



**ORDER of the MISSOULA CITY & COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER
Requirements for Phase One Reopening in Missoula County
April 24, 2020**

WHEREAS, the State of Montana, Missoula County, and the City of Missoula are in a declared state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2020, the Governor issued a Directive and with requirements and guidance for the phased reopening of Montana;

WHEREAS, the Governor's Directive sets forth a minimum set of statewide requirements in Phase One that are enforceable by local public health jurisdictions;

WHEREAS, local jurisdictions can enact guidelines that are more restrictive than State guidelines;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 50-2-118 of the Montana Code Annotated, a local health officer in carrying out the purpose of the public health system shall take steps to limit contact between people in order to protect the public health from imminent threats, including but not limited to ordering the closure of buildings or facilities where people congregate and cancelling events;

WHEREAS, the City and County of Missoula represent the second-largest population center in the State;

WHEREAS, Missoula is home to the medical hub upon which a large region of Montanans relies for health care, including care for COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Governor-directed period of "Stay-at-Home" to slow transmission of COVID-19 will end on April 26, 2020;

WHEREAS, epidemiologic guidance for lessening the impact of a pandemic calls for gradual, phased lifting of social restrictions and adequate testing capacity for monitoring and controlling transmission of the virus in the community;

WHEREAS, given Missoula County's large population, and that Missoula County is a regional hub of essential businesses, services and health care, it is necessary to enhance the Governor's Phase One restrictions and requirements in Missoula County to avoid the preventable transmission of disease and reduce the likelihood of re-shuttering businesses and services;



THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1) Events and gatherings such as, but not limited to, fairs, festivals, markets including farmers' markets, concerts, sporting events, races, and private parties outside the home shall be limited to 25 people during Phase One and six-foot physical distance between participants shall be maintained. (As per the Governor's Directive, groups are limited to 10 people if six-foot distance cannot be maintained.)
- 2) Business and individuals providing grooming, beauty, body art, piercing, massage, spa and similar services, including but not limited to barbers (including barbers and barbers - nonchemical), cosmetologists, electrologists, estheticians, manicurists shall remain closed until Phase Two. Massage therapy affiliated with licensed physical therapy and chiropractor services is exempt from this requirement.
- 3) Retail business, formerly deemed "non-essential" and required to be closed during the stay-at-home directive may reopen to only curbside pick-up and delivery on April 27.
- 4) Except as otherwise specified in this order or the Governor's directive, retail businesses may provide in-store business beginning on May 1, 2020, if the requirements below are met. These requirements also apply to "essential" retail businesses that continued operating during the Governor's "stay at home" directive:
 - a. At any given time, maximum number of customers shall be 50% of usual business capacity; AND
 - b. Measures are in place to protect customers and staff waiting in line at checkout counters, such as visible markers or signs denoting six-foot separation or temporary barriers; AND
 - c. Staff have received training on practicing good hygiene, maintaining physical distancing, recognizing symptoms of COVID-19, and not reporting to work or remaining at work if experiencing symptoms; AND
 - d. The business has developed and implemented an individualized plan addressing the requirements in the Governor's re-opening directive and this order, as evidenced by filling out the attached appendix. The completed appendix must be maintained on site and be made available to the Department upon request.
- 5) In addition to the minimum Phase One requirements included in the Governor's Directive and associated Appendix A, issued April 22, 2020, dining areas in food and drink establishments such as restaurants, bars, breweries, distilleries and casinos shall:



- a. Remain closed if the requirements and guidelines in the Governor's directive cannot be met; AND
 - b. Provide for at least six feet of separation between diners, or groups of diners, including those sitting in booths.
- 6) These measures shall remain in effect until the Governor moves the state to Phase Two re-opening or until this order is revoked or revised based on review of epidemiological data, testing availability, and public health and medical capacity to control transmission of the virus and treat COVID-19.
- 7) The requirements and restrictions in this Order are in addition to the Phase 1 requirements and restrictions in the Governor's April 22 Directive. Individuals and businesses should rely on this Order where any inconsistencies exist between this Order and the Governor's April 22, Directive .

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Leahy", written over a horizontal line.

Ellen Leahy, RN, MN, MPH
Director & Health Officer

4-24-20

Date