

**LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY  
COVID-19 CRISIS –8/28/2020**

Dear Leon Valley Citizens and Businesses:

**VOTING IN THE COVID -19 ENVIRONMENT**

The November 3, 2020 national, state, county and local city election is only 64 days away, with Early Voting beginning on October 13<sup>th</sup> and ending on October 30<sup>th</sup>. The last day to register to vote is September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Visit <https://www.bexar.org/1702/Register-to-Vote> to register or to verify your voter registration. You can also pick up a voter registration card at City Hall. Please call Sandra Passailaigue, City Secretary at (210)684-1391, Ext. 216 to make arrangements. The entire Leon Valley Conference Center (not just the hallway) has been designated as an early voting site so that social distancing can be achieved. *Wearing masks to the polling sites is not required (an exception by Governor Abbott), but are strongly recommended.* Voters cannot be denied entrance to a polling place for refusing to be screened or to wear a mask.

Persons over 65, and anyone who is sick or disabled, or who will be out of town during early voting and election day or who is confined in jail, may vote by mail. You must request a mail-in ballot to be sent to you first and then the ballot will be mailed to you in October. Call the Bexar County

Elections office at (210) 335-8160 to request a ballot be sent to you. The mail-in ballot request must be received by the deadline of October 23, 2020. Upon completion of voting on the mail-in ballot, a person can mail or fed-ex your ballot back to the elections department. You can also hand deliver your completed ballot to the Bexar County Elections office at 1103 S. Frio Street, Suite 200 for acceptance; you will need to present a photo ID and sign a registry. There are no other drop-off mail ballot sites in the county.

What if you request a mail in ballot and later change your mind and want to vote at a polling site – can you do that? The answer is yes. Bring your ballot to the polling site and the deputy clerk will cancel your mail in ballot and allow you to vote in person.

In addition to Early voting, voting on Election Day, and voting by mail, there will be a curbside option for those who want to vote at the poll, but cannot stand for long. There will be a number to call to set up a designated time to come by to vote. More information on this Leon Valley service to follow.

## **LV HOUSEHOLD STABILIZATION PROGRAM**

For any household in Leon Valley which has had a loss of income due to COVID 19, the LV Household Stabilization grant program in partnership with Ascension De Paul Services is up and ready to help! The City is ready to provide up to \$4999 in financial assistance for overdue rent, mortgages, unforeseen funeral costs, overdue utilities, food, prescriptions, clothing, fuel, counseling services, qualified childcare and internet services required by the public school system per household. Applying through the city's website at [www.leonvalleytexas.gov](http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov): LV Household Stabilization Program is strongly encouraged. Any amount \$5,000 or above will be sent to the City of Leon Valley for management approval. More details can be found on Next Door, City of Leon Valley Facebook, ENEWS – special edition, and COVID-19 link on the city's website above. \$100,000 has been set aside from the federal CARES Act money through Bexar County and these funds must be spent by October 30, 2020. Applying through the website is strongly encouraged as it will make the funding process move rapidly. However, if you are unable to navigate through the link [http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/news\\_detail\\_T5\\_R975.php](http://www.leonvalleytexas.gov/news_detail_T5_R975.php), you may call Ascension DePaul Services at 210-334-2300 for assistance with navigating through the website service. Special thanks to the Leon Valley City Council,

Mr. Cox, and staff at Ascension De Paul for setting up this funding source to help our citizens.

### **UPDATED NUMBERS**

As of August 27, 2020, the total number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 reported in Bexar County since March is 45,811, an 2.6% increase in 8 days. There were 767 deaths reported on August 27th, a 13% increase in 8 days. (The number of deaths include deaths not counted between July 3 - August 23<sup>rd</sup>, which reflects this increase). There continues to be a reduction in the number of people in hospitals, in ICU's and on ventilators. This continues to be a positive trend!

Dr. Anita Kurian of the Metropolitan Health District updated COVID -19 cases to the suburban cities on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Leon Valley had an adjusted aggregate number of 203 COVID (down from 205 cases reported as of August 3<sup>rd</sup>). 88% of the affected citizens have recovered so far.

**COVID-19 TESTING SITES** - Testing locations can be found at [www.covid19sanantonio](http://www.covid19sanantonio) or by calling the City of San Antonio COVID-19 hot line at (210) 207-5779.

### **CITY FACILITIES REMAIN CLOSED**

Just a reminder that City Hall, City Parks (athletic fields, tennis courts, playground areas) and the Forest Oaks swimming pool are closed due to the COVID numbers. Raymond Rimkus Park's walking and hiking trails, park restrooms and community garden remain open to the public.

Leon Valley City Library remains closed, with online adult and children activities only and curbside pickup for books and DVD's.

Please continue to follow the guidelines to help contain the spread of the virus. Take care and call/email if you have any questions.

Sincerely, Chris

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