

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of Milwaukee Releases New Order *Updated Version Closely Mirrors County Order*

MILWAUKEE— In response to the Supreme Court’s decision to overturn Governor Evers’ Stay-at-Home order, the City of Milwaukee Health Department created a new order that prioritizes the health and safety of their residents.

This order was created based on recommendations from public health officials. In preparation for reopening, public health officials will work with local business owners to establish guidelines and safety measures to build the trust of patrons and minimize the spread of COVID-19.

“Everybody’s goal is to reopen the economy. But, we have seen what has happened in other parts of this country and we have seen what has happened in other parts of the world, where you have had a rush to reopen things,” said Mayor Tom Barrett. “What you ended up with was more death and more suffering. And, that is exactly what we want to avoid.”

COVID-19 is present in every municipality across Milwaukee County, and public health experts warn that additional surges in cases, hospitalizations and deaths are a reality moving forward. Social distancing has been a necessary step in allowing health care systems to build capacity, increase testing and tracing ability and develop a plan for moving forward.

In developing the local plan, **Moving Milwaukee Forward**, health officials considered the following criteria: rate of spread of COVID-19 in Wisconsin; the health care capacity to meet the needs of the state; the testing, contact tracing, and isolation capacity in the state; the availability of personal protective equipment for health care workers, first responders, and other public servants that are required to perform face-to-face services; and the economic needs of Wisconsin and Wisconsinites.

All residents are encouraged to remain diligent in following guidelines to decrease the spread of COVID-19: staying home with family, wash hands and surfaces often, keep six feet or more away from others in public spaces, not meet in groups of any size and cover your nose and mouth with a mask or cloth.

Updated information on prevention, outreach and key statistics related to COVID-19 can be found at milwaukee.gov/Coronavirus.

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