

ROADMAP FOR REOPENING NASHVILLE (9/22/20 UPDATE)

Social distancing has slowed the rate at which COVID-19 is spreading in Tennessee. In Nashville and perhaps in certain other parts of the state, the rate of transmission has fallen to the point where the number of new cases may no longer be growing. However, the threat of an exponential increase in cases remains.

Epidemiologists and infectious disease experts agree that, in the absence of strict social distancing, Tennessee's numbers would once again surge. It's estimated that a single infected person circulating freely could infect more than 4,000 people over the course of a month. COVID-19 will continue to be a serious threat until there is an effective vaccine or more effective therapeutic treatments.* Experts estimate that we will not have a COVID-19 vaccine until 2021 at the earliest. For the foreseeable future, living with COVID-19 is our new "normal."

Living with COVID-19 means finding ways for our city to return to work with COVID-19 still circulating. There is an emerging consensus that America's economy should open in phases, with different parts of the economy and different aspects of public life reopening at different times. President Trump, for instance, has suggested a three-phase reopening. This document will present a framework for a four-phase reopening that reflects the state of the COVID-19 pandemic in Tennessee and the distinctive needs of Nashville.

This memo is intended to start that discussion. It consists of two sections.

Section 1: Rules for reopening. The first section will present a set of metrics that policymakers should consider using to make decisions about when phased reopening should begin.

Section 2: A four-phase plan to reopen our economies. The second section will present a four-phase approach to reopening our economies that addresses the question of when that process should begin and how it might unfold.

Section 1: Rules for Reopening

Recommendation #1: Data driven, not date driven. Data, rather than arbitrarily chosen dates, should guide the decision to reopen.

Recommendation #2: Clear metrics to determine when the economies will reopen and when to reimpose certain limitations.

It is important to develop transparent triggers that will help determine when social distancing measures can be relaxed. Three measures are particularly important:

* A third scenario – protection through so-called herd immunity – would involve accepting large numbers of infections and deaths. The purpose of this memo is to demonstrate that this approach is unnecessary.

- **Sustained reduction or stability in new cases for 14 days.** The first and most important indicator Nashville will monitor is the number of new positive test cases. Public health authorities agree that movement towards reopening should begin only after 14 days of significant declines. Although most cases occur within 5-7 days of exposure, almost all are evident by 14 days. A sustained downward trend in cases over the course of the 14 days is a requirement for proceeding to the first stage of reopening.

Conversely, a significant increase in active cases should prompt policymakers to halt movement toward the next phase, revert to an early phase of opening, or re-impose stricter social distancing guidelines.

- Certain increases, such as an increase in active cases over the course of five days, would clearly be a cause for concern. However, exact judgements should reflect a precise understanding of local trends. If, for instance, the public health department identifies a specific outbreak and is able to isolate COVID-positive cases and quarantine people who were in close contact quickly, movement towards greater reopening could continue, even with an increase in positive cases. This illustrates the critical importance of contact tracing and effective public health measures, something this memo will address in a later section.
- **Adequate diagnostic testing capacity and rapid test results.** Nashville is currently able to conduct 5,000 tests a week – consistent with the common benchmark of 1 test per 100-150 residents per week. Adequate testing capacity is necessary to allow employers overseeing vulnerable populations, such as health care facilities, nursing homes and assisted living facilities, and jails to be vigilant in monitoring for COVID-19. Testing should be expanded to include those with mild respiratory illness and people who have been in close contact with people identified as COVID-positive. Close contacts include household members and others who have had at least a 10-minute face-to-face encounter with a case, at a distance of less than 6 feet apart.

It is of the greatest importance that test results be available quickly, ideally within 24 hours so that COVID-positive people can isolate and so that contact tracing to rapidly identify people who have been in close contact and who should thus go into quarantine. Tests should also be administered in a way that clearly captures the names, addresses, and phone numbers of people who have received them so that Public Health departments can follow up effectively during contact tracing.

- **Public health capability to rapidly interview “index” cases, identify close contacts, and ensure that isolation and quarantine are effective.** Health departments need resources to conduct rapid and effective investigations and monitor cases and contacts effectively. Estimates of personnel needs for these tasks range from 4 to 15 per 100,000 population,

That translates to 28-105 investigators for Davidson County, along with similar numbers of case and contact monitors. Public health departments should track efforts to reach “index” cases (i.e., the people identified as positive who need to isolate) and contacts (who need to quarantine). Efforts to monitor cases and contacts should also be tracked. Interviews should capture information about the onset of symptoms and the setting in which the infection may have occurred, so that public health authorities can follow up appropriately and contain “hot spots.”

Authorities should take other measures to ensure that quarantine and isolation are effective. Household members need instruction on how to protect themselves while the a family member is infectious, especially if they are personally caring for said family member. Cases should be contacted daily to measure compliance and to provide the support necessary to ensure it, such as food or access to mental health resources.

