

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**
April 30, 2020



Mayor Joe Hogsett, Marion County Public Health Department offer local guidance as Indianapolis residents await State orders

INDIANAPOLIS – With current state and local orders set to expire on May 1, Governor Eric Holcomb and state officials plan to provide guidance later this week on future statewide restrictions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In an effort to help Marion County residents and businesses plan for this announcement, Mayor Joe Hogsett and Dr. Virginia Caine of the Marion County Public Health Department will announce today their intention to maintain local “stay at home” restrictions in Marion County to the greatest extent allowable by these new statewide orders. This extension of local restrictions will remain in effect through May 15.

“It’s clear from talking to state leaders and community stakeholders that the challenges we face here in Indianapolis are unique – a city filled with large venues, densely populated neighborhoods, and active business centers. To ensure that we see continued progress in our fight against this virus, we must recommit to our social distancing efforts even as we plan for the future,” said Mayor Hogsett. “I appreciate Governor Holcomb’s partnership as he and his team continue to address the diverse needs of Hoosier communities.”

The Marion County Public Health Department will issue an order subsequent to the new statewide order that to the greatest extent allowable will continue current restrictions on all non-essential businesses through Friday, May 15. Restaurants may continue to offer carry-out or delivery services. Grocery stores, pharmacies, and other essential businesses will remain open, as well as community service providers addressing the needs of our most vulnerable residents. When out in public, all Marion County residents are asked to wear a face mask or covering and continue to maintain good hygiene, frequent handwashing, and proper social distancing.

“We are seeing some signs of progress and I would like to thank the residents of Marion County for taking the public health guidance and travel restrictions so seriously,” said Dr. Caine. “As we promised at the beginning of this outbreak, we are closely monitoring the data and continually adjusting restrictions to reflect current trends. Still, there is more work to be done to ensure we keep Indianapolis residents safe during this difficult time.”

Dr. Caine and the Marion County Public Health Department also announced plans to issue new guidance for golf courses and farmers’ markets. Beginning May 1, area golf courses are allowed to re-open, provided operators ensure proper social distancing among golfers and strict sanitation practices are implemented, as outlined by the health department. Farmers’ Markets, which serve as a community-centric source of fresh produce, will also be allowed to open beginning May 1.



Residents and affected workers impacted by COVID-19 restrictions should visit the city's resource guide, which can be viewed at indy.gov/covid. Spanish speaking residents can view the Resource Guide [here](#). Individuals who are unable to navigate the city's website can call 317-327-4MAC between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to talk to a customer service representative.

###

