



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Stacey Osborne
City of Taylor Communications Office
stacey.osborne@taylortx.gov
512-352-5448 (ofc.)
512-365-9310 (cell)

CITY OF TAYLOR ANNOUNCES CANCELLATION OF BLACKLAND PRAIRIE DAYS AND OTHER EVENTS

TAYLOR, Texas – In response to recent announcements by Williamson County and the Williamson County and Cities Health District (WCCHD) in response to the rapidly changing situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Taylor is announcing several additional adjustments to City services, including the cancellation of the Blackland Prairie Days celebration scheduled for May 2, 2020.

Following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Williamson County Judge Bill Gravell issued an order on Wednesday, March 18, stating that community gatherings of 10 people or more anywhere in Williamson County have been prohibited for the next eight weeks to slow the transmission of COVID-19. The ban on public or private gatherings, part of Orders adopted by Judge Gravell, took effect at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 18, and will continue until Monday, May 11, 2020, unless otherwise extended or terminated by the Williamson County Judge or by action of the Williamson County Commissioners Court.

In response, the City of Taylor has cancelled or postponed several upcoming events, including the following:

- The Blackland Prairie Days scheduled for May 2 has been canceled. Staff will continue to monitor the situation and try to reschedule this marquee event for the City of Taylor on a later date in the year.
- The Bruce Lynn recognition ceremony scheduled for April 4 is canceled.
- Kite Day scheduled for March 28 is canceled.
- Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for April 11 has been canceled.
- Coffee with a Cop scheduled for April 17 has been canceled.

All City buildings, including City Hall, Public Works, Utility Billing, and Maintenance, will be closed to the public until March 31. Residents will still be able to contact City Hall employees through telephone or email. To contact City Hall, call 512-352-3675.

There currently are no changes to public safety and City of Taylor water and sewer services. However, beginning Monday, March 23, all residential collection services are reduced to “cart only” in order to reduce chance of contact of our personnel with solid waste via manual pickup. Additionally, Residential collection services are impacted accordingly:

- Residential Bulk & Brush – collection services are suspended
- Residential Recycle – reduced to cart contents only. To maximize operational efficiency, recycle contents will be comingled along with Residential Waste collection and will not be recycled
- Residential Waste – reduced to cart contents only. Contents outside of container will not be collected to reduce risk of exposure of operational personnel and maximize operational efficiencies.

City Council will meet on Monday, March 23, at 6 p.m. to discuss the possible extension of the Disaster Declaration. Leisure activities at Parks are still permitted, but residents are asked to follow Judge Gravel’s guidelines of no more than 10 people per gathering.

Please share and encourage others to:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow or use a tissue to cover it, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The City of Taylor continues to monitor this ongoing and fluid situation closely with the Williamson County and WCCHD. Updates will be posted at taylortx.gov and on social media as they become available.

-end-