- **Health care system capacity.** Nashville will continue to track and share information about the availability of hospital beds, ICU beds, ventilators, and personal protective equipment (PPE) in order to ensure that they are adequately available if cases surge, as modeled under a variety of assumptions. Data on available capacity should be assessed regionally and statewide with reporting to the Healthcare Resource Tracking System (HRTS) at least three times per week. State stockpiles should be used to fill in deficiencies. There should be continuous monitoring of cases statewide to assure that capacity will not be exceeded.

All of these data should be shared with the public on an ongoing basis as part of a larger public education campaign that addresses the public in general and employers in particular.

The table below presents these metrics and recommendations in summary form:

Table 1. Goals prior to re-opening and linked metrics

Goal	Metric
1. Disease transmission under control	Sustained decrease in cases maintained for 14 days
2. Detect every case	1 test per 100-150 residents per week; results within 24 hours
3. Isolate every case	Interview cases within 1 day of test results. Capacity to contact cases daily and support isolation at home or alternate location established.
4. Trace every contact	Close contacts interviewed within 2 days of case report. Capacity to support quarantine at home or alternate location established.

5. Sources of exposure identified and preventive measures instituted	Case interviews identify likely source of exposure, and prevention plan developed for identified “hot spots”
6. Risk of importing new cases can be “managed”	Healthcare facilities have written plans for managing expected patients and sufficient PPE, beds, ventilators based on best available local models. Report to State twice weekly available equipment/facilities.
7. Schools, workplaces, healthcare facilities have established preventive measures	Written plans that specify training, screening, and medical leave policies for employees. Plans should include procedures for interacting safely with customers including maintaining hygiene, minimizing close contact, and screening protocols such as temperature checks.
8. Communities are fully educated, engaged and empowered to live under a new normal	Compliance with new normal monitored by mobility reports and exposure histories of new cases. Cloth masks are to be widely utilized by all citizens outside their residences to reduce spread of disease.

Elected officials should come together to clearly communicate that we will not be returning to a pre-COVID “normal” for some time. Social distancing is not going away. Businesses that can perform work remotely should continue to do so. Persons 65 years and older and those with chronic health conditions should be encouraged to stay at home wherever possible. The risk of a surge in cases that would require a return to safer-at-home or to a statewide shelter-at-home order are very real.

However, we believe the time has also come to take the following steps:

- Inform citizens about the planning to reopen our economies in phased fashion. Communicate clearly that it will only be possible to proceed if social distancing continues and the number of new cases declines.
- Share the metrics/indicators policymakers – the “rules for reopening” – that policymakers will use to begin the reopening. Convey that this decision will be data-driven, not date-driven.
- Announce that Tennessee’s four largest cities are working to put forward a common framework to reopen the economy in four phases.
- Reach out in partnership with health care systems, businesses, and universities, to partner with them in this effort.

Section 2: A Four-Phase Plan to Reopen our Economy

The remainder of this memo lays out the rationale for a four-phase reopening and suggests measures that might be appropriate for each phase.

Preparing to Reopen: “Safer at Home” (Through May 10)

Phase One: Reopening (May 11th – May 24th)

The following businesses/industries were reopened in Phase One:

- Retail and other commercial business, with social distancing maintained and at 50 % capacity. Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers between people and groups. Cleaning of carts, explicit expectations for frequent hand hygiene and wearing of cloth masks by employees and patrons are required.
 - Screen daily all employees with symptom checks. Employees with symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater must leave the premises immediately.
 - Post information about health precautions for patrons, employees, and staff (such as maintaining an appropriate social distance while lining up for checkout). Reduce the number of people using elevators. Provide hand sanitizer at all entrances.
 - Advise employees with any symptoms of illness to be tested and to stay home until they receive medical clearance. Establish policies that make it possible for employees to isolate and quarantine.
- Restaurants and bars serving food from a menu may open at 50 % capacity maintaining strict social distancing. Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers between people and groups.
 - Screen daily all employees for symptoms. Employees with symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater must leave the premises immediately.
 - Post information about health precautions for patrons, employees and staff (such as maintaining a safe distance while lining up for checkout). Reduce the number of people using elevators. Provide hand sanitizer at all entrances.
 - Advise employees with any symptoms of illness to be tested and to stay home until they receive medical clearance. Create policies that make it possible for employees to isolate and quarantine.
 - Social distancing must be maintained in kitchens and dining rooms.
 - Bars remain closed. Bars serving food must provide table food and beverage service. No patrons may approach the bar area.
 - Only table service of alcohol is permitted to seated patrons.
 - Live entertainment shall not be permitted.

- Self-service food and shared condiments are not permitted.
- Restaurants are required to clean all surfaces after use by a patron.
- The use of disposable, virtual or no-touch menus is recommended.
- Employees who interact with the public, or who cannot maintain a safe social distance from their co-workers, are required to wear cloth face coverings or masks.
- Take-out alcohol sales will remain.
- Except when performing essential services, those over age 65 and those with high risk factors (including: chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; serious heart conditions; people with compromised immune systems, either through cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplant, or genetic or acquired immune deficiencies; the prolonged use of corticosteroids) should remain safer at home to the extent possible.
- Work from home should continue whenever possible.
- All persons are required to wear a mask or face covering in public, except as specifically exempted in Public Health Order 8. All persons entering or walking through interior common areas of commercial and residential buildings are required to wear a mask or face covering.
- All businesses or facilities open to the public shall post conspicuous signage at all public entrances in accordance with Public Health Order 8. A template of the required signage can be found at <https://www.asafenashville.org/mask-resources/>.

