SECOND ORDER CONTINUING DECLARATION OF STATE OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, officials from Bexar County/City of San Antonio confirmed the first case of travel-related COVID-19 and the County Judge of Bexar County, Texas declared a state of local disaster on March 13, 2020 due to imminent threat arising from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the County Judge declared a local state of disaster in and for the entirety of the incorporated and unincorporated portions of Bexar County, and exercised the powers granted therein on an appropriate local scale;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), on March 18, 2020, the Bexar County Commissioners Court ("Commissioners Court") approved an Order Continuing Declaration of State of Local Disaster for Bexar County (hereafter, the "Order of Continuation of Declaration") authorizing the Bexar County Judge to continue to exercise the powers and authority granted by the law more commonly known as the Texas Disaster Act of 1975;

WHEREAS, that Order of Continuation of Declaration is set to expire on June 16, 2020 and the authority granted to the Bexar County Judge under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 will also expire unless the Order of Continuation of Declaration is again continued by the Court;

WHEREAS, the threat of COVID-19 has not dissipated but remains a significant threat to the health and safety of the Bexar County community and rates of infection are increasing despite efforts by local authorities to control the spread;

WHEREAS, a continuation of 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 disease, including isolation, surveillance, quarantine, or placement of persons under public health observation, including the provision of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons misplaced or evacuated and request assistance from the governor of state resources, subject to such limitations as may be applicable by law;

WHEREAS, by Commissioners Court approval of this continuation of the declaration of local disaster and public health emergency (hereafter, the "Second Order of Continuation of Declaration"), all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat are suspended for the duration of this Second Order of Continuation of Declaration;
WHEREAS, by approval of this Second Order of Continuation of Declaration, Commissioners Court authorizes the Bexar County Judge to continue to use all available resources of state government and political subdivisions and to continue to exercise all authority granted by law and take all necessary extraordinary and immediate measures to respond quickly, prevent and alleviate the suffering of people exposed to and those infected with COVID-19, as well as those that could potentially be infected or impacted, throughout Bexar County for the duration of this Second Order of Continuation of Declaration; and

WHEREAS, by approval of this Second Order of Continuation of Declaration, the Commissioners Court of Bexar County, Texas, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), hereby consents to again continue the declaration of local state of disaster for Bexar County, Texas as first declared by the Bexar County Judge.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF THE COUNTY OF BEXAR, TEXAS, THAT:

1.) The Bexar County Commissioners Court hereby consents to the continuation of the declaration of state of local disaster and public health emergency for the County of Bexar, Texas resulting from COVID-19 as first declared by the Bexar County Judge on March 13, 2020 and continued with the consent of Commissioners Court on March 18, 2020;

2.) This Second Order of Continuation of Declaration continues to activate Bexar County’s Emergency Management Plan;

3.) This Second Order of Continuation of Declaration continues to activate the recovery and rehabilitation aspects of all applicable local or interjurisdictional emergency management plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the Second Order of Continuation of Declaration, and the preparedness and response aspects of the plans are activated as provided in the plans;

4.) Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas, this Second Order of Continuation of Declaration authorizes the Bexar County Judge to take any and all lawful actions deemed necessary to promote health and suppress disease throughout Bexar County, including quarantine, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress throughout Bexar County and any impacted areas;

5.) This Second Order of Continuation of Declaration continuing a local state of disaster declaration shall be effective for ninety (90) days on and from its date of issuance, provided however that this Second Order of Continuation of Declaration may be terminated before the expiration of ninety days by subsequent executive order of the County Judge, but may only be continued or
renewed beyond ninety days from its date of issuance with the additional consent of the Commissioners Court of Bexar County, Texas;

6.) The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Second Order of Continuation of Declaration are severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Second Order of Continuation of Declaration should be declared invalid by the final judgment or decree of any court or competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections that can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end the provisions of this Second Order of Continuation of Declaration are severable;

7.) This Second Order of Continuation of Declaration shall further reserve all other authority and powers conferred by or under the laws of the State of Texas to authorize the Bexar County Judge to respond as necessary to the situation which is the subject of this Second Order of Continuation of Declaration by issuance of executive order as necessary;

8.) This Second Order of Continuation of Declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk of Bexar County; and

9.) This Second Order of Continuation of Declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance for the period as set forth herein.

It is hereby ORDERED, this 16th day of June, 2020.

Nelson W. Wolff
County Judge of
Bexar County, Texas

ATTEST:

Lucy Adame-Clark
Bexar County Clerk

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