

# Johnson County Recovery Plan

DRAFT

April 24, 2020

## Introduction

In response to the spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 both Johnson County and Governor Laura Kelly issued Stay At Home orders as a public health mitigation strategy to slow the spread virus. These orders caused tremendous disruption to the economy and our residents' way of life. Thankfully because of the sacrifices made by our residents, businesses and others it is now time to plan for the removal of the Stay At Home order.

On April 20, 2020 the Board of County Commissioners established a Johnson County Recovery Planning Task Force to make recommendations of how to responsibly remove the Stay At Home order while continuing to protect the community's health and safety. The primary goal of the task force is to recommend a phased approach to the re-opening of business and gathering locations.

There are a few key points that will affect the recommendations moving forward:

1. There is a lot about COVID-19 that we do not know. We do not know whether ambient temperature has an impact. We do not know whether this will end up being seasonal. We do not know if an infection proffers some measure of immunity and if yes, how much. We also do not know enough about how it spreads. This plan is based on the best information that is currently available and may change as our knowledge improves.
2. Once the orders are lifted, especially when social distancing and gathering size requirements are relaxed, will most likely cause an increase of varying magnitudes in COVID-19 spread. How the orders are lifted is a key determinant.
3. Until a vaccine or other therapeutic interventions become available some level of social distancing will be required.
4. Residents returning to work and travelers coming to Johnson County will cause new introductions of the virus in our county.
5. Before the orders is lifted, the public health system needs to have a robust surveillance system in place to enhance our capacity to detect outbreaks. This will include new and trained staffing, adequate sample collection instruments, laboratory testing resources, sentinel sites and frequent drive-through testing. Mitigation measures will need to be re-introduced if wide-spread transmission detected.
6. Communication plans need to be developed to inform and educate the community to increase confidence and belief that, with modifications in place, it is ok to return to work, play and worship.

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## Universal Precautions and Basic “must-do” tasks in all phases

1. Continue to encourage (perhaps require) our citizens to wear masks whenever they are out in the community. They must also continue wash hands frequently, refrain from touching their faces and continue to practice staying 6 feet away from others.
2. Continue to encourage residents to avoid crowds and limit close physical interactions.
3. Continue to encourage citizens to not embark on unnecessary travel and to restrict travel to areas with high transmission of coronavirus. Quarantine requirements should remain in place for those that travel.
4. Continue to restrict visits to our long-term care facilities.
5. Continue to encourage high-risk residents, e.g. those with immune disorders, elderly, to continue to ‘stay at home’ as much as possible.
6. Protect our vulnerable populations.
7. Work with employers to encourage telecommuting and to continue to do some of what they are currently doing.

## Phased Approach to Recovery

Opening the economy and rolling back some of the measures in place is expected to occur in phases with the overarching consideration being to prevent spread of COVID-19 and the protection of the health of the public.

We must understand that this will be on a ‘trial and error’ basis. There will be an increased risk of exposure to our residents and thus, increased risk of serious consequences and overwhelming of our hospital capacity. We must understand that we may need to again implement the same or even stricter measures if we find evidence that wide-spread transmission is detected.

After every phase, we will conduct surveillance to measure community impact.

## Duration of Phases

There will be about 4 weeks in between the phases. Going to the next phase will depend on meeting the applicable gating criteria including the impacts on the spread of the virus, impacts on our vulnerable populations, and our hospital capacities.

## Parameters and criteria for determining businesses that will be in each phase

The following factors will be used to determine where businesses fall in the three phases. An assessment of the risk posed by business categories to COVID-19 transmission and the impacts will be made qualitatively based on the following:

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1. Risk of transmission based on estimated number of people in an establishment (staff and customers) that is representative of an industry group. The goal is to minimize close contact for a prolonged period of time.
2. How modifiable the processes are in the business group to minimize interactions.
3. What other risk management and risk reduction strategies can be implemented.