LINKS TO PHASE ONE GUIDANCE:

- [Order 5 – Phase One: Reopening](#)
- [Guidance for Restaurants – Phase One](#)
- [Guidance for Commercial/Retail Establishments – Phase One](#)
- [Phase One – FAQs](#)

If Nashville experiences a significant and sustained increase in active cases during Phase One, local policymakers should be prepared to reimpose more stringent safer-at-home or social distancing measures.

Phase Two (May 25th – June 21st)

If, after a minimum of 14 days in Phase One, the trend of new cases continues to decline or remains flat, Nashville may proceed to Phase Two of reopening.

During Phase Two, all businesses open shall:

- Screen daily all employees with symptom checks. Employees with symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater must leave the premises immediately.

- Post conspicuous signage with information about health precautions for patrons, employees, and staff, including safe social distancing measures and practicing good hand hygiene.
- Advise employees with any symptoms of illness to be tested and to stay home until they receive medical clearance. Establish policies that make it possible for employees to isolate and quarantine.
- Require employees who interact with the public, or who cannot maintain a safe social distance from their co-workers, to wear cloth face coverings or masks. Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers between people or groups.
- Sanitize all items, supplies or equipment after each use on or by each customer.
- All persons are required to wear a mask or face covering in public, except as specifically exempted in Public Health Order 8. All persons entering or walking through interior common areas of commercial and residential buildings are required to wear a mask or face covering.
- All businesses or facilities open to the public shall post conspicuous signage at all public entrances in accordance with Public Health Order 8. A template of the required signage can be found at <https://www.asafenashville.org/mask-resources/>.

The following businesses/industries would expand operations in Phase Two:

- **Retail and other commercial business**, with social distancing maintained and at 75% capacity. Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers between people and groups. Cleaning of carts, explicit expectations for frequent hand hygiene and wearing of cloth masks by employees and patrons are required.
- **Restaurants and bars serving food from a menu** may open at 75% capacity maintaining strict social distancing. Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers between people and groups.
 - Social distancing must be maintained in kitchens and dining rooms.
 - Bars remain closed. Bars serving food must provide table food and beverage service. No patrons may approach the bar area.
 - Only table service of alcohol is permitted to seated patrons.
 - Self-service food and shared condiments are not permitted.
 - Restaurants are required to clean all surfaces after use by a patron.
 - The use of disposable, virtual or no-touch menus is recommended.
 - Employees who interact with the public, or who cannot maintain a safe social distance from their co-workers, are required to wear cloth face coverings or masks.
 - Take-out alcohol sales will remain.
 - Live entertainment is permitted. Social distancing protocols should be observed among performers, with a minimum of 15 feet between performers and customers. No dance floors permitted. No shared microphones. All equipment must be sanitized between users.

The following businesses/industries would reopen in Phase Two:

- **Close Contact Personal Care and Appearance Services** (barber shops, hair salons, waxing salons, threading salons, nail salons or spas, spas providing body treatments, body-art facilities or tattoo services, piercing services, tanning salons, and massage-therapy establishments or massage services) may open but must follow guidance including limiting the number of patrons and staff to the extent that safe social distancing can be maintained, not to exceed 50% of facility capacity. Services by appointment are encouraged. Patrons should be socially distanced in waiting areas. *Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers (such as Plexiglass partitions) between people or groups.* Signs should be posted encouraging patrons to wear masks, and to reschedule if ill.
- **Exercise Facilities** (gyms, swimming pools, personal trainers, exercise classes, martial arts, dance studios, and climbing gyms) will be able to open at up to 50% capacity or to the extent safe social distancing can be maintained, whichever is less. *Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers barriers (such as Plexiglass partitions) between people or groups.*
 - For all but low intensity aerobic activities, social distancing should be extended to a minimum of 10 feet.
 - Community pools can open at 50% capacity of the bather load limit. All deck areas are opened at 50% capacity with social distancing maintained.
- **Day Camps** may resume operations with some restrictions, detailed in the guidance posted for day camps.
 - All campers shall be screened for temperature and other symptoms prior to entrance of the facility. Any camper with symptoms (two or more) or a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater must leave the premises immediately. Overnight family campers must be reevaluated each day of camp.
 - Assign campers to small groups (the American Camp Association recommends a ratio of 1 counselor to 10 campers) that will remain intact throughout the duration of camp and have only incidental interaction with other groups, to the extent possible.
 - All bus riders should wear a face covering, unless wearing a mask would be contrary to the health or safety of the wearer. In that instance, the unmasked camper should be properly socially distanced from all other riders.
 - No cafeteria lines, buffet lines, and other self-service food options shall be allowed. Camp facilities should prepare plated or boxed lunches, or campers should bring packed meals and snacks from home.
- **Smaller venue, minimal-touch entertainments** may operate at 50% capacity. These venues include bowling alleys, miniature golf, go-carts, cinemas, Top Golf, water parks,

zip lines, paintball and similar. Entertainments ancillary to the main business (arcade-type games, ping-pong, foosball, pool and similar side entertainments) are to remain closed. All shared implements (bowling balls, golf clubs, steering wheels, etc.) must be sanitized between each group's usage. Where staff must interact with the public, staff must wear a face covering or mask.

