



Governor Jared Polis  
Capitol Building  
200 E. Colfax Ave., Room 136  
Denver, CO 80203  
and via email

April 28, 2020

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment  
Attention: Jill Hunsaker Ryan, Executive Director  
4300 Cherry Creek Drive  
South Denver, CO 80246

Dear Governor Polis and Ms. Ryan:

Under the Safer at Home phase, we understand that local governments can apply for a variance from the provisions of the executive order and public health orders related to COVID-19 (the “State Orders”). In order to do so, Moffat County needs to demonstrate proof of very low case counts and/or fourteen consecutive days of decline of infection in the county. Moffat County must also submit a written application that includes a written COVID-19 Suppression Plan approved by the local public health authority. The Moffat County Board of Health is seeking a variance for opening of retail, gyms, the movie theater, and places of worship with the following requirements in place:

- mandatory social distancing requirements and protocols to be implemented by all employers
- identifying any specific protocols for certain employers based on the nature of their work
- including proper face and hand coverings to be worn
- an amended definition of Vulnerable Individuals consistent with the Executive Order
- Operations requirements for Non-Critical Retail and Critical Retail consistent with the Executive Order.

The Board of County Commissioners of Moffat County, acting as the Board of Health for Moffat County, has consulted with the Public Health Authority and is requesting conditional reopening of non-essential businesses and other facilities, as provided for in that plan and as outlined herein. The vital importance of having Moffat County citizens ability to earn a living cannot be overstated – people need to be able to have jobs so they can have income to provide for their basic needs, including food, shelter, and both their physical and mental health. Prior to COVID-19, Moffat County, being the small rural community that it is, rarely had 10 people in the non-essential retail shops or gyms. The very nature of our population and businesses make social distancing very easy. Moffat County has implemented community testing for surveillance and vulnerable population testing in order to be able to maintain surveillance of the impact of lifting restrictions incrementally.

Moffat County’s Suppression Plan was devised in consultation with a representative of the local hospital, the Public Health Director and Medical Officer, elected officials, and community leaders. This plan is appropriate for Moffat County in that it balances the need for public safety from possible infection by COVID-19 with the need for folks in Moffat County to earn a living. Moffat County is not a major tourist destination and there

have only been seven confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Moffat County, and three of those so diagnosed have recovered. Moffat County is waiting to see how the Suppression Plan works before it devises additional phases.

Conditions for Lifting Restriction: The World Health Organization has outlined certain guidelines for transitioning from a “scenario of community transmission to a sustainable, steady-state of low-level or no transmission.”

In Moffat County, the Governor and CDPHE are asked to consider the following with regard to Moffat County:

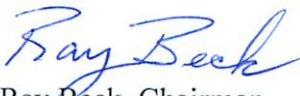
- There is a very low level of cases. There have been six diagnosed cases in all, no hospitalizations, and no deaths.
- Andy Daniels, CEO for Memorial Regional Health, and his staff believe they currently have ample beds, adequate personal protective equipment, and a surge plan in place to safely treat COVID-19 and other hospital caseloads.
- Active monitoring can be accomplished for all COVID-19 cases and their contacts.
- We have the testing capacity to meet all of the standards put forth by the State Public Health Department consistent with COVID-19 infection.

The Moffat County Public Health Board is requesting exemptions from the State Orders in four areas.

For Retail Businesses, the Board of Health requests that they be permitted to let patrons inside the store if they have a protective plan in place as outlined hereafter. The Board of Health is further requesting that gyms, movie theaters and places of worship (as outlined in the Moffat County COVID-19 Suppression Plan) be permitted to open if a) strict physical distancing practices are possible, pursuant to the plan outlined in Exhibit B; b) they submit a formal disease mitigation plan; and c) receive approval by the Public Health Director, with advice from the Medical Officer. The Moffat County Board of Health is prepared to add restrictions back on if there is a significant increase in COVID-19 disease in our community. The Public Health Department has reviewed and provided input to this plan.

Thank you for considering the needs of Moffat County during this transition.

