

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19

FAQs

March 18, 2020

Below is a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) and answers. As this is a fluid situation, this document will be continuously updated.

CURFEW/ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT

Has the city implemented a curfew citywide?

At this time, there is only a curfew within the city's entertainment district from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m. each day. This curfew does not include business employees going to or from work.

What is considered the Entertainment District?

The boundaries of the entertainment district (bounded by 5th Street on the South, 16th Street on the North, Washington Avenue on the West, and Ocean Drive on the East)

Has the city closed all public beaches?

The beaches between 5 and 15 streets are closed. Any gathering of 10 or more people on any portion of the beach citywide is prohibited and will be dispersed. This measure is consistent with the direction from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Why is the city not closing the entire beach?

We are considering all options each day. While only the areas of 5-15 streets are closed right now, gatherings of more than 10 are not allowed on all other areas of the beach.

RESTAURANTS & OTHER BUSINESSES

Are all restaurants and bars closed citywide?

All restaurants and bars are closed citywide for on-premise service of customers until further notice. However, these establishments may operate their kitchens for the purpose of providing delivery, drive-through, pick-up or take-out services only, from 5 a.m. until midnight each day.

What is considered take-out?

Walking into a restaurant, cafeteria or counter/window to retrieve food. Some restaurants may offer drive-through or curbside walk-out services. Do not expect dine-in (sitting at tables and chairs inside the restaurant and/or sidewalk café) to be open anywhere in Miami Beach.

Can a customer walk-in to order to-go?

If the restaurant offers this option, you may be able to walk-in and order items to go. However, in order to avoid extended wait times and exposure to other people, we highly recommend ordering ahead of time, prior to pick-up (or ordering delivery if that's an option). Many restaurants have online ordering apps or website options to place an order; this is a good time to use those options.

What's the list of all establishments beyond restaurants that are closed?

All restaurants, bars, nightclubs, dance halls, halls for hire (including restaurants, bars, nightclubs, banquet halls, ballrooms, or similar establishments operating within hotels), private clubs and similar businesses are required to CLOSE for on-premises service of customers until further notice. All movie theaters, bowling alleys, arcades, live performance venues, gymnasiums and fitness centers (EXCEPT for gymnasiums or fitness centers which are located within hotels or residential multi-family buildings) must also remain closed until further notice.

What types businesses are not required to close?

Exempt businesses include pharmacies, grocery stores, convenience stores, private offices, banks, hotels, hospitals, medical service providers, medical supply stores, hardware stores, gasoline service stations and automotive supply/repair centers. Retail establishments such as clothing and footwear stores, perfume and make-up stores, souvenir shops, salons, nail places, art galleries are not required to close. However, as customers arrive we recommend they keep their distance from each other and avoid lingering around counters and cash registers. Retail workers are strongly encouraged to disinfect commonly used surfaces such as counters, credit card machines, pens, etc. on a regular basis.

Who can I contact with Questions or Concerns related to my Business?

For questions regarding your business, please email MBBiz@miamibeachfl.gov

Are there financial assistance programs available?

The State of Florida Emergency Bridge Loan Program, Short Time Compensation Program (Florida Department of Economic Opportunity) and Mom and Pop Small Business Grants are all detailed on the city's web page at www.miamibeachfl.gov/coronavirus

PARKING

Are parking garages closed?

All city owned parking garages and surface lots citywide will only be open to residents with proof of residency and access card holders.

How does the city know which vehicles are from residents?

The parking department has a resident parking registration that entitles you for discounted parking citywide. Residents must register their vehicle to park within city owned parking lots and garages. For this temporary parking accommodation we are waiving some requirements to facilitate the registration process. Please visit MiamiBeachFl.gov/coronavirus for more information on how to enroll.

Can I park in a loading zone?

Loading zones restrictions are still in affect, please heed to all posted signage when parking throughout the city.

CITY SERVICES

Is City Hall Open?

City Hall remains open, but a limited amount of staff are on-site. Please call and confirm any previously scheduled meetings before arriving.

Is the Customer Service Center open?

For specific questions regarding city services, please call our city hotline at 305.604.CITY (2489), open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Customer Service Center will be open from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., we encourage you to use the online Customer Service Center tool.

Is the Building Department open?

Yes, the Building Department is open with slightly modified services being performed in City Hall. Drop-off for plans will be located on the 1st Floor of City Hall only.

We encourage you to use any online services or email your questions to bpi@miamibeachfl.gov. The North Beach Building Department Satellite Office is closed.

Is the Code Compliance Office open?

Code Compliance walk-ins are closed. Residents or businesses that need assistance should call Code Compliance at 305.673.7555.

COVID-19 TESTING

Are there any testing locations on Miami Beach?

There are not currently any testing locations on Miami Beach

PARKS & RECREATION

Which parks are closed?

At this time, the only park that is closed is Lummus Park (between 5 - 15 streets along Ocean Drive). Buildings and indoor facilities within parks are closed, but parks otherwise remain open for all outdoor uses. When visiting any park, please practice social distancing. All pools are closed at this time.

Which parks are open?

All other parks remain open at this time, including the Miami Beach Golf Club, Normandy Shores Golf Club, Flamingo Tennis Center, and Miami Beach Tennis Center. Dog parks remain open at this time.

Which recreational programs are canceled?

Parks and Recreation has cancelled all recreational programs and closed recreation centers (Scott Rakow Youth Center & North Youth Center.)

Why hasn't the city closed parks?

At this time, parks will remain open and we will continue to ensure our spaces are being thoroughly cleaned. Cleaning contractors are also providing additional training to staff to ensure proper cleaning techniques are utilized.

Park rangers will disperse any groups that are larger than 10 or more.

TRANSPORTATION

Is the trolley going to continue to operate?

At this time, trolley operations will continue to operate their normal schedule. The trolley operates Monday – Saturday from 6 a.m. to midnight and on Sunday, 8 a.m. to midnight.

Are the trolleys being cleaned?

Yes, all high touch areas, including buttons, handholds, pull cords, and rails are being cleaned more frequently. The city and trolley operator have also established dedicated stations with personnel sanitizing all trolley vehicles throughout the day.

MISCELLANEOUS

How can I apply for assistance if my employer has laid me off?

Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) has a reemployment assistance for those who have been or will be quarantined by doctors or a government agency, those who have been laid off or sent home for an extended period of time due to COVID, or those caring for an immediate family member. This program provides temporary wage replacement to those who are out of work of no fault of their own. For details, visit: www.floridajobs.org to apply, it is handled by CONNECT. You can also call 1.800.681.8102.

Can I continue our construction project/ home renovation?

At this time, you can continue construction projects, but workers should be in groups of 10 or less and in order to keep your site, the workers and residents safe.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTION PER THE CDC

Can someone spread the virus without being sick?

People are thought to be the most contagious when they are most symptomatic (the sickest). Some spread might be possible before people show symptoms; there have been reports of this occurring with this new coronavirus, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.