



CITY OF BIG BEAR LAKE *California*

May 6, 2020

Pandemic Response Committee

Recommended Plan for the SAFE, RESPONSIBLE REOPENING OF BIG BEAR LAKE

Committee Members:

Mayor Rick Herrick, Chair
Mayor Pro-Tem Randy Putz, Vice Chair
JoAnn Cecil, Destination Big Bear
Oliver Deubel, Big Bear Frontier
Dallas Goldsmith, Goldsmiths Sports
Liz Harris, At-Large Member
Ron Peavy, At-Large Member
Wade Reeser, Big Bear Mountain Resorts
Ron Vandenbroeke, Stone Entertainment Group

Fundamental Goals / Requirements:

- The plan should balance all aspects of the COVID-19 issue and all community concerns, including health, medical, scientific, economic, financial, social, and political concerns. Decisions should not be based solely on one aspect or concern.
- The plan should be simple, easy to understand, and easy to communicate to our residents, businesses, and visitors. Public messaging about the plan should be consistent across jurisdictions and agencies, and should utilize public signage, business signage, and traditional and digital communications platforms.
- The plan should have a basic reliance on social distancing, limits on group gatherings, face coverings, and proper hygiene. All individuals shall carry appropriate face coverings on their person, for use during all interactions with others. Our residents, businesses, and visitors must diligently commit to honoring these requirements. Proper messaging, social pressure, and targeted enforcement will be vital.

- Restrictions imposed should regulate personal and business behavior, and specifically not seek to dictate which businesses may operate and which businesses may not operate. Different businesses will operate safely based on their diligent adherence to behavioral restrictions and “best practices”, and not based on the type of product or service offered.
- The plan should limit business occupancy in a reasonable way, but ensure that occupancy limits still allow for profitable business activities.
- All businesses should be able to operate on the same general timeline, and should implement “best practices” specifically developed by local business professionals, industry experts, trade associations, and licensing boards for each business segment.
- Business activities that involve direct physical contact between the employee / provider and the customer / patient (doctor offices, dental offices, hair salons, tattoo parlors, and nail salons) should implement additional, special procedures and restrictions specifically determined by licensing boards and/or health officials.
- All businesses in the same business segment should be treated equally, and subject to the same general restrictions, “best practices”, and timeline.
- The most vulnerable residents of our community (over age 65, significant other health issues, compromised immune systems) should continue to be advised to take appropriate precautions and limit their interactions with others to the maximum extent practical.
- The responsibility for operating safely shall be placed firmly upon the business, and smart businesses will recognize that their customers will demand (and reward) those businesses that operate safely.
- The plan must allow the City to be nimble and act quickly as circumstances dictate. The City must be willing to re-institute more stringent restrictions if necessary to protect public health and safety, and must also be willing to loosen restrictions as permitted by the Governor and/or County officials and as warranted to promote a successful local economy.

Immediate Phase – “Responsible Reopening”

Target Period: As Soon as Permission Granted by Governor Newsom and/or San Bernardino County

Key Assumptions: continuing low incidence of COVID-19, continued adequate healthcare system capacity, and consent from Governor Newsom and/or San Bernardino County.

- Eliminate “stay at home order”, and allow free movement in the community.
 - Group gatherings limited to groups of 10 only, unless from same household or family unit.
 - Maintain effective physical and social distancing in all interactions.
 - All individuals shall carry appropriate face coverings on their person, for use during all interactions with others.
 - Most vulnerable residents advised to take appropriate precautions and limit their interactions with others to the maximum extent practical.
- Allow all businesses (no distinction between types of business activities – retail, restaurant, service, entertainment, recreation all permitted) and churches in Big Bear Lake to operate, including all lodging and vacation rental accommodations.
 - All businesses and churches limited to 50% of typical occupancy, as per established and posted occupancy limits. Grocery stores are not subject to occupancy limits, but are subject to all other requirements outlined herein.
 - All businesses and churches must require patrons to maintain minimum of 6 ft. separation from all patrons and employees during all aspects of transaction / experience.
 - All businesses and churches required to staff entrance to maintain 50% occupancy threshold, instruct patrons regarding other restrictions.
 - Installation of hand washing stations or hand sanitizing stations, or immediate direction to restroom when entering establishment is required.
 - Implement business and industry “best practices”, recommended disinfection procedures, and frequency.

