

# City of Laredo

## Public Health & Administrative Order

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the authority of Sections 121.021 and 121.024 of the Texas Health and Safety Code and Section 85.1(g) of the Texas Administrative Code, unless specifically preempted by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), the Local Health Authority has supervisory authority and control over the administration of communicable disease control measures within its jurisdiction when in his opinion these measures are necessary to protect the public health; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 3.05 of the City Charter, the City Manager is the Chief Administrative and Executive Officer of the City responsible to the City Council for the all city affairs placed in his charge to include the direction and supervision of the administration of all departments and offices within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the Omicron variant of Covid-19 is known to be more transmissible than delta and the original virus strain, leading to a surge in positive cases across Texas, with more than 1 in 5 COVID-19 tests reading positive; and

**WHEREAS**, the situation regarding Covid-19 is rapidly evolving in the City of Laredo as there are currently 7,127 active cases, the highest number reported since the beginning of the pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to address the growing hospitalization rate, and ensure there is adequate city personnel to provide health, emergency, and other essential services to the citizens of the City of Laredo, the Local Health Authority and City Manager are of the opinion that the Covid-19 mitigation and personnel measures passed by the Mayor of the City of Laredo, pursuant to the authority of §418.108 of the Texas Government Code, in the Emergency Order dated January 4, 2022 effective through January 11, 2022,, continue in full force and effect for all City of Laredo employees.

**NOW THEREFORE**, effective immediately, the Local Health Authority and the City Manager for the City of Laredo hereby impose the Covid-19 mitigation and personnel measures below for all City of Laredo employees and officials:

*Effective January 11, 2022, AND until Further Notice, all city employees are required to comply with the following COVID-19 mitigation and personnel measures:*

**\* FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER MAY SUBJECT THE EMPLOYEE TO PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE FOR EACH VIOLATION UP TO AND INCLUDING TERMINATION.**

### **I. City Employee Requirements Following Exposure**

**A. Reporting.** Any city employee who tests positive or is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or

**B.** whose household family member tests positive for COVID-19, **is required** to promptly notify both Employee Health & Wellness *and* their Department Director or immediate supervisor.

**C. Employee Who Tests Positive.** Any city employee who tests positive for Covid-19 is required to stay home for a minimum of (10) ten days. The earliest an employee may return to work is on the 11<sup>th</sup> day after testing positive provided all symptoms have been resolved. \*

**\*PERSONAL LEAVE ACCRUALS WILL BE UTILIZED FOR ALL EMPLOYEES NOT SUBJECT TO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT.**

**D. Household Family Member with Positive Test Result.** Any City employee not experiencing any know symptoms of COVID-19 who has a household member that tested positive for COVID-19 may return to work **only under the following conditions:**

- (1) Proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken by the within (24) twenty-four prior; *and*
- (2) Proof that the exposed City employee has completed one of the following:

Their booster vaccine; ***and***

- Their primary series of Pfizer/Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months; *or*
- Their primary series of J&J vaccine within the last 2 months; *and*

- (3) A K95 or N95 mask is worn by the exposed City employee at all times when working around other employees or interacting with the public; *and*
- (4) Proof of an additional negative COVID-19 test taken within (24) twenty-four hours of day 3 and day 5.

**IF AT ANY TIME AN EXPOSED CITY EMPLOYEE DEVELOPS ANY COVID-19 SYMPTOMS, THEY SHOULD IMMEDIATELY SEEK A TEST AND STAY HOME UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

If an employee exposed to a positive household family member is unable to comply with each of the four (4) conditions above, he or she is required to stay home for (5) five days. The earliest an employee may return to work is on the 6<sup>th</sup> day after testing positive provided all symptoms have been resolved.

**\*PERSONAL LEAVE ACCRUALS MUST BE UTILIZED FOR ALL EMPLOYEES NOT SUBJECT TO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT.**

**II. City Related Travel**

If possible, all city related travel and trainings should be postponed /rescheduled until further notice.


**III. City Business**


All advisory boards, commissions, and committee meetings shall be either be rescheduled or, whenever possible, conducted by video conference call in strict accordance with Section 551.127 of the Texas Government Code. Whenever possible, all other City meetings should be conducted through telephone or video conference.

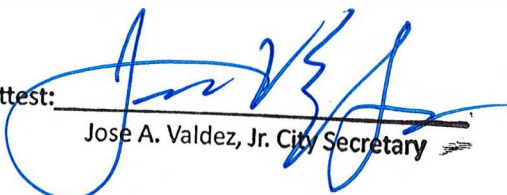
**IV. City Owned Facilities**

The capacity for City of Laredo libraries, recreation centers, and administrative buildings open to the public shall either operate at 50% for visitors, or alternatively, other control measures adopted when deemed by the Health Director and Emergency Management Coordinator to be effective in minimizing the exposure and spread of COVID-19.

This Order issued on this **11th** day of **January 2022** pursuant to the authority of the Local Health Authority and City Manager for the City of Laredo.

  
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Victor Trevino, MD  
City of Laredo Health Authority

  
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Robert A. Eads  
City of laredo City Manager

Attest:   
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Jose A. Valdez, Jr. City Secretary

REC'D CITY SEC OFF  
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