CITY OF PALACIOS

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May 18, 2020

MAYORS COVID-19 UPDATE FOR MAY 18, 2020

This afternoon, Governor Abbott announced that Texas will enter into Phase 2 of the effort to reopen the Texas economy. He announced that not only would businesses that have already been opened, such as restaurants, would be able to open to 50% capacity but that several new businesses will be allowed to open in the coming weeks.

Those businesses that will be allowed to open effective May 31, 2020 include:

- Day Youth Camp Operators
- Day Youth Camp Families
- Overnight Youth Camp Operators
- Overnight Youth Camp Families
- Professional Sports without in-person Spectators
- Youth Camp Families
- Youth Sports Operators
- Youth Sports Families

Those Businesses that will be allowed to open effective May 22, 2020 include:

- Bars
- Bowling Alleys, Bingo Halls, Simulcasting, Skating Rinks
- Rodeo Equestrian Events
- Zoos, Aquariums, Natural Caverns

Those Businesses allowed to open effective today, May 18, 2020 include:

- Child Care Centers
- Massage and Personal-Care, Beauty Services
- Youth Clubs
- Gyms/Exercise Facilities
- Manufacturers
- Office-Based Employers

A complete check-list of all businesses affected by the Governor's announcement can be found at: www.gov.texas.gov/organization/opentexas. This State website has a comprehensive list of protocols and minimum health standards for each of the individual

businesses and their patrons. These protocols include standards for training employees, minimum hygiene standards for patrons and steps that all of us should take as we begin to reopen Texas.

The universal message that was presented by the Governor, backed by all the imminent doctors who are advising the Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas, is that we must continue to practice the personal hygiene protocols that have gotten us to this point in the fight against COVID-19. Everyone must continue to practice social distancing, wash your hands, wear a mask in public if you can't maintain proper social distancing and look out for the well-being of our citizens who are most at risk.

It's true that while you personally might not want to stay at home, wear a mask or follow the guidelines that have been issued by our Federal, State and Local officials, and that is your right, however, by not observing these guidelines, you may be spreading the virus to someone else and endangering their health and ultimately their life.

I want to thank the citizens of Palacios for their patience, understanding and cooperation over the last few weeks and to assure you that your City officials and City staff will continue to provide you with the most up-to-date information possible.

Sincerely,

Glen Smith

Mayor