



# City of Chattanooga

Mayor Andy Berke

**CIVIL EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION AND EXECUTIVE ORDER  
REGARDING SHELTER AT HOME  
BY MAYOR ANDY BERKE FOR THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA  
No. 2020-09**

**WHEREAS**, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) is a communicable respiratory disease that can lead to serious illness or death, particularly in the case of elderly adults and persons with serious chronic medical conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 21, 2020, following the guidance of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Tennessee Department of Health designated COVID-19 as a reportable disease in Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, the Governor for the State of Tennessee first issued an Executive Order to facilitate the treatment and containment of COVID-19, pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 58-2-107(e)(1); and

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, I initially declared a state of emergency for the City of Chattanooga, pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 38-9-101 et seq. and § 58-2-101 et seq. and City of Chattanooga Charter, Article 2.1 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the authority invested in the Mayor under Tennessee Code Annotated § 38-9-101, et seq. and 58-8-104 and 58-2-110 (3) and City of Chattanooga Code § 20-41, et seq., the Mayor may proclaim in writing the existence of a civil emergency, as defined therein; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 20, 2020, pursuant to the authority invested in the Mayor under Tennessee Code Annotated § 38-9-101, et seq. and City of Chattanooga Charter, Article 2.1, and City of Chattanooga Code §§ 20-41, et seq., I issued Civil Emergency Proclamation and Executive Order No. 2020-03 (“Executive Order No. 2020-03”) closing restaurants and bars for on-site consumption as well as closing gyms and exercise facilities. I also issued Executive Order No. 2020-04 closing additional businesses, including indoor portions of retail shopping malls and facilities where certain personal care services are performed; and I issued Executive Order No. 2020-05 regarding temporary off-premises beer sales and deliveries and closing City Hall, City Development Resource building, and Annex Business offices to the public on March 27, 2020; and I issued Executive Order 2020-06 regarding Shelter at home and travel restrictions which were limited to Essential Activities, Essential business operations, or to

maintain Essential Governmental functions on April 2, 2020; and I issued Executive Order 2020-07 on April 9, 2020 extending all previous orders; and I issued Executive Order 2020-08 effective April 17, 2020 extending all previous orders and proclaiming the local civil emergency which resulted from the extensive storm involving multiple tornados, flash flooding, and high water damages that caused major destruction in large areas of the City in East Brainerd near Hamilton Place on the night of April 12, 2020 and into the early morning hours of April 13, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, as of April 23, 2020, the Hamilton County Health Department has most recently reported 129 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hamilton County and 13 deaths and that community transmission may be occurring; and

**WHEREAS**, as of April 23, 2020, there were at least 8,266 positive COVID-19 tests and 170 deaths from COVID-19 reported in the state of Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, during the pendency of my most recent Executive Order extending the period of emergency in the City of Chattanooga, an extensive storm involving multiple tornados, flash flooding, and high water damages has caused major destruction in large areas of the City in East Brainerd near Hamilton Place and adjoining properties; and

**WHEREAS**, this natural disaster has occurred with the geographic limits of the City of Chattanooga, resulting in the death and injury of persons and the destruction of property to such an extent that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of Chattanooga citizens for another devastating matter within the provisions of Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 38-9-101 et. seq.;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANDY BERKE, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA**, by virtue of the powers vested in me, do hereby proclaim that a local public health civil emergency continues to exist in the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee and an additional natural disaster has stricken our City based on the extensive storm and damage to property from wind and floods which occurred on the night of April 12, 2020 and into the early morning hours of April 13, 2020 and I hereby direct and order the following:

1. **Shelter at Home**. All individuals currently living within the City are ordered to shelter at their place of residence unless otherwise exempted as outlined in this Order. For purposes of this Order, residences include hotels, motels, shared rental units, and similar facilities. To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must at all times as reasonably possible maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any other person when they are outside their residence. All persons may leave their residences **only for Essential Activities, Essential Governmental Functions, or to operate Essential Services Businesses as defined in paragraph 6 of this Order**. Individuals experiencing homelessness are exempt from this section, but are strongly urged to obtain shelter, and governmental and other entities are strongly urged to make such shelter available as soon as possible and to the maximum extent practicable for homeless individuals (and to use COVID-19 risk mitigation practices in their operation). Individuals whose residences are unsafe or become unsafe, such as victims of domestic violence, are permitted and urged to leave their home and stay at a safe alternative location. **This Order which was initially issued as Executive Order 2020-06 is extended again for 7 additional days as allowed under Tennessee Code Annotated § 38-9-101, et seq. and 58-8-104 and 58-2-110 (3).**

