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# City of Hialeah

TO: SERGIO VELAZQUEZ, CHIEF  
HIALEAH POLICE DEPARTMENT

CC: JOSEPH DZIEDZIC, DIRECTOR  
PARKS DEPARTMENT

DATE: May 18, 2020

TIME: 1:50 PM

FROM: [Signature]

MAYOR CARLOS HERNANDEZ

ATTEST: [Signature]

MARBELYS FATJO, CITY CLERK

**EMERGENCY ORDER REOPENING ALL CITY PARKS FOR LIMITED USE  
IN THE CITY OF HIALEAH, FLORIDA  
(COVID-19-COH-EO-19)**

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-52 declaring a state of emergency for the State of Florida as a result of the threat of the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, County Mayor Carlos Gimenez also declared a countywide state of emergency in response to the first reported case of coronavirus infection in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, since the initial declarations of emergency and during a period of approximately two months, our communities were governed by a series of restrictions limiting our movements, implementing social distancing, mandating the use of personal protective equipment, and closing our economy except for essential services, in an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19 and prevent the demands on our health system from causing it to fail, both which would lead to an increased number of deaths; and

WHEREAS, while the closure orders and stay at home orders worked to effectively reduce the spread of the virus, allowed for more expansive testing and the mounting of improved and better equipped response from our health care providers, the orders had a deleterious effect on our economy leading many to question whether the remedy was worse than the ailment; and

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2020, the President of the United States unveiled guidelines to Open Up America Again on a phased approach based upon specific criteria to evaluate the continuing risks posed by COVID-19 to aspects of social life which have been shut down; and

WHEREAS, the guidelines suggest that if within a 14-day period the number of new infections and positive tests of COVID19 and influenza-like or COVID10-like cases are on a downward trajectory, hospitals are treating all patients without crisis care and frontline health-care workers are able to get tested, then certain aspects of social life and the economy can be reopened on a phased approach subject to the availability of robust testing, observance of social distancing and healthcare system capacity; and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-112 reopening non-essential services and lifting the stay-at home order across the State of Florida except Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade Counties according to the Phase 1: Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step Plan for Florida's Recovery; and

WHEREAS, On May 14, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-122 lifting the restrictions on Miami-Dade County and authorized the Phase 1 reopening of the County and further issued Executive Order 20-123 bringing all counties in the State under Phase 1 reopening as of May 18, 2020, subject to the operational guidelines and building occupancy restrictions set forth in those orders; and

WHEREAS, On May 14, 2020 Mayor Carlos Gimenez unveiled the County's New Normal Handbook setting forth comprehensive guidelines to be followed by residents and commercial establishments to help our society adapt to the continued presence of COVID-19 in our lives and be best positioned to kick-start our economy and resume social interactions, despite the risks posed by COVID-19;

WHEREAS, On May 15, 2020 Mayor Carlos Gimenez issued Emergency Order 23-20 reopening, with few exceptions, every retail and commercial establishment for business as of Monday, May 18, 2020 subject to general and industry specific safety guidelines outlined in the New Normal Handbook and Governor DeSantis's occupancy restrictions; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County Mayor had previously issued two orders allowing phased reopening of certain recreational facilities, specifically Emergency Order 21-20 on reopening parks, marinas, boat ramps and golf courses, and amendment one to Emergency Order 15-20 private common use amenities similar to those contemplated by Emergency Order 21-20, both orders effective April 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the efforts by Miami-Dade to open public parks, marinas and golf courses subject to social distancing and for limited activity, as of May 13, 2020, all city parks remained closed; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the State and County's approach to phased reopening, the city has authorized the reopening of all retail and commercial establishments, including restaurants and food service establishments, on a slightly delayed scheduled than the reopening date selected by the County to allow business operators an opportunity to make the required physical and operational adjustments mandated by the safety guidelines ordered by the County as a condition to reopening; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the guidelines promulgated by the County for its parks, the City also now wishes to open its parks for the public's enjoyment despite the continuing risks posed by

COVID-19 subject to use restrictions and limitations on the interactions between persons while using park facilities; and

WHEREAS, we remain in a state of emergency at every level of government; and

WHEREAS, the City continues to take action to slow the spread and reduce the impact of the disease to protect its residents;

THEREFORE, in response to the impending risk to the life, health, safety and welfare posed by Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) to our citizenry and pursuant to the authority set forth in Florida Statutes §252.38 and in furtherance of all national, state, county and local emergency orders issued to date not inconsistent with this order;

In order to safeguard the life, health, safety and welfare of the residents of the City of Hialeah;  
and

In an attempt to slow the spread and mitigate the potential impact of Coronavirus Disease;

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Effective 7:00 a.m. Wednesday, May 20, 2020, all city owned or city operated parks shall open to the public subject to the restrictions set forth in this order.
2. Park hours shall be from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday only. Parks shall remain closed on Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays. No person shall be or remain in any city park except during these hours whether a physical barrier to entry on the park exists or not.
3. Except for fields, paths and tracks, all other recreational facilities such as recreation buildings, courts, exercise equipment, gazebos or shelters, skating ramps, bike racks and playground equipment, shall remain closed for use by the public. No water fountains or bathroom facilities shall be in use until further order.
4. Use of parks during opening hours shall be for limited active uses and passive activities by individuals. Only members of the same household shall be allowed in groups in the park to engage in permitted activities together and only in groups not exceeding 10 people. Limited active uses allowed are walking, jogging, or general exercise on open fields. Organized, team sports, or competitive play of any kind is prohibited.
5. The use of face masks at all times pursuant to City COVID-19-COH-EO-7 and 7A is mandatory while at city parks.
6. The provisions of this Order shall supersede any inconsistent provisions in any prior emergency order.
7. This Order shall remain in effect for the period of time the City's declaration of emergency remains in effect or until rescinded or modified, whichever occurs first.
8. This Emergency Order shall be strictly adhered to at all times while the City's declaration of emergency remains in effect and enforceable pursuant to Florida law.