



April 2, 2020

Fellow Dickinsonians:

The City of Dickinson is extending the **Stay at Home, Work Safe Order** until Monday, May 4, 2020, in an attempt to significantly slow, and ultimately stop, the rapid spread of this highly contagious virus, COVID-19.

I am asking that you continue treat this situation with the utmost seriousness and take the needed precautions to avoid contracting the virus and infecting other people. Health officials believe that the virus is spreading much more easily than earlier predicted. This Order and preventative measures; social distancing, sanitizing hands and surfaces, etc., are extremely important for all to follow. Each time someone is out in public, they are significantly increasing their risk for contracting this virus and spreading the virus to others. The carrier may not be symptomatic, he or she may not be aware that they are carrying the virus because their symptoms may not be as prevalent as in someone else; however, they are just as contagious as someone exhibiting symptoms.

Dickinson, like so many other communities, has several confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the City limits, and many more just across our borders. With citizens in surrounding cities, we shop at the same places, share the same spaces, touching the same produce and products and in grocery, hardware and other essential places of business. We **must** limit our exposure and take the utmost precautions to reduce the spreading of this virus and, adhere to the limitations that have been placed on our daily lives.

For those businesses that are considered “essential” and have been allowed to remain open during this pandemic, it is imperative that you take serious responsibility in protecting your workforce and your customers. At a minimum, please adhere to the latest published concerns of the CDC, State, and County Health officials.

If people do not follow the Stay at Home Orders AND continue to take preventative measures, we will continue to see an escalation in positive cases in Dickinson and Galveston County, which will ultimately, and almost certainly, result in the same critical shortages of hospital beds, ventilators, medical supplies, and staffing that we are seeing around the nation.

I am so grateful for the amazing job Dickinsonians are doing to follow this most difficult Stay at Home, Work Safe Order. I ask that you continue doing your part in helping to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. Unless you are **required** to be on location at your job or picking up essential items such as food and medication, everyone should remain at home. Only those

living in your household, should be in your house or on your property unless a necessity has removed all other options for you to do so.

I pray that you stay healthy, vigilant and mentally strong as we endure the precautions and limitations that are asked of us to protect our families, our community and our nation.

With deepest respect and gratitude,



Julie Masters, Mayor