

Good afternoon Hitchcock. There are 120 confirmed COVID 19 cases in Galveston County and 2 confirmed cases in Hitchcock this morning. The Emergency Declaration issued by Judge Henry, and signed by Myself is still in effect for Hitchcock. I am sending an update below. Possibly more enforcement of the order will come along with the new guidelines. We are finding the Virus is easier to spread than first thought. As a whole, we have been following the CDC recommendations of social distancing, gatherings, and good hygiene. Our foremost concern is to protect the health and welfare of our community. Several large gatherings have been reported over last weekend. We feel the 'peak' of infected citizens has not reached our town yet. I urge each and every one of you to follow the guide lines, and protect your family, friends, and other citizens in the Community. I know following the order to stay at home is weighing on each of us in Hitchcock and surrounding Cities. At this time it is the only way to slow down, and hopefully stop the spread. A copy of the Governors latest Executive Order can be found on our website – www.cityofhitchcock.org along with other important COVID 19 information.

City Hall is closed during the lunch hour – Noon-1:00

Permit Office hours are M-F 8-12:00

For protection of their employees, Ameriwaste will not pick up any garbage that is not bagged.

I will give out more information as it is available.

Thank you

Mayor Strickland

Governor Abbott extends social distancing to April 30

Governor Greg Abbott issued an Executive Order on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, implementing Essential Services and Activities Protocols for the entire state of Texas. The protocols direct all Texans to minimize non-essential gatherings and in-person contact with people who are not in the same household. The Governor's Executive Order renews and amends his previous order enforcing federal social distancing guidelines for COVID-19, including closing schools and instructing Texans to avoid eating or drinking at bars and restaurants. The protocols allow exceptions for essential activities and services based on the Department of Homeland Security's guidelines on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce. Examples of these essential services include healthcare, grocery stores, banking and financial services, utilities, child care for essential service employees, and government services.

Yesterday's Executive Order follows the decision by President Trump and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to enhance social distancing guidelines and extend the deadline for these guidelines to April 30th.