

COVID-19 Update

CITY COUNCIL A SESSION – MAY 7, 2020
ANDY SEGOVIA, CITY ATTORNEY



Governor's Executive Order 21: Expanded Reopening of Services

- Maintains framework of essential, non-essential and reopened services
- Gathering still limited to household (except for essential or reopened services)
- Essential Services remain the same
- More non-Essential services now in category of “Reopened Services”

Reopened Services

- Previously permitted to reopen with 25% occupancy restriction:
 - *dine-in restaurants, retail stores, movie theaters, restaurants, malls (food courts, play areas still closed), museums and libraries*
 - Occupancy limits do not apply to outdoor areas of restaurants, however, must follow social distancing and DSHS protocols
- Wedding venues and services opened immediately
 - Indoor wedding not inside of a church, congregation, or house of worship must limit occupancy to 25%
 - Wedding reception facilities must limit their occupancy to 25% of the total listed occupancy

Reopened Services – May 8

- Cosmetology salons, hair salons, barber shops, nail salons, and tanning salons
 - Appointment only
 - Those waiting must maintain social distancing
 - 6 ft distance between work stations
 - Wearing of masks by provider and customer highly encouraged
- Swimming pools
 - Indoor pools may operate at 25% of total listed occupancy
 - Outdoor pools may operate at 25% of normal operating limits as determined by pool operator
 - Local public pools may operate only if permitted by the local government

Reopened Services – May 18

- Office buildings
 - The greater of 5 individuals or 25% of total office workforce
 - Social distancing must be maintained
- Non-essential manufacturing services may operate at 25% of listed occupancy
 - DSHS protocols include staggered shifts and maintaining social distancing
- Gyms and exercise facilities and classes may operate at 25% of listed occupancy
 - Locker rooms and shower facilities must remain closed
 - Limit does not apply to outdoor classes where social distancing must be maintained
 - DSHS protocols include disinfecting equipment between uses and customers wearing gloves that cover whole hand and fingers

Reopened Services

- Staff members are not included in determining operating levels
 - Exception is non-essential manufacturing
- All individuals, businesses, organizations and any other legal entity providing or obtaining essential or reopened services should use good-faith efforts and available resources to follow the minimum standard health protocols recommended by DSHS found at www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus.
- Businesses may require a customer to follow additional hygiene measures such as wearing a face covering

Closed Businesses

- Bars
- Massage establishments
- Tattoo studios
- Piercing studios
- Sexually oriented businesses
- Interactive amusement venues such as bowling alleys, video arcades, amusement parks, water parks or splash pads

Graduation Ceremonies

- Schools may conduct graduation ceremonies consistent with the minimum standard health protocols found in guidance issued by the TEA
 - **Completely virtual ceremonies** that take place entirely online, with the use of videoconference or other technologies.
 - **Hybrid ceremonies**, which consist of a compilation of videos of students being recognized in person as they celebrate graduation in small groups.
 - **Vehicle ceremonies**, in which students and their families wait in their cars while other graduates are recognized one at time with their families alongside them.
 - **In-person, outdoor ceremonies**, may take place in any Texas county on or after June 1.

Governor's Executive Order 21

- Prohibition continues on visiting of nursing homes
 - Minimize the movement of staff between facilities
- Governor discretion to impose restrictions in a county if a spike occurs
- Highly encourages the use of face coverings
 - Prohibits local entities from imposing a civil or criminal penalty for failure to wear a face covering
 - Order supersedes only to the extent a local order conflicts
 - Businesses may require a customer to wear face covering

Governor's Surge Response Teams

- Governor Abbott announced the reaction of Surge Response Teams to combat flare ups in Texas
- Teams will serve facilities such as nursing homes, prisons and packing plants that experience COVID-19 flare ups
- Will provide resources to get area under containment
 - Providing PPE, testing supplies, onsite staffing and assessment assistance
 - Working with local officials to establish health and social distancing standards to contain flare ups