTATES RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT – PHASE 2
Contractor is off site this week, however upon return they will be working on punch list items.

MAIN STREET REHABILITATION AND PGBT NORTH BOUND RIGHT TURN LANE PROJECT
The contractor excavated the future right turn lane lase week however, recent weather events prohibited any further progress.

CBDG ALLEY RECONSTRUCTION – SHIPMAN/GRANT
Contractor has completed about 95% of the alley. Inclement weather has delayed us pouring the remaining concrete but the contractor has been backfilling and laying sod in the areas where concrete has already been poured.

EMERGENCY REPAIRS
Public Works pipe-bursting crews replaced 500’ of water main using the minimally invasive pipe bursting method on N. Chiesa Rd. The new pvc pipe replaced a bad section of old technology AC pipe.

The Action Center is your one-stop-shop, offered by the City of Rowlett to assist citizens. Call 972.412.6100

Our Purpose Is To Serve! ~ The Friday @ 5 is published by the City Manager’s Office

#MyRowlett  #BetterTogether