2. All previous Orders and restrictions which were contained in my Executive Order 2020-06 relative to Travel Restrictions; Mass Gatherings Prohibited; Closure of Non-Essential Services Businesses; Essential Activities; Essential Services Businesses; Non-Essential Services Businesses; Essential Travel; Healthcare Operations; Essential Infrastructure; Essential Governmental Functions; Minimum Basic Operations; Social Distancing Requirements; and the Temporary closure and Suspension of access to all city-owned public spaces, including Miller Park, Walnut Street Bridge, Stringer's Ridge, and all city owned public parks which are included in the Attached Master List of City Parks as Attachment A to Executive Order 2020-06 shall remain in full force and effect during the term of this Order. To enforce the terms of this Order City employees may continue to block ingress/egress (like close both ends of Walnut Street Bridge) to prevent access which may be in violation of the CDC Social Distancing requirements. Any City public spaces which shall remain open shall be designated by signage and shall be subject to the social distancing rules in this Order.
3. This Order continues to include any for-profit, non-profit, or educational entities, regardless of the nature of the service, the function such businesses perform, or the corporate or entity structure of such businesses.
4. This Order requests that access into the area of damage from the April 12, 2020 storms be limited to law enforcement, fire department, residents, government and emergency management personnel, family members, and debris clearing personnel under contract with the City until further Orders are issued for this area as shown on the attached map.
5. This Order proclaims that a Civil Emergency as defined in Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 38-9-101 et. seq. continues to exist and a copy of this proclamation shall be filed with the City Council Clerk as required by Tenn. Code Ann. § 38-9-102 applicable to the geographical areas of the City as shown on the map attached to Executive Order 2020-08 which shall continue in effect until rescinded in writing but not to exceed fifteen (15) days.
6. Based on the proclamation of this Civil Emergency the City should be authorized to all emergency management powers and authorities applicable to the geographical areas of the City shown on the attached map under Tenn. Code Ann. § 58-2-110 (3) with the power to waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the City by law pertaining to:
  - (a) Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community;
  - (b) Entering into contracts;
  - (c) Incurring obligations;
  - (d) Employment of permanent and temporary workers;
  - (e) Utilization of volunteer workers;
  - (f) Rental of equipment;
  - (g) Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities; and
  - (h) Appropriation and expenditure of public funds;

7. This Order does not apply to employees of the City of Chattanooga. Employees of the City shall follow all current and future directives and orders issued by the Mayor of Chattanooga that are specifically directed at them during any period of emergency.
8. The Chattanooga Police Department, Land Development Office, and Fire Marshal is authorized to enforce this Order.
9. A determination that any provision of this Order is invalid will not affect the enforceability of any other provision of this Order. The remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect. Any invalid provision will be modified to the extent necessary for enforceability.
10. This Order shall be extended effective at 12:01 AM on Saturday, April 25, 2020, and shall remain in effect until withdrawn or extended pursuant to Tennessee law.
11. PURSUANT TO TENN. CODE ANN. § 58-2-110 (3) the duration of this Executive Order is limited to seven (7) days initially and may be extended, as necessary, in additional seven-day increments. It is the intent of this Order to extend all prior Executive Orders issued since March 13, 2020 as Executive Orders 2020-01, 2020-02, 2020-03; 2020-04; 2020-05; 2020-06; 2020-07; and 2020-08 for all additional periods which are authorized under Tennessee law within the City of Chattanooga. To the extent that this Order conflicts with any prior Orders this Order shall control. Any businesses previously closed by a prior Executive Order from the Governor of Tennessee or this administration shall remain closed under the terms of this Order.

Issued this 24th day of April, 2020, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 38-9-101, et seq. and 58-8-104 and 58-2-110 (3) by the Mayor of the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee.



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ANDY BERKE, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA