THIRTEENTH ADDENDUM TO 8TH DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY REGARDING COVID-19

WHEREAS, on June 3, 2020 the 8th Declaration of Local Disaster and Public Health Emergency was issued by Mayor Ron Nirenberg; and

WHEREAS, that Declaration essentially adopts and acknowledges Governor Greg Abbott’s Executive Orders and the protocols established by the Strike Force to Open Texas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council indefinitely extended the 8th Declaration on June 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the County Judge has the authority to issue Executive Orders that apply to the entirety of Bexar County, including the City of San Antonio; and

WHEREAS, County Judge Nelson Wolff issued Executive Order NW-20 on March 9, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Governor Greg Abbott issued Executive Order GA-34 relating to the opening of Texas in response to the COVID-19 disaster; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued on September 1, 2020 an Order for Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions To Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19, published in the federal register and effective September 4, 2020 through December 31, 2020;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued on January 29, 2021 an Order on Requirement For Persons To Wear Masks While On Public Conveyances And At Transportation Hubs, published in the federal register and effective February 1, 2021;

NOW THEREFORE:

1. Through this Addendum the City of San Antonio acknowledges and adopts Bexar County Executive Order NW-20, and its applicability, consistent with State law, to the City of San Antonio, and further acknowledges and adopts Governor Abbott’s most recent Executive Order GA-34 as supplemental to San Antonio’s 8th Declaration of Public Health Emergency Regarding COVID-19. This Addendum further identifies more stringent measures that are necessary to mitigate spread of the COVID-19 virus including adopting the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Order for Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions to Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19, published in the Federal Register and effective on September 4, 2020, and adopting the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Order on Requirement For Persons To Wear Masks While On Public Conveyances And At Transportation Hubs, published in the federal register and effective February 1, 2021.
2. **Health and Safety Policy – Commercial Entities.** From the date of Bexar County Executive Order NW-20, all commercial entities in Bexar County providing goods or services directly to the public must continue to post and implement a health and safety policy ("Health and Safety Policy"). The Health and Safety Policy required by this Executive Order should be developed by the commercial entity after considering the specific needs of its business operation and services provided in light of current State orders and public health guidance. While the commercial entity should implement the Health and Safety Policy which best fits its business needs in consideration of the specific health risks presented by its operations, commercial entities may consider the following elements to include in their Health and Safety Policy:

i) Requiring employees, customers and other visitors to wear face masks;
ii) Requiring customers to maintain six feet of separation;
iii) Implementing voluntarily occupancy limitations; or
iv) Implementing screening procedures such as temperature checks or health screenings.

Nothing in this Executive Order requires a commercial Entity to adopt any specific recommendation. However, all commercial Entities must post a Health and Safety Policy once adopted in a conspicuous location sufficient to provide clear notice to all employees, customers and visitors of any health and safety requirements implemented by the commercial entity, including any policy on wearing a face mask.

If an individual is refusing to comply with the Entity’s Health and Safety Policy then the Entity may call on legally authorized officials to remove any individual refusing to comply with its adopted Health and Safety Policy from its premises in accordance with trespassing laws.

San Antonio businesses are strongly encouraged to take the “Greater, SAfer, Together” pledge which commits businesses to do the following:

a. Use face masks
b. Practice physical distancing
c. Conduct temperature checks
d. Provide Hand sanitizer
e. Follow CDC protocols
f. Implement contactless payment when possible
g. General COVID-19 awareness training for employees.

Businesses that take the “Greater, SAfer, Together” pledge may post their commitment to facilitate compliance with the County’s Health and Safety Policy posting requirement.

3. **Face Masks.** All passengers on public conveyances (e.g., airplanes, ships, ferries, trains, subways, buses, taxis, ride-shares) traveling into, within, or out of the United States, all conveyance operators, including crew, drivers, conductors, and other workers involved in the operation of conveyances, all operators of transportation hubs, including the San Antonio International Airport and any other area that provides transportation in the United States, shall comply with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Order on Requirement For Persons To Wear Masks While On Public
Please visit the City of San Antonio COVID-19 website for additional information and helpful hints on the most effective way to use face masks.

4. **Long-term Care Facilities and Dialysis Facilities.** People may visit nursing homes, statue supported living centers, assisted living facilities, or long-term care facilities as determined through guidance from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). Nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, long-term care facilities and dialysis facilities should follow infection control policies and practices set forth by HHSC, including minimizing the movement of staff between facilities whenever possible. Long-term care facilities and dialysis facilities should follow all additional CDC guidance to take proactive steps to protect the health of residents and preserve the health care workforce by identifying and excluding potentially infected staff members, conducting visitation consistent with the Texas Governor’s executive orders, any applicable declaration of the Mayor of San Antonio and any Executive Order of the Bexar County Judge, ensuring early recognition of potentially infected patients, and implementing appropriate infection control measures.

5. **Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions.** A landlord, owner of residential property, or other person with legal right to pursue eviction or possessory action shall comply with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Order for Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions to Prevent the Further Spread of CVOID-19, published in the Federal Register on September 4, 2020 “CDC Order” for those Covered persons within the CDC Order. Pursuant to the CDC’s Order, failure to comply may result in a fine not to exceed $1,000 for each violation.

6. **Further Actions as Necessary.** Significant escalation in one or more of the Local Progress and Warning Indicators identified by the COVID-19 Community Response Coalition such as the number of daily cases, the need for case investigators and contact tracers, the number of patients hospitalized, in ICU, or on ventilators due to COVID-19 related complications, the Total Case Double Time, the COVID-19 weekly positivity rate (i.e., the percentage of lab tests that are positive for COVID-19), and the STRAC Health System Score may require the strengthening or addition of mitigation measures.

The San Antonio Metro Health District will work with other community stakeholders to monitor the above criteria which have been identified as key factors to evaluate the effectiveness of control measures to mitigate spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Additionally, State health indicators, including the transmission of COVID-19, and the number of COVID-19-related hospitalizations and fatalities will be monitored and taken into consideration.

7. **Severability.** The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Declaration are severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Declaration should be declared invalid by the final judgment or decree of any court or competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and
Section 10. This can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end, the provisions of this Declaration are severable.

8. **Enforcement.** In accordance with the limitations contained in the executive orders of Governor Greg Abbott or this Declaration, that any peace officer or other person with lawful authority is hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this Declaration in accordance with the authority granted under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975.

**MAYOR RON NIRENBERG**
City of San Antonio, Texas