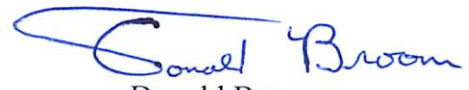
Sincerely,



Ray Beck, Chairman  
Commissioner



Don Cook  
Commissioner



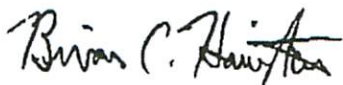
Donald Broom  
Commissioner



Kari Ladrow  
Moffat County Public Health Director



Andy Daniels, Memorial Regional Health  
CEO



Dr. Brian Harrington  
Public Health Medical Director

## **Purpose Statement:**

The COVID-19 pandemic demands we take personal responsibility for our role in caring for each other and the vulnerable in our community. The purpose of this document is to develop a local plan for sustaining social distancing associated with COVID-19 in an incremental fashion that slowly lifts restrictions, prevents a resurgence of disease in the community, and allows our community to begin social and economic recovery. We believe individual mental health, physical health and economic health are integral to the health of the Moffat County community. A pandemic will have a financial impact on both the private and public sector and the two areas of concern, public health and business, must be considered and carefully balanced.

## **MOFFAT COUNTY SUPPRESSION PLAN- RECOMMENDED Best Practices as outlined by the Governor's Office:**

- **People are encouraged to stay at home except when absolutely necessary**
- **Achieve 60-65% physical distancing**
- **Sick people may not go to work**
- **At-risk population are to stay at home except when absolutely necessary**
- **Avoid unnecessary and non-essential travel**
- **Implement no-touch payment, as appropriate**
- **Urge:**
  - **Conduct daily temperature checks and monitor symptoms in employees**
  - **Provide hand sanitizer at entrances and other high-traffic locations**
  - **Encourage all public to wear masks to enter retail businesses**
  - **Appoint a COVID-19 workplace coordinator**

## **Public gatherings:**

- **Close gatherings shall not exceed 10 people. Large venues (movie theaters, sporting venues, places of worship) can operate IF strict physical distancing practices are in place.**
- **Practice mask wearing when in public places and in close contact with others to reduce risk of asymptomatic individuals spreading the virus to others**

## **Critical Businesses:**

- **Remain open with strict precautions (social distancing, masks for all employees, more frequent cleanings, etc)**

## **Non- Essential Businesses and Offices:**

- **Encourage telework, wherever possible**

- Practice 6 ft physical distancing (especially in common areas where employees are likely to congregate OR implement physical distance protocols)
- Conduct standard office cleaning with increased frequency and supplement with sanitization of high touch surface areas
- Provide employees with sanitization products and guidance on daily workspace cleaning routines
- Post signage for employees and customers on good hygiene and new office practices
- Maintain in-office occupancy of no more than 50% of total
- Conduct daily temperature checks and monitor symptoms of your employees
- Encourage use of gloves and masks for any employee and customer interactions
- Encourage use of masks by employees
- Provide hand sanitizer at entrances and other high-traffic locations
- Continue to limit or prohibit non-essential travel
- Implement or maintain flexible sick leave policies and practices
- Consider accommodations for vulnerable populations such as hours where service is only provided with increased caution to vulnerable populations

#### **Retail:**

- Initially utilize curbside pick-up/delivery, which minimizes touch
- Elevate and increase frequency of cleaning practices, including sanitization of high touch surface areas
- Restrict return policy to only items that can be properly sanitized prior to re-selling
- Post signage for employees and customers on good hygiene and other sanitation practices
- Employees should wear gloves and face coverings during work activities
- Encourage frequent breaks to wash or sanitize hands
- Require employees to stay home when showing any symptoms or signs of sickness
- Practice 6 ft physical distancing (especially in common areas where employees are likely to congregate OR implement physical distance protocols)
- Implement or continue early opening for high-risk populations
- Implement or maintain physical barriers for high-contact settings (e.g. cashiers)
- Utilize face cloth coverings for employees and contracted workers whose duties include close contact with members of the public -recommend daily washing
- Continue curbside services in businesses where it applies
- Close-down waiting areas
- Space customer lines

#### **Restaurants & Bars:**

**Restaurants and bars remain closed except for takeout/delivery. Work towards phased reopening.**

- Practice 6 ft physical distancing (especially in common areas where employees are likely to congregate OR implement physical distance protocols)
- Implement or continue early opening for high-risk populations

- Implement or maintain physical barriers for high-contact settings (e.g. cashiers)
- Utilize face cloth coverings for employees and contracted workers whose duties include close contact with members of the public-recommend daily
- Continue curbside services in businesses where it applies
- Close-down waiting areas
- Space tables and lines
- Implement no-touch payment, as appropriate
- Encourage public to wear masks to enter businesses

