



MEDIA RELEASE



OFFICES OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS AND CITY MAYOR INDYA KINCANNON

400 MAIN STREET, KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 27, 2020

County	Mike Donila	Abbey Harris	City	Kristin Farley	Eric Vreeland
Contacts:	306-1177 cell	706-1681 cell	Contacts:	924-8276 cell	258-3431 cell

City and County Leaders Outline a Local Business Reopening Plan

Knoxville, Tennessee—Knox County and the City of Knoxville will begin a gradual, phased-in reopening of businesses Friday, May 1, 2020. The collaborative plan emerged after extensive work from a joint City/County Task Force convened by the Knox County Health Department.

Dr. Martha Buchanan, Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs and Knoxville Mayor Indya Kincannon unveiled the plan during a news conference in the Main Assembly room of the City/County Building Monday morning.

The plan highlights the fact that the community will not be immediately returning to a pre-pandemic “normal,” but instead outlines a 3-phase approach to reopening. Each phase will last a minimum of 28 days.

This plan also emphasizes 5 core actions all individuals are being asked to adhere to throughout the reopening process:

- Practice Physical Distancing
- Wear Cloth Face Coverings
- Practice Proper Handwashing
- Clean/Sanitize Surfaces
- Stay Home if Sick

Phase one of the three-part plan, which goes into effect Friday, May 1, will allow most businesses to open with strict social distancing guidelines in place. The list includes, but is not limited to:

- Daycares
- Restaurants
- Salons
- Spas
- Retail Stores
- Gyms
- Places of Worship

Each business has specific, stringent protocols to follow that can be found in the attached document.

The full plan also includes benchmarks that will be evaluated throughout each phase, a collaborative community process to help determine business protocols in future phases and a certificate program to recognize businesses that have successfully taken the safety measures spelled out by the task force.

###