- **Museums** can open at 50% capacity with social distancing maintained. One-way traffic or other traffic control recommended. Exhibits should not be communally touched. Regular cleansing of all commonly touched surfaces.

Additionally, the following apply for all residents and businesses in Davidson County during Phase Two:

- Social distancing should remain universally in effect.
- Live entertainment is permitted in Phase Two. Social distancing protocols should be observed between performers. There shall be a minimum of 15 feet between performers and customers. All performance equipment must be sanitized between users.
 - All dance floors and standing-room-only areas shall remain closed during Phase Two;
 - Live entertainment occurring in museum/attraction dining spaces is subject to the guidance for live entertainment in restaurants/bars; and
 - Audiences for live entertainment outside of museum/attraction dining spaces are subject to the guidance for gatherings and should not exceed 25 people during Phase Two.
- Metro Parks may reopen community centers, golf course clubhouses, museums, Sportsplex and nature centers at 50% capacity. Tennis courts are now open. Dog parks, basketball courts, playgrounds, sports and recreations leagues, skate parks and splash pads shall remain closed.
- Except when performing essential services, those over age 65 and those with high risk factors (including: chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; serious heart conditions; people with compromised immune systems, either through cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplant, or genetic or acquired immune deficiencies; the prolonged use of corticosteroids) should remain safer at home to the extent possible.
- Work from home should continue whenever possible, and cloth face coverings or masks should be worn in public
- Small gatherings of 25 or fewer people with strict physical distancing protocols implemented at the gathering shall be permitted.
 - Such gatherings include meetings, weddings, parties.

Phase Three (June 22nd – July 2nd)

If, after a minimum of 14 days in Phase Two, the trend of new cases continues to decline or remains flat, Nashville may proceed to Phase Three of reopening.

During Phase Three, all businesses open shall continue to:

- Screen daily all employees with symptom checks. Employees with symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater must leave the premises immediately.
- Post conspicuous signage with information about health precautions for patrons, employees, and staff, including safe social distancing measures and practicing good hand hygiene.
- Advise employees with any symptoms of illness to be tested and to stay home until they receive medical clearance. Establish policies that make it possible for employees to isolate and quarantine.
- Require employees who interact with the public, or who cannot maintain a safe social distance from their co-workers, to wear cloth face coverings or masks. Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers between people or groups.
- Sanitize all items, supplies or equipment after each use on or by each customer.
- All persons are required to wear a mask or face covering in public, except as specifically exempted in [Public Health Order 8](#). All persons entering or walking through interior common areas of commercial and residential buildings are required to wear a mask or face covering.
- All businesses or facilities open to the public shall post conspicuous signage at all public entrances in accordance with Public Health Order 8. A template of the required signage can be found at <https://www.asafenashville.org/mask-resources/>.

The following businesses/industries would reopen or expand operations in Phase Three:

Bars serving food & restaurants may continue to operate at 75% capacity or to the maximum occupancy that can maintain social distancing, whichever is less.

- Bar areas may open to the public at 50% or less of the maximum seated counter capacity and adhere to proper social distancing. No standing at the bar is allowed.
- No parties of more than six people.
- Self-service food, beverage and shared condiments are not permitted.
- Restaurants are required to clean all surfaces after use by a patron.
- The use of disposable, virtual or no-touch menus is recommended.
- Take-out alcohol sales will remain.
- Live music or entertainment is allowed, subject to the conditions set out Public Health Order 7.

- No dance floors permitted. To the extent possible, tables can be placed on dance floors or the dance floor area shall be physically closed off.
- Ancillary or participatory activities including, but not limited to, arcade games, pool, foosball, darts, laser tag, or similar activities may open and should be cleaned between each use. Cleaning supplies should be provided alongside such participatory activities for customers to use between each use.

Commercial and retail establishments may continue to operate at 75% capacity or to the maximum occupancy that can maintain social distancing, whichever is less.

- Sanitize shopping carts, baskets, and all other items after each customer's use.
- No sampling or testing of food, beverage, personal care products, or similar product shall be allowed.

Close contact personal service businesses may continue to operate at 50% capacity or to the maximum occupancy that can maintain social distancing, whichever is less.

- No sampling or testing of food, beverage, personal care products, or similar product shall be allowed.

Camps, including day camps and overnight family camps may operate at full capacity, provided social distancing can be maintained at all times.

