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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **City offers tips on Coronavirus safety**

**Kerrville, Texas (March 12, 2020)** - In light of the recent coronavirus (COVID-19) activity, the World Health Organization has declared the outbreak a pandemic. Currently, there have been no cases identified in Kerrville or Kerr County. However, the City of Kerrville would like to remind our employees and citizens that the best way to prevent infection is to take precautions to avoid exposure to this virus, which are similar to the precautions you take to avoid the flu. CDC recommends these everyday actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, 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.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

More information can be found on how to protect yourself in the home, school and work place at the following link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/workplace-school-and-home-guidance.pdf>

The CDC also advises social distancing measures as a way to limit the spread of the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19. Social distancing is a term that covers what people do to maintain some space between themselves and others. It is a way to cut down risk of spreading the new-to-humans virus that causes the COVID-19 respiratory illness. Here are seven ways to practice social distancing:

- Stop handshaking – Use other noncontact methods of greeting.
- Avoid crowds, especially in poorly ventilated spaces. Risk of exposure to respiratory viruses like COVID-19 may increase in crowded, closed-in settings with little air circulation if there are people in the crowd who are sick.
- Keep a six-foot distance from others in public settings.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect your home regularly, including routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoid touching high-touch surfaces in public places like elevator buttons, door handles, handrails, handshaking, etc. Use a tissue or your sleeve to cover your hand if you must touch something.
- Wash your hands after touching surfaces in public places and avoid touching your face, nose, eyes, etc.

It is important that we take every precaution to stay safe; it is not just beneficial to your health but your family's, your colleagues, and all of us.