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Mayor Pro Tem

Robert Miklos
Deputy Mayor
Pro Tem

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Councilmember

Kenny Green
Councilmember

B.W. Smith
Councilmember

Daniel Aleman, Jr.
Councilmember

Cliff Keheley
City Manager

April 29, 2020

Re-opened FINAL – Delivered by mail

On Monday, April 27, Governor Greg Abbott issued Executive Order GA 18, relating to the expanded reopening of services in response to the COVID-19 disaster. Under this order as of 12:01 a.m. on Friday, May 1, 2020 all “reopened services” can operate at up to 25 percent of the total listed occupancy and following social distancing guidelines. Reopened services are defined in the order as retail services, dine-in restaurants, movie theatres, shopping malls, museums, libraries, services provided by an individual working alone in an office, and golf course operations.

As a reopened business, we ask for your assistance to educate and enforce social distancing while reopening for service to our citizens. Based on guidelines from DSHS, CDC, and the Governor’s Report to Open Texas, we would like to offer the following recommendations:

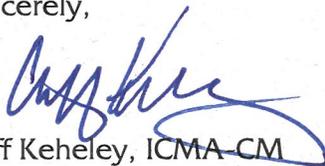
- Determine your 25 percent occupancy number limit and display it both inside and outside your business with bilingual signage. Restaurant occupancy will be 25 percent of the number of seats in dining room with no more than six (6) at any table. If you need assistance determining occupancy please email the Building Official Travis Campbell at tcampbell@cityofmesquite.com with your business name and address, type of business (shoe store, department store, etc.), and contact information.
- Have staff assigned at entrances to ensure occupancy is limited to 25 percent.
- Ensure individuals maintain at least 6 feet distance apart from other individuals at all times.
- Assign staff to monitor for congested areas and check-out areas to enforce social distancing requirements.
- Patrons waiting for service should be lined up outside the business and may not congregate in waiting areas inside the building.
- All employees interacting with customers should wear a face mask and gloves.
- Bilingual signage should be utilized throughout your business to educate residents and our Spanish speaking population on social distancing. Signage should be legible and placed where customers can read before they enter store.

- Disinfect any common areas like counters, keypads and pens, on a regular basis
- Make hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or similar disinfectant readily available to employees and customers.
- Monitor outside conditions including:
 - Ensure adequate markings are placed outside to designate where people stand while waiting to enter.
 - Have plans for severe and inclement weather.
 - Assign staff to monitor and enforce social distancing in outside areas.
- North Texas Municipal Water District also wants to remind all businesses of stagnant water in plumbing systems that could harbor bacteria or higher concentrations of some metals. Business owners are encouraged to flush water through building pipes for 5 to ten minutes prior to re-opening a building or facility.

As rules and guidelines are changing often, I want to assure you that we will work with you on all social distancing efforts. Please utilize these recommendations and refer to “The Governor’s Report to Open Texas” at <http://gov.texas.gov/opentexas>. As we receive complaints about your business, we will bring these to your attention. The expectation is that you will implement practices to actively enforce social distancing and a 25 percent max occupancy. City Staff will communicate violations to owners and management, and offer guidance that can be taken by each business to become compliant. Ultimately, if repeated offenses occur, staff will issue citations and pursue revocation of the certificate of occupancy or health permit issued to the business.

Again, we thank you for the support and cooperation in keeping the Mesquite community safe. By working together, we can continue to help flatten the curve of the coronavirus pandemic and return to normal business operations as quickly as possible. We are grateful for the service you provide to our residents and visitors.

Sincerely,



Cliff Keheley, ICMA-CM
City Manager