

March 19, 2020

Fellow Citizens:

If you saw Governor Abbott's news conference at noon today, you are aware of the historical times in which we are currently living. This is the first time since 1901 that Texas has declared such a disaster. I concur with the governor's assessment that Texans, and especially Westworth Village residents, are resilient, and we will emerge stronger when this disaster is behind us.

Please do your part and comply with the CDC guidelines which take effect at midnight tomorrow, and will remain in effect until midnight on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, unless modified or extended. In brief, they are:

- 1. no gathering in groups of more than ten
- 2. take-out/drive through-only in restaurants; bars and gyms are closed
- 3. no visits to nursing homes/retirement centers (only medical staff allowed)
- 4. all schools temporarily closed for the next two weeks; online learning is still in effect

Our Westworth Village city staff is operating at an amazing level. I cannot express how proud I am of them. They will no doubt continue to offer the service level you have come to expect in our town. As they are taking proper precautions, and I encourage you to do the same, for now it will be business as usual at city hall.

Some things to consider:

- 1. Please consider calling or emailing instead of personally coming to city hall. We have online payment options, and utilize the drive-up drop box for utilities services and court citations.
- 2. Please do not be offended if staff does not shake your hand, accept a hug, or if they stand farther away during conversations -- they are working hard to keep themselves and you healthy.
- The ordinance and public safety committee meetings scheduled for April 2<sup>nd</sup> will be rescheduled. While we want your feedback on the important topics these committees are considering, those topics are second in priority to your health.
- 4. Over 100 of you have responded to Councilwoman Aller's letter regarding trash services. Several questioned why we will not be able to continue our current service. The short answer is our current provider's trucks cannot operate in the alleyways, nor does it provide large recycle bins. We must change garbage companies. We have found another provider which can provide the services you have requested, but it does not have a small recycle bin option.
- 5. Hawks Creek Golf Club is still open, and the grill is now offering a daily "COVID-19 take out special". To order, call 817-738-8496, and they will bring it to your car. Alex and her staff try to please!

Grocery stores and most businesses will remain open, although they may be limiting the number of people allowed inside at any one time. Please be respectful and courteous, and continue to support our Westworth Village businesses.

Perhaps more than ever, I'm available if you need me: <u>mayorjones@cityofwestworth.com</u>. I look forward to seeing all of you when we again host a citywide picnic at the conclusion of this disaster!

On a personal note, I appreciate the opportunity to be your mayor during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

L. Kelly Jones, mayor