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**NEWS
RELEASE**

COVID-19 UPDATE

06 / 29 / 2020

City Amends Local Emergency Directive

EL PASO, Texas — City officials have issued the Second Amendment to the Fourth Local Emergency Directive in response to Governor Greg Abbott's most recent Executive Orders.

"The City of El Paso will continue to work to protect our public health and our local economy, from further damage as a result of COVID-19," said Mayor Dee Margo. "We must continue to follow the necessary measures to protect ourselves and our fellow El Pasoans by wearing face coverings, maintaining social distancing, and washing hands frequently. We will persevere in the face of adversity, as we've always done, but we need the community to do their part."

The Directive will be amended to:

- Prohibit the public from visiting nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, or long-term care facilities unless as determined through guidance from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC);
- Limit organizations planning on having parades to 100 participants or less, unless prior approval from the Mayor is obtained, and require compliance with the Local Public Health Authority Order regarding parades which is found at <http://epstrong.org/health-orders.php>;
- Prohibit outdoor gatherings in excess of 100 people unless prior approval from the Mayor is obtained subject to certain conditions or restrictions. This provision does not apply to activities or gatherings that are allowed by the Governor's Executive Order GA-28;
- Require outdoor markets, parades, and outdoor mass gatherings, comprised of less than 100 participants to follow the respective Local Health Authority Order found at <http://epstrong.org/health-orders.php>;
- Restrict dine-in services by restaurants that have less than 51 percent of their gross receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages, to operate at up to 50 percent of the total listed occupancy of the restaurant beginning at 12:01 a.m. Monday, June 29, 2020;
- Prohibit the public from visiting bars or similar establishments that hold a permit from the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) and are not restaurants as defined in the Directive;
 - However, bars or similar establishments may continue to provide drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options for food and drinks, to the extent authorized by TABC.

"We recognize the community's desire to return back to normal, but as we have reported over the last several days our cases are not decreasing and so we must be cautious in our approach to make sure we are caring for ourselves and for our most vulnerable," said City-County Local Health Authority Dr. Hector Ocaranza. "Again, we want to implore everyone to please help us slow the spread of this terrible disease by practicing social distancing, frequently washing their hands with soap and water and wearing a face covering."

For more information, visit www.epstrong.org.

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