

May 5, 2020



## A Message from Mayor Rios

At a press conference this afternoon, Governor Abbott reviewed the statistics associated with the coronavirus over the past three months (please visit the “Coronavirus Cases Maps and Statistical Information” within the COVID-19 tab on the City’s web site), clarifications to previous orders, new opening dates, and the development of a state-wide surge response team to mitigate and respond to any possible flare-ups.

### Modifications/Clarifications

- **Funerals, memorials, burials, and weddings** will be treated the same as church gatherings with six-foot distancing.
- **Wedding receptions** should follow the same guidelines as restaurants – no more than six at a table, six-foot distancing between tables and 25/50% (Texas/Aransas County) occupancy of the facility.
- **Beaches, lakes, and rivers** (including rafting) will follow the same guidelines as parks with social distancing and no groups larger than five individuals, except for families.
- **Outdoor seating at restaurants** is not limited to 25/50% (Texas/Aransas County) occupancy. However, social distancing guidelines remain in effect.

### Openings on May 8

**Nail salons, beauty parlors, barbershops and tanning salons may open** while adhering to special guidelines. These include six-foot distancing between stations and one customer per stylist. If there is not a waiting area that adheres to social distancing guidelines, clients must wait outside or in their vehicle. Each salon owner has the option as to whether to open and the requirements of face masks.

### Openings on May 18

- **Gyms and exercise facilities** can initially open to 25/50% (Texas/Aransas County) of capacity. Customers must wear gloves that cover their hands and fingers. All equipment must be disinfected after every use. Individuals bringing in their own equipment, i.e. yoga mats, must sanitize it before entering the facility. Showers and locker rooms will remain closed.
- **Non-essential manufacturers** will be required to limit occupancy and maintain six-foot separation or social engineering between workstations. This may require staggering shifts.
- **Businesses in office buildings** may reopen with five employees or 25% of total workforce if social distancing is in place.

### Other Considerations

- **High School Graduation.** The Texas Education Agency has developed several possible scenarios that may be employed to honor students while also employing health and social distancing guidelines. There are certain criteria and constraints that were not fully discussed but will be shared with the school districts. Options include hybrid, virtual, vehicles and outdoor ceremonies.
- **Opening of bars** is still being reviewed to ensure safe distancing

For additional information, visit the Governor’s “Open Texas” page at <https://gov.texas.gov/organization/opentexas>.