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MEDIA ADVISORY

March 18, 2020

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McAllen City Commission Meetings Closed to Public During COVID-19 Pandemic

Meetings can still be viewed live online or on MCN Spectrum1300

At yesterday's emergency-called McAllen City Commission meeting, Mayor Darling and the McAllen City Commission approved an order temporarily prohibiting community gatherings of 50 persons or more. This does include restaurants, bars, arenas, event centers, auditoriums, cafeterias, or other confined space. This excludes grocery stores, airports, bus stations, or buildings like the mall where more than 50 are present but in separate rooms, stores, or offices and can maintain arms-length distance or greater.

This restriction will apply to McAllen City Commission meetings, beginning at the next regularly scheduled meeting for Monday, March 23, 2020. City of McAllen department directors will be restricted to attending only if they have an item on the agenda. McAllen city officials will monitor to ensure that the number of persons in the room does not exceed 50 people. Department directors will enter the room when item is addressed.

Further, members of the public will not be allowed in the room, unless they have an item in the public hearing section. In that case, they will be allowed to enter when the item is up for discussion. Additionally, there will be no presentations, proclamations, or recognitions during this time.

Members of the media requesting interviews may view the McAllen City Commission meeting via the channel live on TV on MCN Spectrum 1300 in the lobby outside of Commission Chamber and wait in the designated space for interviews.

McAllen residents may view the meeting live on TV on MCN Spectrum 1300, available to Spectrum cable subscribers only. All may view the meeting live, as well at www.mcallen.net.

"We ask for everyone's patience and cooperation as we try to maintain the safety of all in our community, while also doing our job of governing the day-to-day operations of the City of McAllen," said McAllen City Manager Roel "Roy" Rodriguez, P.E. "This is temporary, until the social distancing restrictions are lifted. Our goal throughout this crisis is to continue to remain transparent in our government operations."

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