



**MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR
MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2020**

Tarrant County Public Health reported an additional 313 cases over the weekend with 5 additional deaths. This brings the County-wide totals to 2,019 positive cases with 53 deaths and 289 recoveries. Bedford counts have increased to 46 positive cases with 4 recoveries and 0 deaths.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has added additional symptoms to watch for. These symptoms may appear 2 -14 days after exposure to the virus. They are: Fever, Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, and new loss of taste or smell. If you have trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse, or have bluish tinted lips and/or face then you should seek medical attention immediately as these are emergency warning signs for COVID-19.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott announced his plan to reopen the Texas economy in a press conference this afternoon. Existing Executive Orders by the Governor will expire this April 30, 2020. Summarizing the Governor's comments, beginning May 1, 2020, as part of Phase one of the Governor's plan, all retail stores, restaurants, movie theaters, malls, museums and libraries will be allowed to reopen at 25% capacity. Social distancing guidelines will still apply. All licensed healthcare professionals can reopen.

However, barbers, hair salons, gyms, and bars must remain closed at this time due to continued safety concerns. Abbott took care to emphasize four important components to reopening the Texas economy:

1. the need to increase testing capacity and access,
2. using doctor's strategies,
3. protecting the elderly and those most vulnerable to infection and,
4. remembering that entrepreneurs drive the economy.