



WHAT DO THE CITY & STATE COVID-19 DISASTER ORDERS MEAN?

THE MANVEL RESPONSE | COVID-19 IMPACT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DOES THE TEXAS GOVERNOR'S ORDER SUPERSEDE THE CITY ONE?

Yes. The city declared its order before the state did. Between 11:59 a.m. March 20 and April 3 Gov. Abbott's order takes precedence over Manvel's. Gov. Abbott's order is more restrictive than Manvel's order. His clarifies some ways that Texans will respond statewide to the COVID-19 public health emergency. This does not mean that Manvel's order is moot. Some points that are not addressed in the state's executive order are addressed in the Manvel one.

WILL MANVEL GET CORONAVIRUS TESTING KITS?

No. COVID-19 testing is being conducted in labs and hospitals. The Brazoria County Health Department has an information line to discuss these issues. You can call the Brazoria COVID-19 Information Line at 979-864-2167. It is open Monday – Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m – 2 p.m.

HOW IS THE MANVEL ORDER STRUCTURED? HOW LONG IS IT IN PLACE?

It is a 7-day order that began Wednesday, March 18. It documents the efforts Manvel is implementing to combat the virus outbreak. An accompanying declaration recognizes the public health emergency and activates the city's emergency management plan.

CAN THE MANVEL ORDER BE CHANGED?

Yes. City Council has that authority. Council will consider updates on Monday, March 23, and council members will vote to formally align the Manvel order with Gov. Abbott's executive order. In Texas, city orders can be more restrictive than state ones so they can address local issues.



IF THE ORDER CAN BE CHANGED AT A CITY COUNCIL MEETING, WHAT WILL THE CITY DO IF MORE THAN 10 PEOPLE SHOW UP TO TALK ABOUT IT?

The Fire Marshal and the police will enforce the state's executive order on this point. They will regulate the amount of people who can enter to ensure that less than 10 people are inside City Hall. Some people will have to stand outside until someone leaves. This is similar to situations in our daily lives when we are at crowded venues that have a occupancy limit during a popular event.

HOW DOES THE MANVEL ORDER AFFECT MY HOUSEHOLD OR BUILDING UTILITIES?

During this time, the city will not cut off city water and sewer to residents or businesses. Pet and alarm registration renewals are suspended. Be aware, however, that this does not suspend late fees. Late fees will continue to be charged. This order only ensures that you will have city water and sewer during the crisis.

WILL MANVEL REQUIRE BUSINESSES AND RESTAURANTS TO CLOSE?

Manvel follows the state's executive order on this point. The governor's order does not close businesses, but it does tell Texans to avoid inside dining at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors. Nonprofits are not exempt from Gov. Abbott's executive order.

WHAT DOES THE MANVEL ORDER ENCOURAGE?

It follows the state executive order on this point and encourages delivery, drive-thru and pickup services to support local restaurants and businesses.

WHAT DOES THE MANVEL ORDER NOT ENCOURAGE?

It follows the state executive order on this point and mandates that residents avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors.

WHAT ITEMS ARE PROTECTED IN THE MANVEL ORDER?

Prices on certain items are regulated from "price gouging." Items on the list are: groceries, beverages, toiletry articles, gasoline, diesel oil, motor oil, ice, kerosene, grease, automotive lubricants, medicine, pharmaceuticals, medical supplies and medical equipment. Restaurant, cafeteria and boarding-house meals are also on the list. These items will be closely monitored within the city as long as the local disaster order is in effect.

WHAT DOES PRICE GOUGING MEAN?

It means a business has deliberately spiked the cost of an item in order to take advantage of a disaster or crisis that leaves residents vulnerable. The Attorney General investigates these cases. If convicted, a fine of not more than \$2,000 can be levied. The Attorney General phone number is 1-800-621-0508. More information on price gouging [can be found here](#) or by cut and pasting this address into your browser:

<https://www2.texasattorneygeneral.gov/emergency/resources-for-help-in-the-aftermath-of-disaster>