Businesses in the First Roll-Back phase will be on the lower end of the risk assessment scale.

Following the White House Opening Plan, we should move forward to phased opening when we can satisfy the 'Gating Criteria':

- SYMPTOMS:
  - a. Downward trajectory of influenza-like illnesses (ILI) reported within a 14-day period, AND/OR
  - b. Downward trajectory of COVID-like syndromic cases reported within a 14-day period,

AND

- CASES
  - a. Downward trajectory of documented cases within a 14-day period OR
  - b. Downward trajectory of positive tests as a percent of total tests within a 14-day period (flat or increasing volume of tests)

AND

- HOSPITALS
  - a. Treat all patients without crisis care
  - b. Robust testing program in place for at-risk healthcare workers, including (when ready) emerging antibody tests.

## Phases

1. *Phase 1* – continue until the numbers confirm that we have truly succeeded in our measures to flatten the curve.
2. *Phase 2* – This will include businesses and sectors that do not include large groups gatherings, that have low risk of prolonged interactions, that are adaptable and can put in place steps to reduce transmission.

## Specific actions:

- a. Continue to prohibit large gatherings and limit socializing with our vulnerable population.

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- b. Allow more daycare centers and schools to open. This may be subject to what the state does.
  - c. Bars remain closed but restaurants can open at 50% capacity and augment with deliveries and pick-ups. They will be monitored and required to maintain physical distancing and hygiene procedures.
  - d. Small businesses with less than 10 employees can open if they maintain physical distancing measures. Encourage working from home as much as possible.
3. *Phase 3* – Implement the next categories of business to open.
- a. If we do not get worse, other types of businesses will be considered.
  - b. Large gatherings of people more than groups of 10 will continue to be banned, masks will continue to be worn, and other physical distancing will continue in all venues.
4. *Phase 4* - Implement the next categories of business to open.
- a. Large gatherings of people in groups of up to 50 will be permitted, masks will continue to be worn, and other physical distancing will continue in all venues.

Business groups that fall in each phase are categorized in the table below.

Business group	Risk Criteria 1 (Contact Intensity)	Risk Criteria 2 (Number of Contacts)	Risk Criteria 3 (Modifiable Activities)	Consensus Risk Category	Risk Management/Reduction Strategies
Restaurants/Bars	Medium	High	Medium	1	Risk reduced if they operate at 50% capacity, staff use PPE
Bars w/no food service	High	High	Medium	3	Risk reduced if they operate at 50% capacity, staff use PPE
Salon, spas and other personal care industries	Medium/High	Low	Medium	1	Wear masks – staff and clients; operate by appointment only; clients stay in their cars until it's their turn; frequent handwashing and disinfection; reduce

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					number of chairs to ensure 6-ft distancing measure
Retailers	Low	Medium	Medium	1	Maintain social distancing of workers as much as possible. Adjust the layout of common areas including cash registers to maintain 6 feet of distance between workers. Perform enhanced cleanings daily. Workers should wear masks at all time
Shopping malls	Low	Medium	Medium	1	Maintain social distancing of workers as much as possible. Adjust the layout of common areas including cash registers to maintain 6 feet of distance between workers. Perform enhanced cleanings daily. Workers should wear masks at all time
Gyms/fitness studios	Medium	Medium	Medium	2	Maintain social distancing of patrons and workers as much as possible. Adjust the layout of exercise areas to maintain 6 feet of distance between patrons. Perform enhanced cleanings daily.
Theaters, museums and	Medium	High	Medium	2	Maintain social distancing of workers and patrons as much as

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other indoor leisure and entertainment spaces					possible. Perform enhanced cleanings daily. Workers should wear masks at all time.
Outdoor large venues (concerts, sports)	High	High	Medium	3	Social distancing should be maintained as much as possible. Enhanced cleaning should happen at least daily.
Indoor large venues (concerts, sports)	High	High	Low	3	Social distancing should be maintained as much as possible. Enhanced cleaning should happen at least daily.