**Personal Services** (salons, barbers, nail salons, spas, personal training services for under 4 people, pastoral services and dog groomers) - **High Risk Category:**

- Strict hygiene guidelines and sanitization procedures for all contact surfaces and tools
- Use a minimum of separation of 6 feet between clients and customers when not directly performing this service
- Post signage for employees and customers on good hygiene and safety measures
- Minimize in home services with remote alternatives
- Conduct symptom and temperature checks and log results for all employees
- Wear medical grade mask and gloves, and practice meticulous hand washing if glove use is not feasible
- Change gloves between every individual client
- Maintain a log of customers in case contact tracing is necessary
- Services with low contact (real estate, appliances, movers, repairs) maintain six feet of separation with customers (no open houses), require masks and gloves for customer interactions, provide guidance with hygiene precautions
- Customers provide services by appointment only with no walk ins or waiting, require customers to wear masks, conduct symptom checks for all customers of services with personal contact and provide contactless payment

**Health Care:**

- First priority is that our health and medical system continues to be able to deliver critical and emergency care, and preserves the ability to surge these capabilities if COVID cases increase. Hospitals should ensure they have enough PPE on hand to buffer any supply chain disruptions.
- Second priority is to have enough PPE to achieve a higher volume of community testing by healthcare and public health entities. Hospital partners should examine how they can help the state as a whole to achieve the needed volume of community testing to detect, isolate, and contain COVID 19
- Elective surgeries are permitted per the waiver
- Dental care is permitted following precautions
- Vision care is permitted following precautions

**Recreation:** (Outdoor- Personal responsibility of participants/Interior – Business needs to come up with a plan)

- Maintain physical distancing in outdoor settings (6ft for hikers, 15ft for runners/bikers)
- Open outdoor recreation facilities where adequate controls can be implemented to ensure physical distancing
- Close gatherings shall not exceed 10 people. Large venues (sporting venues) can operate IF strict physical distancing practices are in place.
- Maintain restrictions and cleaning guidelines for restrooms

**Education:** (Business/Organization needs to come up with a plan)

- K-12 Online only for the rest of the school year
- Higher Education-Online schooling for the rest of the school year.

**Considerations:** (Indoor events vs Outdoor events)

- Non-Profits
- Large venues (movie theaters, sporting venues, places of worship) can operate IF strict physical distancing practices are in place. Governor's office is evaluating when it is safe to restore partial activities at Gyms, Movie Theaters
- Gyms can open IF strict physical distancing and cleaning practices are possible
- Businesses and recreation facilities NOT permitted to open in this phase will be based on epidemiological evidence of risk for transmission, populations that may be at higher risk for severe disease, and inability to meet the limitations on size of gatherings or congregations

**Ongoing Prohibitions:**

- Services to high-risk populations
- Visitation to hospitals, senior living facilities, nursing homes, and congregate care
- Schools (K-12 & Higher Ed) and organized youth activities that are currently closed
- Summer Concerts

**Notes:**

Moffat County Public Health will continue to monitor the spread of disease through syndromic surveillance (COVID-like symptoms), testing, and hospitalizations.

- Newly reported cases of COVID-19 will be investigated within 24-48 hours
- All cases will be adequately isolated for minimum of 7-14 days with an objective of no household transmission

## Metric Areas for Easing Public Health COVID 19 Restrictions

1. **Disease prevalence has been decreasing and is now low**
  - Assessment of impact of previous public health actions completed
  - 14 days of decreased disease burden
  - New cases per day sorted by symptom onset has been analyzed
  - Positive case rates (#positive cases/#tested per day) has been analyzed
  - Self-reported symptom tracker
  - Analysis of decrease in Hospital admissions for COVID 19
  - Analysis of COVID deaths in county
  - Monitoring for any new outbreaks
2. **Health care system capacity can handle a potential surge of COVID cases**
  - Number of hospital and critical care beds sufficient
  - Medical surge plan
  - Ventilators are adequate for surge potential
  - Transfer network in place for critical patients.
  - Adequate Personal Protective Equipment supplies
3. **Adequate testing capacity to rapidly diagnose cases and aid in case contact tracing**
  - Minimum of 24-48 hour turnaround time for test results. (Point of care testing with 1 hour results would be ideal.)
4. **Public health staffing is adequate**
  - Case investigations, contact tracing, and issuance of isolation orders can occur within 24 hours
  - Test collection can occur every day of the week
  - Monitoring of active cases
5. **Maintaining Preventative Measures**
  - Vulnerable Population Protection Measures in Place
  - Social Distancing Occurring <https://www.unacast.com/covid19/social-distancing-scoreboard>
  - Cloth Masks available and utilized by the public

