

Memorandum



DATE March 12, 2021

CITY OF DALLAS

TO The Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

SUBJECT **Public Facilities and Outdoor Events**

As you know, effective March 10, 2021, Governor Abbott has ended the statewide mask mandate and rescinded most of his prior COVID executive orders, allowing for 100% capacity in businesses and establishments under Executive Order GA-34.

This memorandum provides an update on City public facilities and outdoor events – including recreation centers and events, libraries, cultural centers, the Kay Bailey Convention Center Dallas (KBHCCD) and Office of Special Events, and Dallas Animal Services - consistent with the Return-to-Work Phase III Implementation Update memorandum provided to City Council on March 5, 2021.

There is no change in operations for indoor public facilities due to the Governor's action and we are maintaining all safety precautions, including closures and limited operations. We are planning for expanded operations with restrictions for public health in the coming weeks, provided that Dallas County's COVID-19 Risk Level is improving. Additional details for indoor public facilities are summarized in this memorandum.

For outdoor events that require a special event permit, event planners and applicants are being notified to submit applications with details about measures to protect public health and safety. Due to the required time necessary to review applications, we anticipate that events will not likely be permitted before the next 30 to 45 days.

Park & Recreation

The department has continued with modified operations throughout the pandemic.

- *Indoor Facilities*
 - Masks are required while visiting any indoor recreation facility
- *Golf/Tennis*
 - Masks are not required while playing
- *Outdoor Athletics*
 - Masks are not required when actively engaged in a sport
 - Social distancing is encouraged
- *Parks and Trails*
 - Masks are not required
 - Social distancing is encouraged

DATE
SUBJECT

March 12, 2021

Public Facilities and Outdoor Events

- *Department Sponsored Special Events*
 - Will continue with “contactless” events (drive thru or virtual)
- *Private Reservations @ specialty rental facilities* (Big Thicket, Winfrey Point)
 - 100% occupancy is permissible
- *Partner Organizations/Contract Management*
 - Occupancy levels to be determined by partner

Dallas Public Library

The Library will continue its robust online programming and curbside Library to Go service for pick-up of materials at all locations. Once Phase III is implemented, we will open for limited indoor services, including computer use by appointment, research at the Central Library by appointment and collection browsing only with a ‘GrabNGo’ model, utilizing the self-check machines to check out. There will be no indoor programming for groups and meeting rooms will not be available for use.

KBHCCD

The KBHCCD received its Global Bio-Risk Advisory Council (GBAC) accreditation in September 2020 and will continue to follow these established protocols until further notice. Under these protocols, any event leasing the facility will be required to:

- submit an infectious disease mitigation plan and respond to requests for amendments from KBHCCD building staff
- continue to wear facial coverings at all times where social distancing cannot be maintained
- comply with social distancing in all confined spaces (i.e., restrooms and queuing lines) with the understanding that social distancing guidelines will not be used as a basis for overall occupancy calculations within the building.

Meeting room and ballroom capacities will be limited to 50% capacity. Exhibit hall occupancy will be limited to 50% occupancy as calculated based on the type of room set required by each particular event.

Convention and Event Services staff and Spectra Venue Management will continually review these requirements and modify them as necessary based on positive or negative changes in countywide infection and hospitalization rates.

Office of Cultural Affairs

Currently, the Office of Arts and Culture manages four neighborhood cultural centers and two large venues, The Majestic Theater and the Moody Performance Hall.

DATE
SUBJECT

March 12, 2021

Public Facilities and Outdoor Events

All of these facilities are currently closed for normal visitor operations; however, they are still supporting the artists and organizations that use them. The cultural centers have gallery shows and allow in-person attendance by appointment only. All four are presenting gallery shows for Arts Month in April.

The larger venues have been used frequently for nonprofit groups to record virtual performances, and all groups must mask and many have strict testing protocols for their artists in place as well. The outdoor spaces (LCC Plaza, Moody green spaces, etc.) are being used more than ever.

Slowly, OAC is planning to begin in-person, indoor performances in May. Capacity will initially be reduced to level of approximately ~30% of full capacity to allow for social distancing. Capacity will slowly ramp up as Dallas County's health metrics improve. All City venues will continue to require masking, social distancing, and all best practice hygiene protocols already in place.

Additionally, at this time, all of the arts management partners who operate City facilities (DMA, ATTPAC, Music Hall, etc.) are all also adhering to masks and social distancing protocols. No plans to open to 100% of capacity have been announced.

Dallas Animal Services

Dallas Animal Services (DAS) has expanded operations to include daily outdoor adoption events under the pavilion in front of its shelter at 1818 North Westmoreland Road and is increasing offsite adoption events at its North Dallas PetSmart Everyday Adoption Center at 16821 North Coit Road. Additionally, DAS is again hosting outdoor low-cost vaccination clinics with its nonprofit community partners at its Westmoreland facility. DAS' Field Unit is currently evaluating service request types to determine which additional types can safely receive an in-person Animal Services Officer response in the coming weeks. For more details on outdoor adoption and vaccination events, please visit www.BeDallas90.org or follow Dallas Animal Services on Facebook.

Joey Zapata,
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager

Chris Caso, City Attorney

Mark Swann, City Auditor

Bilerae Johnson, City Secretary

Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge

Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager

Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development & Neighborhood Services

M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer

M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion

Directors and Assistant Directors