

Representative HENRY RIVERA

District 7

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

March 19, 2020



Three New Cases of COVID-19 Identified in EI Paso

The City of El Paso Department of Public Health announced today that three new individuals have tested

positive for COVID-19. The total number of positive cases in El Paso now stands at six.

The fourth patient is a female in her late 60s and the fifth is a female in her late teens. It is believed that these two patients were associated with the second case while in quarantine together. The sixth case involves a male in his 20s and is believed to be travel-related as he recently traveled abroad. None of these cases are from Fort Bliss and all new cases are being monitored and recovering at home.

"Also, it should be noted that we have tested more than 60 individuals and only six have come back positive," said Dr. Hector Ocaranza, City/County Health Authority, "this means that more than 90 percent of those with signs and symptoms and risks have tested negative." The public is reminded that COVID-19 is not an airborne disease like measles. It is spread through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouth or nose of people who are nearby or possibly inhaled into the lungs. Preliminary information about COVID-19 shows that about 80 percent of cases are mild and most people do not need hospitalization. However, older adults and people with underlying health conditions like heart disease, lung disease and diabetes are at a greater risk of complications.

Local officials have begun using the El Paso 911 Notification System to inform area residents of the most up-to-date COVID-19 information and prevention methods. Anyone who is interested in receiving regular emails, text messages, or telephone calls may sign up for the service at: https://member.everbridge.net/index/453003085612432#/signup

DPH officials continue to urge residents to follow prevention measures and stay up-to-date with the latest information by subscribing to both the City and DPH social media platforms, and to visit www.EPHealth.com or www.EPSalud.com for updates.

Additionally the 2-1-1 Texas Call Center is available 24/7. Callers can dial 2-1-1 and select option six for more information.

CoEP Website on COVID-19

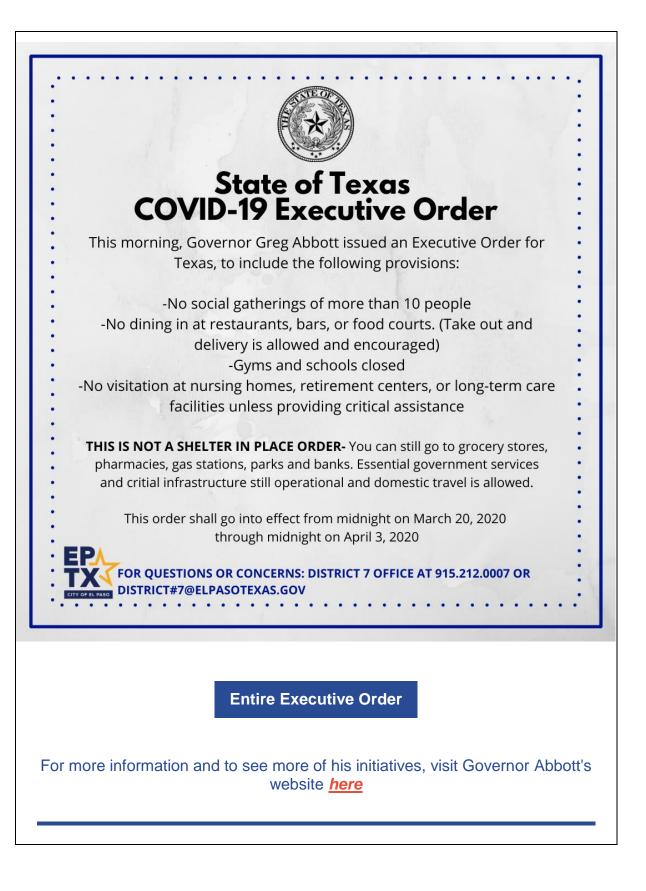
CDC Website on COVID-19

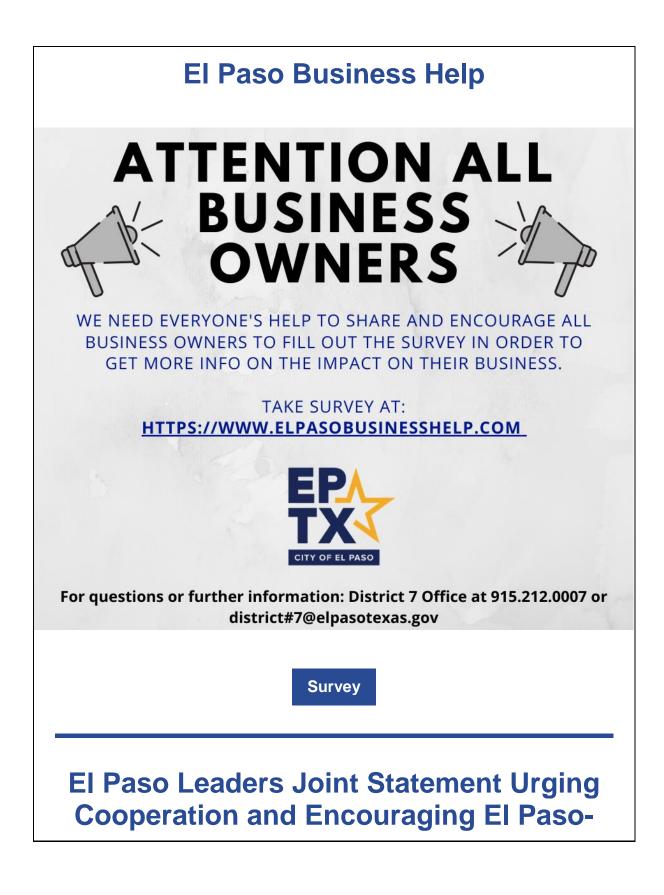
Message from Dr. Ocaranza to Help Prevent COVID-19 Virus



Mensaje del Dr. Ocaranza para Prevenir el Virus COVID-19







Juárez Region to Prepare to Minimize Impact of Coronavirus

Today, Congresswoman Veronica Escobar (TX-16), Congressman Will Hurd (TX-23), Mayor Dee Margo, County Judge Ricardo A. Samaniego, and Borderplex Chief Executive Officer Jon Barela, released the following joint statement urging U.S. and Mexican authorities to cooperate to contain spread of coronavirus, and El Paso-Juárez region to make contingency plans to minimize impact:

"Following the temporary restriction of non-essential travel across the U.S.-Canada border due to the coronavirus pandemic, we are urging the El Paso-Juarez region to prepare contingency plans in anticipation that similar measures may be implemented on the U.S.-Mexico border.

"In the face of the coronavirus pandemic, the U.S. and Mexican authorities need to cooperate closely to contain the spread of COVID-19 and to do so in a transparent, responsible way. Cooperation should include steps to keep supply chains open and safe, facilitate essential travel between both countries, and administer aid to refugees and other migrants, such as those individuals held in detention facilities in the United States and awaiting court dates in Mexico.

"This pandemic is a rapidly evolving global challenge, and the response to this pandemic demands bold, courageous action on both sides of the border. As a resilient binational community, we should all be alert, make contingency plans, and work to minimize the health, economic, and social impacts of COVID-19 in our region. Let's rise to the challenge."

Messages from the City of El Paso Public Health Department

