





## Mayor's Message – March 30, 2020

Neighbors –

In the bi-weekly conferences with County/State/Public Health officials some updates include:

- **As you know, a 2<sup>nd</sup> confirmed case presented in HSBay.** This is a relative of the 1st case who shared a common travel and self-isolation practice. **No contact with HSBay citizens was made.** Please know that if anyone is confirmed, they are immediately asked to provide names of any individuals or groups (or locations) they have engaged in the last two weeks. If names are noted, those individuals are notified “they may have been exposed” and encouraged to monitor their health symptoms. Any group settings/locations of the confirmed case will be published in this weekly update with relevant dates so citizens can determine if they may have been in the exposure realm. No action would need to be taken unless symptoms presented.
- **Burnet County issued a ‘Stay Home Stay Safe’ order which formalized expected safe practice last week.** Since the county has significant commerce and through traffic – as well as a diverse age population exhibiting less compliant practice, they moved forward with the order to underscore the Governor’s executive orders for social distancing and the closure of businesses except for those deemed ‘essential’. The portion of HSBay that lies within Burnet Co is almost entirely residential. Those few businesses have already self-complied – noting the Beacon is a media outlet, an ‘essential’ business, and remains open but restricts access to office.
-  Llano county opted to monitor the risk levels, noting that the overwhelming majority of the community was adhering to safe practice. However, **this week a third case of the virus in Llano Co. was confirmed** (not in Horseshoe Bay) in a person-to-person (of unknown origin) which caused a move to Phase 5, the highest level in this stage to mitigate further contamination. **A formal order for ‘Stay Home/Stay Safe’ has therefore been issued for Llano County** through Judge Cunningham’s office, and local health authority, Dr. Jack Franklin. **\*\* Go to the city website to view the latest order in depth, ‘essential business’ listing, and restricted behaviors.** 
- The order restricts movement in the community to essential business in an effort to limit contamination through contact. You will note that this does not significantly change the practice those in the city of HSBay have been using as part of good citizenship and healthy behavior. ‘Essential businesses’ of grocer, pharmacy, doctors/vets, etc (see list provided) will continue – with strict adherence to social distancing. Outdoor activities may continue as well to provide for physical and mental health support. Not only would we be disappointed to learn of anyone not adhering to the “less than 10 in a group – none within 6 ft”, but it would violate State and County orders and trigger sanctions. **I am confident and proud of our HSBay citizens who have modeled best practices to bring this viral episode to a quicker demise.**
- Since we don’t know how long this will continue, **I encourage you to find a ‘new normal’** that allows you to keep spirits high. Creative social distancing alternatives (love the HLYL online Trivia Pursuit idea), outdoor activity including walking, golf, gardening, even backyard 6 ft spaced byolunch groups of under ten to keep conversations alive will keep us fit and focused on the blessings we have in living in HSBay. **Check on neighbors who may be isolated/fragile** to see if you may be of help (the Fire Chief, [bbatla@horseshoe-bay-tx.gov](mailto:bbatla@horseshoe-bay-tx.gov) is keeping a listing of outreach groups for those in need). On-line faith services, game groups, chat rooms may help.

- Speaking of 'on-line', we know we have bandwidth challenges anyway, but **the doubling down of people on-line is causing delays** – especially as children are accessing their education via technology now. Be patient, share the space....maybe become that 2 a.m. user/gamer!

In other news:

- The city will be posting a workshop for council to begin the planning and budget season. We will use our largest room to space councilmembers (a total of 7 of us, including the City Manager and – perhaps the addition of attorney or Finance Director). **It is an open meeting, but we will use the Governor's amended plans that allow for audio only attendance (details on how to 'call in' to the meeting will be forthcoming).** Holding the meeting will allow us to stay on target – as we do know we will have some financial impact (sales tax for sure) resulting from the virus containment efforts and want to be prepared to serve our community moving forward. Committed to transparency, however, we will audiotape the workshop and publish a more extensive set of minutes for citizens. No actions will be taken at this meeting.
- During this time, we remain aware that **the ins and outs of life continue.** Be sensitive to those who have lost loved ones, celebrate births/birthdays, and be aware that many will be deeply impacted by job/income loss who will need our prayers and support. The resort alone reports over 400 furloughs were required in their shutdown, many of whom are HSBay neighbors. They opted to close the hotel (not required, since hotels are "essential" businesses – but because they wanted to do their part in limiting outside traffic into our community). With the total closing of salons, *hats may be the 'style' for ladies for now...*but we will plan a hearty welcome back to our vital hairdressers and others when we move back to normalcy!
- All local businesses are feeling the crunch and need your support with drive through retail as possible – and will definitely need our full support upon reopening. **Contact the Business Alliance** to see how you might help. Philanthropic groups who serve so many (hospital, churches, Phoenix Center, Hill Country Theatre, Cultural Enrichment, etc)...all need financial assistance in any way you are able to offer to sustain them through stymied revenue.
- **Your city services will continue in full force** on your behalf. First responders are fully staffed and equipped. Check the website for updates or specific department contact. The street improvement work is underway with some delays as new protocols for safety are formed.

**Please share photos of creative living activity** with *the Beacon* ([thebeacon@nctv.com](mailto:thebeacon@nctv.com)) to inspire others to get moving and in fresh air safely. *(Not really picture worthy – but today I took someone's giant rescue dog for a walk- rather it took me for a drag!)* Felt good to be out for some 'clear air thinking' and I saw bluebonnets, a little sunshine, and so many reasons to be thankful I live in Horseshoe Bay. **We are uniquely American** and I am proud to know that each will be finding ways to shine as we look to better days ahead.

Cynthia Clinesmith, Mayor

City Website

[www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov](http://www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov)



for CoVid19 details/county and state actions