

Dear City of Dallas Family:

I hope you had a safe, healthy and restful holiday weekend.

With the month of June right around the corner, we are preparing as best we can for what summer may bring – which will likely be more challenging than ever before with caregiving, travel, and vacation options limited by COVID-19. Your wellbeing and health are critically important, so I appreciate your continued personal responsibility and adoption of best practices like social distancing, hand hygiene, and wearing facial coverings to keep your families, our coworkers, and all Dallas residents safe.

Next Wednesday, the City Council will be briefed on the preliminary strategy guiding our return to work planning. For those of you working from home, I encourage you to tune in or watch at http://www.dallascitynews.net/watch-live. Cross-departmental teams have been working around the clock for weeks to ensure safe conditions for all employees. We will begin by taking a gradual approach, continuing to provide core services and enhancing key public facing offerings while constantly monitoring data to inform good decision-making. Protecting the health of our employees and the public remains our top priority!

If you find yourself feeling tension around summer or return to work plans, please use the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) available to all City employees. More information about this and other wellness resources may be found at the City of Dallas COVID-19 employee microsite or https://www.cigna.com/coronavirus/.

Meanwhile, I'd like to recognize and thank the Dallas Fire Department for their outreach work to support a regional effort to test mobility-limited residents of nursing home facilities for COVID-19. I also appreciate the City of Dallas Parks and Recreation department's work to make face coverings for vulnerable residents. In these and countless other ways, I am so proud I can rely on our City of Dallas family to be the standard bearers of Excellence, Equity, Empathy and Ethics.

Keep up the great work and I look forward to seeing you soon from a safe social distance. We have much work still to accomplish, and your health and well-being will help us get there – as One Dallas, Together. In the Spirit of Excellence!!

City Manager