- All campers shall be screened for temperature and other symptoms prior to entrance of the facility. Any camper with symptoms (two or more) or a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater must leave the premises immediately. Overnight family campers must be reevaluated each day of camp.
- For day camps, assign campers to small groups (the American Camp Association recommends a ratio of 1 counselor to 10 campers) that will remain intact throughout the duration of camp and have only incidental interaction with other groups, to the extent possible.
- For overnight family camps, each cabin may host only one family. That family shall remain together throughout the duration of camp and have only incidental interaction with other groups, to the extent possible.
- All bus riders should wear a face covering, unless wearing a mask would be contrary to the health or safety of the wearer. In that instance, the unmasked camper should be properly socially distanced from all other riders.
- No cafeteria lines, buffet lines, and other self-service food options shall be allowed. Camp facilities should prepare plated or boxed lunches, or campers should bring packed meals and snacks from home.

Gyms, fitness & exercise facilities, including swimming pools and specialty fitness studios may continue to operate at 50% capacity or to the maximum occupancy that can maintain social distancing, whichever is less. Expanded social distancing requirements (10 feet) for more vigorous aerobic activities remain in place.

- Indoor and outdoor pools limited capacity is based on the posted maximum bather load limit, provided the pool facility adhere to proper social distancing.
- Sports and recreation leagues or sports tournaments may resume. All team members and spectators shall adhere to proper social distancing. Indoor facilities used for recreation leagues and sports tournaments are subject to the requirements and guidance for gyms, exercise, and fitness facilities listed in this section.
- No steam room or sauna shall be allowed.
- Modify or limit group fitness activities to facilitate proper social distancing, to the extent possible.
- Limit the use of shared exercise equipment (free weights, medicine balls, jump ropes, etc.) or pool equipment (fins, kickboards, floats, etc.), to the extent possible.
- Increase the frequency of sanitization of restrooms, locker rooms, and changing rooms. Close unneeded restroom and locker room facilities, to the extent possible.
- Close bath and workout towel services, to the extent possible.

Museums may continue to operate at 50% capacity or to the maximum occupancy that can maintain social distancing, whichever is less. Foot traffic control measures should remain in place.

- Interactive exhibits may open. Sanitize interactive exhibit components after each customer's use. Install hand sanitizing stations near these spaces and provide cleaning supplies alongside such interactive exhibits for customers to use between each use.
- Guided tours may operate at 50% or less of regular capacity, provided the tour adhere to proper social distancing.
- Public programming may operate at 50% or less of regular capacity, provided the public program adhere to proper social distancing.
- No field trips or group visits shall be allowed.

Smaller venue, minimal-touch entertainments may continue to operate at 50% capacity or to the maximum occupancy that can maintain social distancing, whichever is less. Ancillary activities (arcades, game rooms) may resume operation.

- Sanitize all shared implements (bowling balls, golf clubs, steering wheels, etc.) between each use.
- Ancillary or participatory activities including, but not limited to, arcade games, pool, foosball, darts, laser tag, or similar activities may open and should be cleaned between each use. Cleaning supplies should be provided alongside such participatory activities for customers to use between each use.
- Guided tours may operate at 50% or less of regular capacity, provided the tour adhere to proper social distancing.
- Public programming may operate at 50% or less of regular capacity, provided the public program adhere to proper social distancing.

- No field trips or group visits shall be allowed.

Tours, transportation, bars not serving food, adult entertainment, social clubs, small music venues, and event space venues are permitted to begin operations at 50% capacity or to the maximum occupancy that can maintain social distancing, whichever is less. Small music venues are defined as those venues with a regular capacity of 1,500 or less.

- Event space venues and small music venues must cap maximum event attendance or crowd size at 250 people or less. At such events, seating must be provided for at minimum half of the total attendees.
- Bar areas may open to the public at 50% or less of the maximum seated counter capacity and adhere to proper social distancing. No standing at the bar is allowed.
- Live music or entertainment is allowed, subject to the conditions set out Public Health Order 7.
- No dance floors permitted. To the extent possible, tables can be placed on dance floors or the dance floor area shall be physically closed off. Seated performances are recommended for event and music venues.
- No self-serve buffets, food, beverage, or shared condiment stations shall be allowed.

Additionally, the following apply for all residents and businesses in Davidson County during Phase Three:

- Social distancing should remain universally in effect.
- All persons are required to wear a mask or face covering in public, except as specifically exempted in [Public Health Order 8](#). All persons entering or walking through interior common areas of commercial and residential buildings are required to wear a mask or face covering.
- Live entertainment may continue, subject to the conditions set out in Public Health Order 7. Social distancing protocols should be observed between performers. There shall be a minimum of 15 feet between performers and customers. All performance equipment must be sanitized between users. All dance floors shall remain closed in Phase Three,
- Metro Parks community centers, golf course clubhouses, museums, Sportsplex, nature centers, dog parks, basketball courts, tennis courts, playgrounds, sports fields, skate parks and splash pads may reopen. Operation of Metro Parks facilities is at the discretion of the Metro Parks Department, in consultation with the Metro Public Health Department.
- Except when performing essential services, those over age 65 and those with high risk factors (including: chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; serious heart conditions; people with compromised immune systems, either through cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplant, or genetic or acquired immune

deficiencies; the prolonged use of corticosteroids) should remain safer at home to the extent possible.

