



JEFF WAGNER
MAYOR

{March 26, 2020-Pasadena, TX} As we continue to monitor this crisis, I want to thank our community again for working together to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Like all of the cities around us, Houston, Deer Park, La Porte and every other municipality in Harris County, we receive information about presumptive and positive cases from the Harris County Health Department.

Due to patient privacy laws (otherwise known as the HIPAA Act) these cities, including Pasadena, receive only certain information. This is not something we can force or negotiate Harris County into sharing with us...it is a FEDERAL LAW.

You may have received an alert on your phone this afternoon from Harris County about the number of COVID-19 cases “rapidly rising in all parts of Harris County”. There are two possible and probable reasons for this increase:

- 1) More testing sites have been opened and more people are being tested now than there were this time last week.
- 2) Prior to the Stay Home/Work Safe Order going into effect yesterday, more people were interacting and that meant more possible spread of the virus. Now that Harris County has more testing kits, more cases are being confirmed.

On Tuesday, March 24, it was announced that Pasadena had 8 possible cases that were being monitored. However, the Harris County Public Health Department has not reported to us that any of these cases are positive. Case numbers in every Harris County city change rapidly. Updated information and case numbers can be obtained through their office by calling, 713-439-6000, or by visiting www.hcphtx.org/COVID-19.

We are all making a concerted effort to keep our communities informed and to relay information regarding this rapidly evolving situation.

Thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation. God Bless you and God Bless Pasadena.