

The City of Galveston desires to begin the methodical climb out of the COVID-19 orders implemented by the State, County and the City to allow our local businesses and employers the ability to begin to operate and bring back employees.

All decisions related to re-opening will be based on advice and data provided by local health authorities and UTMB. The city has also consulted with private sector interest groups and individual business owners to get advice, suggestions and needs. All recommendations have also been vetted by the Galveston County Health District (Dr. Keiser) and UTMB (Dr. Raimer) to ensure that in all we do, we are putting the health and safety of our citizens, our businesses and our employees first. All orders will be re-evaluated every two weeks from the effective date or as circumstances change.

**Initial Recovery and Re-Opening can be segmented into several categories:**

- (1) Restaurants
  - a. These include most dine in eateries
  - b. This includes businesses that service alcohol but still derive over 50% of their business from food sales.
- (2) Bars
  - a. This includes establishments that derive over 50% of their income from liquor sales.
- (3) Hotels, Short-Term Rentals & Bed and Breakfast
- (4) RV Parks
- (5) Large Attractions
- (6) Fishing Piers
- (7) Golf Courses
- (8) Personal Services
- (9) Non-Essential Retail Establishments
- (10) Nursing Homes
- (11) Gyms and Fitness Centers
- (12) Beaches

**Global Requirements for All Citizens:**

The City of Galveston in its effort to put public health of its citizens and visitors first is requesting all members of the general public to practice all areas of personal protection and hygiene necessary to protect themselves and others from the spread of COVID-19. This includes frequent and thorough hand washing, self-monitoring for disease, wearing of facial protection while in public or within 6 feet of others, avoid touching of the face and of course self-quarantining and seek testing should you feel any symptoms or suspect exposure of COVID-19. The City will strictly enforce social distancing during this time and asks that you remain at least 6 feet away from others not in your immediate isolation unit, and that groups of 5 or more be prohibited.

While the city encourages people to begin resuming normal activities while observing the above guidelines, it is strongly recommended that our citizens avoid travel to areas of high contagion and that if it is necessary to do so that you make every effort to protect yourself and those with you and to closely self-monitor once you return to Galveston. Self-monitoring includes daily temperature monitoring and if necessary, testing should you feel any chance of exposure.

Any citizen testing positive for COVID-19 should self-quarantine and not remove themselves until cleared by the Galveston County Health District or other certified health care provider.

All people 10 years or older must wear a cloth face covering over their nose and mouth when in a public place where it is difficult to keep 6' feet away from other people such as visiting a grocery store/pharmacy or working in areas that involve close proximity with other co-workers. Coverings may include homemade masks, scarfs, bandanas or a handkerchief. Residents must continue to maintain social distancing of a minimum of 6' when outside of their residence.

Within three days of the issuance of this order, employers that are Exempted Businesses must provide face coverings and training for appropriate use to employees who are working.

It is strongly recommended that you not obtain or wear medical masks or N-95 respirators as they are a needed resource for health care providers and first responders.

Face coverings do not need to be worn in the following circumstances:

- (1) When exercising or engaging in physical activity outside either alone or with members of your household. This does not include exercise within a gym, private training facility or other athletic center where masks MUST BE WORN.
- (2) When driving alone or with passengers who are part of the same household as the driver.
- (3) When doing so poses a greater mental or physical health, safety or security risk
- (4) When consuming food or drink

#### **Individual Actions:**

#### **Restaurants:**

Restaurants as defined in this policy are allowed to reopen dining facilities with the following requirements.

- (1) All dining space must allow a minimum of 6' of distance between dining parties. This includes circulation areas for patrons to access other restaurant amenities such as restrooms and pick up windows. It is imperative that customers in these establishment feel safe and comfortable.
- (2) All personnel in the restaurant shall wear masks to stop the spread of COVID-19. Such masks may be cloth or paper but must be worn at all times when customers and other employees are present or food handling and preparation is occurring.
- (3) At the entrance to all facilities, each restaurant should provide patrons with either sanitizing wipes or hand sanitizer to ensure they have the ability to wash their hands prior to eating.
- (4) Buffets and Self Serving Lines are prohibited during the period of this order.

### **Bars/Clubs:**

Bars and clubs as defined in this policy are allowed to reopen their indoor and outdoor facilities with the following requirements:

- (1) All bar space be it interior or exterior must provide adequate space for all patrons or their contained groups to remain 6' apart at all times and this also includes areas for circulation for patrons to access restrooms and pick up areas.
- (2) There should be no dancing or other activities that promote defiance of social distancing as outlined in this document.
- (3) All personnel employed on premise must wear masks to stop the spread of COVID-19. Such masks may be cloth or paper but must completely cover the mouth and nose and must be worn at all times when customers or other employees are present or food and beverage handling and preparation is occurring.
- (4) At the entrance to all facilities, each establishment should provide patrons with either sanitizing wipes or hand sanitizer to ensure they have the ability to wash their hands prior to entering the establishments.
- (5) Self Serving Lines, Beverage Service Lines and any self serve areas will be prohibited.
- (6) Bars and Clubs cannot operate past 10pm.

