



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Emergency City Council Meeting for March 20**

To Discuss COVID-19 Response and Municipal Elections

**DENTON, TX, March 20, 2020** – The Denton City Council will meet Friday, March 20 at 1 p.m. in the Council Work Session Room of City Hall (215 E. McKinney St.) to discuss the City of Denton's continued response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Additionally, the Council will consider moving the May 2 General and Special Elections for City Council to Nov. 3, 2020, based upon Gov. Greg Abbott's March 18 Proclamation authorizing local governments to postpone elections to Nov. 3, 2020.

The emergency meeting will be broadcast live at [www.cityofdenton.com/dtv](http://www.cityofdenton.com/dtv) and on local cable channels Charter Channel 194, Grande Channel 12, and Frontier FiOS Channel 38.

While attendance is open to the public, City officials encourage residents to watch from home and submit their comments online. Residents can submit an online form at [bit.ly/3dgtlRw](https://bit.ly/3dgtlRw) to send comments directly to Council Members and the City Secretary. Comments can be submitted until the meeting begins at 1 p.m.

For those attending in person, the following measures will be in place:

- All attendees, staff, and Council Members will be screened by City of Denton paramedics for COVID-19 symptoms and exposure prior to entering City Hall. Based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, the screening is identical to the screening used by the Denton Fire Department when responding to emergency calls, and will involve screening for COVID-19 symptoms: fever (using an infrared or temporal scan thermometer), cough, and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- If a person exhibits symptoms of COVID-19, they will not be permitted to attend the City Council meeting.
- Seating will be rearranged to create additional space between attendees.
- Those wishing to speak on any Individual Consideration item will sign up prior to the item being called. Attendees will be brought into the City Council Work Session Room one-by-one to provide comments.

The emergency meeting agenda can be viewed at [www.cityofdenton.com/publicmeetings](http://www.cityofdenton.com/publicmeetings). A special-called City Council meeting is also planned for Tuesday, March 31. City staff continues to work on ways for Council to hold a remote meeting and allow for residents to participate via a teleconference system or other methods. This is expected to be in place for the special-called City Council meeting on Tuesday, March 31 with additional details released through a press release next week.

Per the [Texas Department of State Health Services](https://www.dhs.gov/coronavirus), if you are experiencing fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, and you have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or have traveled from an area with widespread or ongoing community spread of COVID-19 in

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the last 14 days, you should contact your healthcare provider. Be sure to call ahead before going to your doctor's office or emergency department to prevent any potential spread of illness.

The City will continue to release updates at [www.cityofdenton.com/coronavirus](http://www.cityofdenton.com/coronavirus) and the City's social media channels.

Gov. Abbott's March 19 Executive Order can be viewed [here](#). The March 18 Proclamation is available [here](#).

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