- Work from home should continue whenever possible.
- Gatherings must be limited to 25 people or fewer. Gatherings are the most high-risk setting for transmission of COVID-19. Community gatherings such as block parties, backyard events, house parties, etc. must remain limited to small groups of 25 or fewer at this time.

Phase 2 With Modifications (July 3rd – September 30th)

The following modifications for Phase 2 began Friday, September 18:

Phase 2 restrictions, sanitation and hygiene requirements, capacities except for the following:

- Gathering sizes must be limited to 25 people or fewer. Gatherings are the most high-risk setting for transmission of COVID-19. Community gatherings such as block parties, backyard events, house parties, etc. must remain limited to small groups of 25 or fewer at this time. Weddings, funerals, and other similar ceremonies at event venues may resume at 30% capacity or up to 125 people, assuming proper social distancing – whichever is fewer. Face coverings required.
- Metro Parks and recreation leagues remain as they were in Phase 3.
- All persons are required to wear a mask or face covering in public, except as specifically exempted in [Public Health Order 8](#). All persons entering or walking through interior common areas of commercial and residential buildings are required to wear a mask or face covering.
- All businesses or facilities open to the public shall post conspicuous signage at all public entrances in accordance with Public Health Order 8. A template of the required signage can be found at <https://www.asafenashville.org/mask-resources/>.
- Metro Nashville Public Schools High School sports may resume on Friday, September 25.
- Tennessee Titans and Nashville SC Soccer can begin to have fans in October, starting at 10% capacity.
- All relevant Public Health Orders, Amendments, and Exhibits can be found [here](#).

Restaurants, Limited Service Restaurants, and Bars with on-premise beer permits:

- Open with occupancy at 50% capacity or at a level that maintains social distancing, whichever is less.
- Restaurants and bars may resume seated-only service at bar counters throughout Davidson County with social distancing between parties. No standing at the bar counter.
- Bars and Limited Service Restaurants may serve 50 patrons inside but may expand service to an additional 50 patrons in outdoor spaces, such as patios and rooftop areas,

for a total of 50 patrons per space. A 3-story establishment with a rooftop area would be able to have a maximum of 200 patrons.

- Restaurants and bars may continue seated-only service at bar counters throughout Davidson County with social distancing between parties. No standing at the bar counter.
- At 11 p.m., all restaurants, limited service restaurants, and bars must be empty of dine-in patrons and closed to the public. After 11 p.m., restaurants may continue take-out, window, drive-through or curbside service, and off-premises delivery. Take-out, window, or curbside delivery of alcohol is prohibited after 11 p.m.
- “No Seat, No Service.” Customers must be seated at tables in parties of 6 or fewer.
- “Stand up, Mask up.” Customers must wear masks while standing or walking through the restaurant.
- Self-service food, beverage and shared condiments are not permitted.
- All surfaces must be cleaned after use by a patron.
- The use of disposable, virtual or no-touch menus is recommended.
- Live music or entertainment is allowed, subject to the conditions set out Public Health Order 7. There must be a barrier between performers and audience.
- No dance floors permitted. To the extent possible, tables can be placed on dance floors or the dance floor area shall be physically closed off.
- Ancillary or participatory activities including, but not limited to, arcade games, pool, football, darts, laser tag, or similar activities may open and should be cleaned between each use. Cleaning supplies should be provided alongside such participatory activities for customers to use between each use.
- Order 10 from the Metro Public Health Department, took effect Saturday, August 8, 2020 and prohibits the following in the Downtown and Midtown areas:
 - the open consumption or possession in an open container of any alcoholic beverage outside of permitted establishments;
 - any sale of alcohol by a restaurant except when sold for consumption on premises or for off-premises delivery;
 - any sale of alcohol by a limited service or restaurant or bar except when sold for off-premises delivery; and
 - all curbside and to-go sales of alcoholic beverages.

Transpotainment:

- Transpotainment vehicles may resume operation at 50 percent capacity up to a maximum of 15 people, who must belong to the same party. Masks required while standing.

Phase Three (Beginning October 1st)

- Social distancing should remain universally in effect.
- All persons are required to wear a mask or face covering in public, except as specifically exempted in [Public Health Order 8](#). All persons entering or walking through interior common areas of commercial and residential buildings are required to wear a mask or face covering.
- Work from home should be made an option to employees whenever possible.
- Except when performing essential services, those over age 65 and those with high risk factors (including: chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma; serious heart conditions; people with compromised immune systems, either through cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplant, or genetic or acquired immune deficiencies; the prolonged use of corticosteroids) should remain safer at home to the extent possible.
- Gathering size limitation: 25 people or fewer. Gatherings are the most high-risk setting for transmission of COVID-19. Community gatherings such as block parties, backyard events, house parties, etc. must remain limited to small groups of 25 or fewer at this time.
 - Metro Public Health has established an approval process for events with more than 25 people. With approval by Metro Public Health, events may resume at 30% of venue capacity or up to a max of 500 people, assuming proper social distancing – whichever is fewer. Face coverings required.
 - Note that Metro Public Health will be strict in its analysis of safety protocols for larger events and reserves the right to decline or modify an event application based on the health risk factors contained within it.
 - If you are planning an event of more than 25 people, please [click here to submit an event application form](#).