### **Hotels, Short Term Rentals & Bed and Breakfast:**

Hotels, Short Term Rentals and Bed & Breakfasts under this policy are allowed to operate as normal with the following exceptions.

- (1) All associated personnel should wear protective masks of cloth or other materials whenever coming in contact with guests, guest rooms, food service or with other employees.
- (2) All rooms should include adequate soap and or hand sanitization products for guests.
- (3) All hotel guests must observe social distancing guidelines and remain 6' apart in any public spaces inside or outside of their quarters while on property.
- (4) It is required that hand sanitizing wipes or hand sanitizer be available at all entrances to hotel properties for guests.
- (5) It is encouraged that hotels, short term rentals and Bed and Breakfasts locations provide temporary masks for guests who may visit and may be unfamiliar with local rules related to the spread of COVID-19.
- (6) No large gatherings or meetings of 5 or more will be allowed on property.
- (7) Pools can be opened but strict social distancing must be maintained at all times by those not swimming with members of their own household.

### **RV Parks:**

RV Parks will be allowed to operate as normal with the following exceptions:

- (1) All community spaces, including public restrooms, washaterias, gaming areas and social areas must strictly adhere to a minimum of 6' social distancing guidelines.
- (2) All community spaces as defined above must require masks to be worn before entering and while inside the area, even if alone.
- (3) Hand sanitizer or sanitizing wipes must be available at the entrance to community spaces at all times.
- (4) Pools can be opened but strict social distancing must be maintained at all times by those not swimming with members of their own household.

### **Large Attractions:**

- (1) Large Attractions are things such as Pleasure Pier, Moody Gardens, Large Fishing Charters (10 or more persons), Schlitterbahn, Movie Theaters and other like attractions that draw visitors primarily from outside of Galveston.
- (2) At this time it is advised that such attractions remained closed until June 1 or until further evaluation merits a change in this status, whichever comes first.

### **Commercial Fishing Piers:**

- (1) Commercial fishing piers under this order are fishing piers that charge for use. Examples include the 61<sup>st</sup> Street Pier, the 91<sup>st</sup> Street Pier and Seawolf Park.
- (2) Commercial fishing piers will be allowed to re-open under this order.
- (3) All entering the fishing piers must wear protective masks as outlined above.
- (4) Social distancing must be maintained at all times with a minimum of 6' between parties not of the same household.
- (5) Entering and exiting the pier must be done in such a way that at no time are unrelated parties within 6' of each other.

### **Golf Courses:**

- (1) Golf Courses under this order will be allowed to reopen.
- (2) Unless playing alone, all golfers must wear protective masks at all times.
- (3) All golfers must maintain social distancing and stay a minimum of 6' apart at all times.
- (4) No golfer may share a cart unless both golfers are of the same household.
- (5) Spacing between tee times should allow no bunching of golfers on the course at any time so as to allow ample social distancing.
- (6) All carts must be sanitized between users.
- (7) No touch practices must be observed at all times. No pulling of pins, no ball washing, no sharing of clubs, etc...
- (8) Restaurants and Bars associated with the operation of a golf course must operate under the same guidelines as bars and restaurants mentioned elsewhere in this order.

**Personal Services:**

- (1) At this time the City has no guidance from the State or County as it relates to personal services.
- (2) The City of Galveston defines personal services as Barbers, Hair Dressers, Tanning Salons, Massage Parlors and any other services that require personal contact and touching.
- (3) The city will incorporate rules for these once the CDC or state is forthcoming with them.

**Non-Essential Retail Establishments:**

- (1) Current State orders allow all retail to operate with curbside or delivery options only.
- (2) All employees of such establishments must wear protective masks at all times.
- (3) All employees should exercise social distancing of at list 6' from all other employees at all times.
- (4) Should further retail guidelines be issued by the state these will be modified.

**Nursing Homes:**

- (1) The city of Galveston is seeking input from the Galveston County Health District on orders governing operations of nursing homes.

**Gyms and Fitness Centers:**

- (1) The city of Galveston is seeking input from the Galveston County Health District on orders governing operations of Gyms and Fitness Centers.

**Beaches:**

Beaches in Galveston will remain closed with the following exceptions.

- (1) Beaches will be open for exercise from 6am to 9am, Monday thru Friday.
- (2) Beaches will be open for exercise from 6pm to 8pm, Monday thru Friday
- (3) Beaches will remain completely closed Saturday and Sunday.
- (4) No sitting, laying or other stationary act will be allowed on beaches during this time.
- (5) Mask guidelines should be followed during this time.
- (6) Fishing from rock piers will be allowed during the same days and hours mentioned above.
- (7) Surfing will be allowed during the same days and hours mentioned above.