



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** May 18, 2020
SUBJECT: Consider Ordinance No. 3652, amending Ordinance No. 3644 relating to the Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency due to the COVID-19 Pandemic to modify the penalty provision.
PRESENTER: Jimmy Perdue, Director of Public Safety

SUMMARY:

The purpose of this item is to amend the ordinance relating to the Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic to modify the penalty provision.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

In December 2019, Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic. Disaster declarations have been issued by the President of the United States, the County Judge of Tarrant County, and by Texas Governor Greg Abbott for all Texas counties for COVID-19. Governor Abbott has issued numerous Executive Orders which have the rule of law, to provide statewide measures to address the spread of COVID-19 ("Executive Orders") and to implement phases of the Open Texas strategic plan ("Open Texas Plan").

On May 4, 2020, the City Council of the City of North Richland Hills adopted Ordinance No. 3644 incorporating Governor Abbott's Executive Orders and providing for a penalty for violation of the ordinance. On May 7, 2020, Governor Abbot modified his Executive Orders to eliminate confinement as a penalty for violation of his Executive Orders retroactive to April 2, 2020. It is necessary for City Council to modify the penalty provision for Ordinance No. 3652 to be consistent with the penalty provision in the Executive Orders. Staff recommends City Council approve Ordinance No. 3652.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Ordinance No. 3652.