During Phase Three, all businesses open shall:

- Screen daily all employees with symptom checks. Employees with symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater must leave the premises immediately.
- Post conspicuous signage with information about health precautions for patrons, employees, and staff, including safe social distancing measures and practicing good hand hygiene.

- Advise employees with any symptoms of illness to be tested and to stay home until they receive medical clearance. Establish policies that make it possible for employees to isolate and quarantine.
- Require employees who interact with the public, or who cannot maintain a safe social distance from their co-workers, to wear cloth face coverings or masks. Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers between people or groups.
- Sanitize all items, supplies or equipment after each use on or by each customer.
- All businesses or facilities open to the public shall post conspicuous signage at all public entrances in accordance with Public Health Order 8. A template of the required [signage can be found here](#).
- Live entertainment is permitted with social distancing protocols observed between performers. There shall be a minimum of 15 feet between performers and customers. All performance equipment must be sanitized between users.
 - All dance floors and standing-room-only areas shall remain closed;
 - Live entertainment occurring in museum/attraction dining spaces is subject to the guidance for live entertainment in restaurants/bars; and
 - Audiences for live entertainment outside of museum/attraction dining spaces are subject to the guidance for gatherings and should not exceed 25 people without an [event plan approved by the Public Health Department](#).
 - Additional guidance regarding live music and entertainment can be found [here](#).

Industry-specific guidance in Phase Three:

- **Retail and other commercial business**, with social distancing maintained and at 75% capacity. Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers between people and groups. Cleaning of carts, explicit expectations for frequent hand hygiene and wearing of cloth masks by employees and patrons are required.
- **Restaurants, Limited Service Restaurants, and Bars with on-premise beer permits:**
 - *Note: All restaurants and bars are now operating under the same set of Public Health standards.*
 - Restaurants and bars are encouraged to [display this sign highlighting their commitment](#) to safe public health practices.
 - Restaurants, Limited Service Restaurants and bars may operate at the lesser of 50% capacity or 100 patrons per floor and 100 patrons outdoors, provided proper social distancing. Total number of patrons on premise should not exceed 50% of the maximum capacity authorized by Tennessee’s Building and Fire Code.

- Restaurants and bars may continue seated-only service at bar counters throughout Davidson County with social distancing between parties. No standing at the bar counter.
- At 11 p.m., all restaurants, limited service restaurants, and bars must be empty of dine-in patrons and closed to the public.
 - After 11 p.m., restaurants may continue take-out, window, drive-through or curbside service, and off-premises delivery.
 - After 11 p.m., take-out, window, or curbside delivery of alcohol is prohibited.
- “No Seat, No Service.” Customers must be seated at tables in parties of 8 or fewer.
- “Stand up, Mask up.” Customers must wear masks while standing or walking through the restaurant.
- Self-service food, beverage and shared condiments are not permitted.
- All surfaces must be cleaned after use by a patron.
- The use of disposable, virtual or no-touch menus is recommended.
- Live music or entertainment is allowed, subject to the conditions set out Public Health Order 7. There must be a barrier between performers and audience.
- No dance floors permitted. To the extent possible, tables can be placed on dance floors or the dance floor area shall be physically closed off.
- Ancillary or participatory activities including, but not limited to, arcade games, pool, football, darts, laser tag, or similar activities may open but must be sanitized between each use. Cleaning supplies should be provided alongside such participatory activities for customers to use between each use.
- Order 10 from the Metro Public Health Department, took effect Saturday, August 8, 2020 and prohibits the following in the Downtown and Midtown areas:
 - the open consumption or possession in an open container of any alcoholic beverage outside of permitted establishments;
 - any sale of alcohol by a restaurant except when sold for consumption on premises or for off-premises delivery;
 - any sale of alcohol by a limited service or restaurant or bar except when sold for off-premises delivery; and
 - all curbside and to-go sales of alcoholic beverages.
- **Close Contact Personal Care and Appearance Services** (barber shops, hair salons, waxing salons, threading salons, nail salons or spas, spas providing body treatments, body-art facilities or tattoo services, piercing services, tanning salons, and massage-therapy establishments or massage services) may continue to operate following

guidance including limiting the number of patrons and staff to the extent that safe social distancing can be maintained, not to exceed 50% of facility capacity.