- Implement appropriate protections for employees and provide appropriate PPE for job tasks.
- Face coverings are required for all business and church activity.
- Restaurants permitted to operate take-out, delivery, and at 50% of permitted occupancy for authorized indoor and outdoor seating.
 - Must maintain 6 ft. separation for all parties, for both indoor and permitted outdoor seating.
 - Restaurant seating limited to 50% of permitted occupancy for both indoor and permitted outdoor seating.
 - Implement business and industry “best practices”, recommended disinfection procedures, and frequency.
 - Implement appropriate protections for employees and provide appropriate PPE for job tasks.
 - Face coverings are required for all business activity, except while physically eating and/or drinking.
- All lodging and vacation rental accommodations permitted to operate.
 - Limited to 50% of available managed units occupied at any given time.
 - For example, a lodging facility with 100 rooms may only allow occupancy of 50 rooms on any given night.
 - For example, a vacation rental management company responsible for 20 units may only allow bookings in 10 units on any given night.
 - A self-managed vacation rental unit may only be offered for 50% of the weekday days and 50% of the weekend days in any given month.
 - The lodging facility, vacation rental management company, or self-managed vacation rental owner shall submit a signed certification to the City indicating that the manager / owner will at all times comply with 50% limits specified herein.

- Violations of this limit subject the lodging facility or vacation rental management company to potential revocation of business license. Violations of this limit will subject the manager / owner of the vacation rental unit to potential revocation of TPHR permit.
- Normal individual unit occupancy limits apply to each lodging facility unit and vacation rental unit. For example, a vacation rental unit permitted for 6 occupants may be occupied by 6. A vacation rental unit permitted for 10 people may be occupied by 10, and so on.
- Guests must adhere to 6 ft. separation requirements from other parties and individuals, limits on group gatherings, face coverings, and proper hygiene.
- Face coverings are required for all business interactions involving lodging facilities and vacation rental accommodations.
- Common areas in lodging facilities limited to 50% of permitted occupancy and 6 ft. separation requirements.
- Implement business and industry “best practices”, recommended disinfection procedures, and frequency.
- Implement appropriate protections for employees and provide appropriate PPE for job tasks.
- Managers and owners required to properly educate guests prior to arrival. In-person check-in requirements remain in effect for vacation rentals to ensure proper communication of community restrictions.
- Vacation rental management company or vacation rental owner required to encourage guests to:
 - Bring food and other supplies from their home community, so as not to deplete local stores, and/or
 - Patronize local restaurants and food establishments, including take-out and delivery options.
- City enforcement staff granted immediate eviction authority for violations of restrictions.

- Other Important Elements
 - All individuals shall carry appropriate face coverings on their person, for use during all interactions with others.
 - Big Bear Chamber of Commerce to work with local businesses to establish special shopping hours and discounts for senior citizens and other vulnerable residents.
 - Plan is subject to immediate review and adjustment by City Council and City Manager as needed to address emerging concerns.
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Not included in Committee recommendation, but suggested for future City Council consideration in order to promote 6 Ft. separation and expanded business opportunities:

- Consider closing Pine Knot Avenue and Village Drive to vehicular traffic every Saturday beginning at 10 am until Sunday at 6 pm.
 - Special accommodations made for business owners with limited access only from these streets.
 - Vehicle travel lanes converted to pedestrian travel only.
 - For businesses in The Village (Pine Knot Avenue and Village Drive), consider outdoor display of merchandise, goods, services, and restaurant seating on public sidewalks and on-street parking stalls in the frontage available to that business, subject to applicable ADA requirements.
- Consider allowing all businesses to engage in outdoor display of merchandise, goods, services, and restaurant seating on business property.
 - Consider outdoor display of merchandise, goods, services, and restaurant seating on business property in parking areas, other landscaped areas owned or leased by the business, subject to applicable ADA requirements
 - For restaurants, combined 50% indoor and permitted outdoor seating plus additional authorized outdoor seating would not exceed currently permitted indoor and permitted outdoor occupancy (i.e., the pre COVID-19 permitted occupancy).

- For restaurants, alcohol consumption would be permitted only in previously-permitted indoor and outdoor seating areas. Alcohol consumption would not occur in additional authorized outdoor seating.
- The business would be required to maintain sufficient parking availability to meet customer demand.
- The business would be required to maintain proper litter control protocols.

Future Phase(s) – “Full Reopening – 100% Occupancy”

Target Period: To Be Determined / As Soon as Deemed Safe