



City Administration P.O. Box 979, Rolla, MO 65402

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## **RETURN TO WORK ORDINANCE EFFECTIVE MAY 5, 2020**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **Why was this Ordinance issued?**

This order was issued to provide an opportunity for ALL businesses to resume safe operations while encouraging citizens to take personal responsibility of protecting themselves and the most vulnerable in our community (6' safe spacing, encouraged to wear protect masks, limiting travel). The primary objective of course is to limit the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community.

#### **How long is the ordinance in effect?**

The revised order took effect at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2020, and will remain in effect through May 31, 2020. The ordinance will be monitored on a daily basis for both compliance and impact.

#### **What does the ordinance require?**

The ordinance encourages citizens to remain at their residence when possible but allows for all businesses to resume core operations. The ordinance requires all citizens to maintain 6' safe distancing in public and requires businesses to ensure 6' safe distancing and sanitizing requirements between employees and customers.

#### **Are citizens allowed to move freely about the Community?**

Certainly, but residents are encouraged to stay home or to wear protective masks when venturing into public spaces – particularly citizens with compromised health issues. Residents are encouraged to participate in outdoor activities, to work, to visit and care for family and friends, to attend church and community activities, and to conduct all manner of commerce – all while maintaining 6' safe distancing.

#### **What is required of businesses to operate safely?**

All businesses and organizations are encouraged to resume reasonable activities provided CDC guidelines are maintained including the following:

- All business shall maintain at least 6' separation between employees, employees and customers, and customers (including standing in line, lobbies, shopping aisles, etc.)
- Provide hand-sanitizing stations at entrances and high volume places
- Ensure frequent cleaning of high-touch items
- Run daily temperature checks/screening of all employees
- Develop a preparedness and response plan for employee safety and customer contact-tracing

#### **What about restaurants, bars and food establishments?**

Restaurants and food establishments are encouraged to continue curbside pickup and delivery but may open for walk-in customers subject to the following restrictions:

- Employees who serve customers are required to wear a protective mask
- Tables and chairs must be at least 6' apart (as if fully occupied)

- Seating is limited to no more than 8 persons
- Bar stools shall be removed; drinking and dining at tables only
- Self-serve dining (buffets, salad bars, self-serve items) are not allowed (unless served by a designated server)

**Can personal service businesses such as hairdressers, salons, massage therapy open for business?**

Certainly so long as they ensure customer safety.

- Employees in direct contact with customers are required to wear a protective mask
- Businesses shall operate with scheduled appointments only
- Lobby areas are limited to no more than 3 persons with 6’ spacing
- Any shared equipment shall be thoroughly sanitized between patron usage

**Can general retail businesses and commercial establishments open for business?**

Certainly and businesses are encouraged to do so with proper safety guidelines.

- Employees are not required to wear masks provided they can maintain at least 6’ separation from customers and co-workers. Where employees cannot maintain 6’ separation masks or sneeze guard shields are required (i.e. cashiers, attendants, bank tellers, receptionist)
- Customer occupancy numbers will be determined by the Rolla Fire Department using the State’s guidelines (generally 10% of determined occupancy for businesses over 10,000 SF and 25% of determined occupancy for businesses under 10,000 SF)
- Provide hand-sanitizing stations for employees and customers
- Frequent sanitizing of high-touch areas (doors, credit card machines, touch screens)
- Daily health screening/temperature reading of all employees

**Can Churches return to public gatherings?**

Yes provided they maintain 6’ separation in all directions. Online services are encouraged for vulnerable members.

**Can we resume social activities throughout the community?**

Yes, all public and private gathering are allowed subject to occupancy restrictions and 6’ safe distancing at all times (limitations do not pertain to households/family members).

**When will public playgrounds, Splash Zone, The Centre and other public spaces resume operations?**

City parks, trails and open play areas remain open. The City is anxious to make all public facilities accessible but will only do so when proper controls and sanitizing services are in place. We anticipate resuming those public facilities as conditions allow.

**How will this ordinance be enforced?**

We are relying on the goodwill and common sense of residents and businesses to follow the ordinance. City Inspectors will make daily visits to businesses to educate and inform them on the new rules. Intentional repeated violations may be subject to a misdemeanor violation.