- Services by appointment are encouraged.
- Patrons should be socially distanced in waiting areas. *Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers (such as Plexiglass partitions) between people or groups.*
- Clients should be screened, asked to wear masks, and rescheduled if ill.
- **Exercise Facilities** (gyms, swimming pools, personal trainers, exercise classes, martial arts, dance studios, and climbing gyms) may continue to operate at 50% capacity or to the maximum occupancy that can maintain social distancing, whichever is less.
 - Expanded social distancing requirements (10 feet) for more vigorous aerobic activities remain in place.
 - Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers (such as Plexiglass partitions) between people or groups.
 - Community pools can open at 50% capacity of the bather load limit. All deck areas are opened at 50% capacity with social distancing maintained.
 - Further guidance for gyms and exercise facilities available [here](#).
- **Day Camps** may operate at 50% capacity with some restrictions, detailed in the guidance posted for day camps.
- **Smaller venue, minimal-touch entertainment** may operate at 50% capacity. These venues include bowling alleys, miniature golf, go-carts, cinemas, Top Golf, water parks, zip lines, paintball and similar.
 - Ancillary or participatory activities including, but not limited to, arcade games, pool, football, darts, laser tag, or similar activities may open but must be sanitized between each use. Cleaning supplies should be provided alongside such participatory activities for customers to use between each use.
 - All shared implements (bowling balls, golf clubs, steering wheels, etc.) must be sanitized between each group's usage.
- **Museums** may continue to operate at 50% capacity or to the maximum occupancy that can maintain social distancing, whichever is less.
 - One-way traffic or other foot traffic control measures should remain in place.
 - Interactive exhibits may open. Sanitize interactive exhibit components after each customer's use. Install hand sanitizing stations near these spaces and provide cleaning supplies alongside such interactive exhibits for customers to use between each use.
 - Guided tours may operate at 50% or less of regular capacity, provided the tour adhere to proper social distancing.

- Public programming may operate at 50% or less of regular capacity, provided the public program adhere to proper social distancing.
- Visits by groups of 25 or fewer shall be allowed.
- **Parks and Recreation:** Metro Parks, greenways, trails, golf courses, community centers, clubhouses, museums, Sportsplex, tennis courts, and nature centers will remain open. Playgrounds, dog parks, basketball courts, picnic shelters, splash pads, and skate parks remain open to the public.
 - Sports and recreation leagues and sports tournaments remain in operation.
 - Residents using these open spaces or facilities are directed to adhere to crowd-size limitations, CDC guidance on social distancing, and Order 8 from the Chief Medical Director regarding face coverings or masks.
- **Transpotainment** vehicles may continue operating at 50% capacity up to a maximum of 15 people, who must belong to the same party. Masks required while standing.
- **Metro Nashville Public Schools High School sports** begin on Friday, September 25.
 - Metro Public Health Department has issued guidance for school sporting events including that attendance be limited to no more than two spectators per student-athlete and coach.
 - Spectators must wear masks and maintain social distancing. Hand sanitation stations must be provided at all entry and exit points. Concessions shall remain closed.
- **Tennessee Titans and Nashville SC** may begin to have fans in attendance beginning in October, in accordance with the [Safe Stadium Plan](#). (First game at 10% capacity, second game at 12.5%, third game at 15%)
- All relevant Public Health Orders, Amendments, and Exhibits can be found [here](#).

If Nashville experiences a significant and sustained increase in active cases during Phase Three, Metro Public Health is prepared to reimpose more stringent measures. Adjustments to Phase Three may be made as public health officials gather information regarding the spread of COVID-19 under current restrictions.

Phase Four:

Phase Three will last a minimum of 28 days, during which time Metro Public Health will evaluate metrics including average new cases per day and the transmission rate. Phase Three included the further extensive reopening of business and public settings and is scheduled to last for a minimum of 28 days in order to allow for a full two incubation periods of the virus. This provides time to monitor the spread of COVID-19 in the community and perform more acute

data analysis on the effects of reopening before moving to the final phase. Movement into Phase Four may depend on advancements in fighting COVID-19, such as treatments, prevention methods, or a vaccine.

During Phase Four, all businesses open shall continue to:

- Screen daily all employees with symptom checks. Employees with symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater must leave the premises immediately.
- Post conspicuous signage with information about health precautions for patrons, employees, and staff, including safe social distancing measures and practicing good hand hygiene.
- Advise employees with any symptoms of illness to be tested and to stay home until they receive medical clearance. Establish policies that make it possible for employees to isolate and quarantine.
- Require employees who interact with the public, or who cannot maintain a safe social distance from their co-workers, to wear cloth face coverings or masks. Social distancing can be accomplished through physical barriers between people or groups.
- Sanitize all items, supplies or equipment after each use on or by each customer.

The following businesses/industries would reopen or expand operations in Phase Four:

- Provided appropriate social distancing can be maintained, all bars and restaurants, close contact personal care and appearance services, commercial and retail businesses, day and family camps, museums, attraction and entertainment venues, tour and transportation businesses, and social clubs may operate at full capacity.
- Provided appropriate social distancing can be maintained, all gyms, fitness & exercise facilities, including swimming pools and specialty fitness studios may operate at full capacity.
- Capacity limitations for event spaces, small music venues, and large venue sporting and entertainment events remain to be determined. The risk of COVID-19 transmission is still considered to be high-risk at these type of venues and events, and will require proper evaluation from Phase Three in order to determine the appropriate restrictions in Phase Four.

Additionally, the following apply for all residents and businesses in Davidson County during Phase Four:

- Social distancing should remain universally in effect.
- Working from home is optional, and the use of cloth masks in public is optional but recommended.

Conclusion

The threat of COVID-19 will be with us for the foreseeable future. There is a high probability that Nashville and Tennessee will experience continued outbreaks that will force us to revert to earlier phases, in all or in part, at some point during the reopening process.