

City of Mountain Brook

Amended Safer at Home Plan

On May 21, 2020, the State Health Officer issued a Safer at Home Order (the “Order”) to be implemented statewide.¹ That Order permits the re-opening and use of certain public facilities under conditions that are expressed in the Order. The City of Mountain Brook prepared its own Safer at Home Plan to provide the community clarity on how the regulations and conditions will apply to public facilities and amenities in the community. This Amended Plan reflects the application of the Order to the City as of September 14, 2020.

1. **All Public Areas.** All property, areas, and facilities that are either owned or operated by the City of Mountain Brook or belong to or are used for the benefit of the general public shall be subject to the following rules, unless modified by more specific rules concerning certain activities:
 - i. Social distancing must be maintained pursuant to CDC and State Health Officer guidelines in place, as they may be amended from time to time. As of the date of this Plan, adequate social distancing means that all persons shall maintain a consistent six-foot distance between himself or herself and all persons from a different household.
 - ii. Any person who has a fever, cough, or other symptoms of COVID-19, who has been exposed to an individual known to have tested positive for COVID-19 or who has tested positive for COVID-19 shall not utilize any property, area or facility of the City of Mountain Brook unless and until such person has been specifically released from any and all COVID related restrictions by public health authorities or his or her health care provider.

These rules apply to public parks, public buildings, recreational facilities, sidewalks, and rights of way. They do not apply to persons operating or occupying motor vehicles on public streets, rights of way or public property.

2. **Parks.** Public parks will be open, subject to the other conditions in this Plan. Social distancing guidelines must be followed. Vulnerable individuals are encouraged to follow the stay-at-home guidelines.
 - a. Individuals must remain six (6) feet apart unless within the same family unit. The use of face masks is strongly encouraged.

¹ The Order was extended until October 2, 2020 by Order of August 27, 2020.

- b. Organized athletic team activities shall be permitted subject to the specific regulations in the Order and subject to the provisions in Section 3 of this Plan. Pick-up games or other activities where social distancing cannot be maintained will not be allowed in the parks regardless of the number of participants. The use of tennis courts shall be permitted subject to the following:
 - o Participants shall not congregate within six feet of other participants unless required to participate in the activity.
 - o Participants shall not share equipment (other than tennis balls), water coolers, bottles, cups, towels or other items.
 - o No more than four (4) persons shall be permitted on any one court at any one time.
- c. Drinking fountains are open at the parks and fields subject to the discretion of the Parks & Recreation Superintendent.
- d. Pavilions will be open for general use but may not be rented until further notice. The general social distancing rules shall apply to all pavilion use. Any person using a pavilion must clean and disinfect all surfaces used, including specifically any picnic tables, after the pavilion use is completed.
- e. Public restrooms are open at the parks and fields subject to the discretion of the Parks & Recreation Superintendent.
- f. All persons using parks should limit contact with commonly touched surfaces except to the extent necessary. Park patrons will be expected to provide their own hand sanitizer or disinfectants.
- g. Other regulations that are park specific may be posted at each park and must be followed at all times.
- h. The City reserves the right to close the parks without notice.

3. **Sports Fields.** The following sports fields shall be open to the public, subject to the general rules and guidelines concerning field use:

- Mountain Brook Jr. High
- Mountain Brook Elementary
- Crestline Elementary
- Brookwood Forest Elementary
- Cherokee Bend Elementary
- Rathmell (MB Sports Park Foundation use only)
- Mountain Brook High School
 - o Soccer Fields
 - o Tennis Courts
 - o Track
 - o Baseball Fields (except for Varsity field)

Organized team use may be permitted subject to submission of a plan by those responsible for such activity and execution of an agreement acknowledging and agreeing to abide by State Health Officer's orders concerning organized team activities. The City reserves the right to permit or disallow any request in its sole discretion.

4. **Playgrounds.** All City playgrounds, including the playgrounds at the Tot Lot, Canterbury Road and Overton Park, will be open for use, subject to general social distancing regulations. The playgrounds at Crestline Elementary, Brookwood Forest Elementary, Cherokee Bend Elementary and Mountain Brook Elementary Schools are subject to the rules and regulations of the Mountain Brook Board of Education. Whether and to what extent they will be available for use is subject to the discretion of the Board of Education.
5. **City Hall.** Access to Mountain Brook City Hall will remain limited to keep both employees and members of the public safe. The front door (Church Street side) will be locked. The public may enter the building only if they have an appointment with the City Manager, other staff, or are conducting business with the revenue department or the Court magistrate. All persons should enter City Hall through the entrance on the Hoyt Lane side (Oak Street Garden) of the building and exit through the entrance on the Tibbett Street side (Police) of the building.
 - a. **Administrative Services.** City administrative services shall continue by way of telephone, fax, email or the City's website, www.mtnbrook.org, or P.O. Box 130009, Mountain Brook, AL, 35213. Those needing administrative services in the Magistrate and Revenue areas may enter the building as described above and should contact those departments to gain access to the building. All other City services are currently by appointment only. Depending on the department and the ability to provide adequate social distancing, appointments may be by telephone or online meetings. In-person meetings may be available for some departments when necessary or appropriate. Available options will be provided when appointments are requested. Second floor of City Hall will be closed to the general public.
 - b. **Court.** Municipal Court has been resumed as of June 17, 2020. Court personnel continue to be available by phone and, in some circumstances, in person to answer questions, to take payments and handle other court related matters. Persons attending court shall follow protocols established by court officials. Generally, the number of persons allowed in the courtroom shall be limited, all persons allowed in the courtroom shall wear face coverings and

no guests or family members shall be permitted to attend court with defendants. Defendants shall register their attendance on the Hoyt Lane side entrance of City Hall and then wait in their vehicle until summoned by text to enter the courtroom.

- c. **Police Department.** The police department remains closed to the general public except for those parties coming to the Department by appointment. All parties that do come to the Department are subject to the access procedures in place since the COVID-19 orders were put in place. Reports may be provided over the phone for non-emergencies by calling (205) 802-2414.
 - d. **Fire Department.** The fire department remains open and subject to the access procedures in place prior to COVID-19 orders. In order to maintain adequate social distancing, no persons from different households shall be permitted to occupy the waiting area/lobby of the fire department at the same time. Visitors will be required to wait outside the entrance (with appropriate social distancing) until the lobby is vacated. All visitors should call ahead for an appointment and arrangements can be discussed at that time.
6. **Public Works Facility.** The public works facility shall remain closed to the general public and meetings with administrative personnel shall be by appointment only. The general public may continue to purchase compost pursuant to current policies and subject to COVID-19 guidelines related to social distancing.
 7. **Library.** The library is open to the public Monday-Saturday, 10 am- 2 pm. Curbside Pick-up services for library materials are available Monday-Friday 10 am - 6 pm, and Saturday 10 am – 2 pm.
 8. **Face Masks/Coverings.** The City will abide by State and County Health Orders in its facilities and on all City property with regard to the use of face masks or face coverings. Pursuant to Orders in place as of the date of this Amended Plan, facemasks or face coverings shall be required in all parts of municipal buildings open to the general public until further notice unless one or more of the exceptions in Section 3 of the County Health Order of June 30, 2020 is applicable.