

Legislation Text

File #: 21-5514, **Version:** 1

An emergency measure ordinance of the City of Mesquite, Texas, authorized pursuant to Mesquite City Charter; continuing the Mayor's Declaration of Local State of Disaster for Public Health Emergency related to COVID-19 issued on March 23, 2020, and as further continued and authorized by prior ordinances; confirming the continued activation of the City's emergency management plans; adopting and approving certain rules and orders to protect the health and safety of persons in the City and to help abate the public health emergency; authorizing the City Manager or his designee to make certain decisions and to take necessary actions to meet City objectives to have City government remain functional while providing essential governmental services during this rapidly changing environment created by the public health emergency; making it an offense to fail to comply with state, local, or interjurisdictional emergency management plan or any rule, order, or ordinance adopted under the plan and providing a penalty in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for each offense.

On March 23, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Mesquite issued a Declaration of Local State of Disaster For Public Health Emergency relating to the Coronavirus pandemic. The Mesquite City Council has since adopted subsequent ordinances thereby continuing the Mayor's Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency relating to COVID-19.

The CDC has stated that multiple variants of the virus that causes COVID-19 have been documented in the United States and globally during this pandemic. The CDC reports, *"these particular variants seem to spread more easily and quickly than other variants, which may lead to more cases of COVID-19. An increase in the number of cases will put more strain on healthcare resources, lead to more hospitalizations, and potentially more deaths."*

On July 1, 2021, Texas Governor Greg Abbott issued a proclamation renewing the statewide declaration stating that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in Texas.

Because COVID-19 and its variants continue to spread, extraordinary measures must be continued to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout the State and the City of Mesquite while safely keeping Texas businesses open in accordance with the guidance provided by the President of the United States, Texas Governor Gregg Abbott, Dallas County, and Kaufman County.

Recommended/Desired Action

Staff recommends approval of the ordinance.

Attachment(s)

Ordinance

Drafter

Karen Strand and Sonja Land

Head of Department

David Paschall