### Not a must have but would speed up "return to normal"

6.  **Effective treatment of active infection**- None yet, except supportive care. No proven medication.
7.  **Antibody Testing**- Could be used to determine individuals with prior infection and immunity, and guide return to full activities
8.  **Vaccine** A vaccine is well over a year off
9.  **Herd Immunity**- Depending on natural herd immunity to develop with a new, unchecked, highly infectious virus like COVID 19 could suddenly overwhelm the medical system and result in many unnecessary deaths. Delaying infections "flattens the curve" and buys time for the development of effective treatments and a vaccine. Adequate herd immunity to prevent community spread could require a total population infection rate of 75%-95%.

# Attachment B

## Moffat County Business Social Distancing Protocol

*Must be completed for each facility or work site*

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. gross square footage of space open to the public: \_\_\_\_\_

**Businesses must implement all applicable measures listed below, and be prepared to explain why any measure that is not implemented is inapplicable to the business.**

### Signage

- Signs have been placed at each public entrance of the facility or work site to inform all employees and customers that they should: avoid entering the facility or location if they have a cough or fever; maintain a minimum six-foot distance from one another; sneeze and cough into a cloth or tissue or, if not available, into one's elbow; and not shake hands or engage in any unnecessary physical contact.  
*[sign template [here](#), also attached]*
- A copy of this Social Distancing Protocol has been placed at each public entrance to the work site.

### Measures To Protect Employee Health *(check all that apply to the facility or work site)*

- Everyone who can carry out their work duties from home has been directed to do so.
- Individual discussions have taken place with employees about the fact that older adults and those with chronic medical conditions may be at higher risk for serious illness. Options have been explained to high risk employees, including ways to minimize face-to-face interactions, maintaining six feet of distance from other people, remote work if possible, and leave policies for employees who choose not to come to work.
- All employees have been told not to come to work if sick (including any of the following: headache, sore throat, fever, dry cough, recent inability to taste and smell, shortness of breath, ear aches, body aches, diarrhea, fatigue, vomiting, and abdominal pain).
- Symptom checks are being conducted before employees may enter the work site. *[template attached]*
- Copies of this Protocol have been distributed to all employees.
- Optional — Describe other measures:  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Measures To Keep People At Least Six Feet Apart** (check all that apply to the facility or work site)

- All employees have been instructed to maintain at least six feet of distance from customers and each other (employees may momentarily come closer when needed to accept payment, deliver goods or services, or when otherwise unavoidable).
- All desks, individual work stations, or work areas are separated by at least six feet.
- Tape or other markings have been placed at least six feet apart in customer line areas inside the store and on sidewalks to public entrances with signs directing customers to use the markings to maintain distance.
- Order areas are separated from delivery areas to prevent customers from gathering.
- Optional — Describe other measures:  

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**Measures To Prevent Crowds From Gathering:** (check all that apply to the facility or work site)

- The number of customers in the store at any one time is limited to \_\_\_\_\_, which allows for customers and employees to easily maintain at least six-foot distance from one another at all practicable times.
- An employee is monitoring the door to ensure that the maximum number of customers in the facility set forth above is not exceeded.
- Optional—Describe other measures:  

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**Measures To Increase Sanitization** (check all that apply to the facility or work site)

- Hand sanitizer, soap and water, or effective disinfectant is available to the public and employees at or near the entrance of the facility or work site, at checkout counters, workstations, and anywhere else where people have direct interactions. Location(s) include:  

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- Disinfecting wipes or spray that is effective against COVID-19 are available near workstations and all high-contact surfaces (including payment portals, carts, baskets, pens, shared tools, heavy equipment, etc.). Location(s) include:  

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- Employee(s) have been assigned to disinfect all high-contact surfaces frequently.
- Break rooms, bathrooms, and other common areas are being disinfected on the following schedule:
  - Break Rooms 

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  - Bathrooms 

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  - Other 

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- Optional — Describe other measures:  

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**Measures To Prevent Unnecessary Contact** (check all that apply to the facility or work site)

- Contactless payment systems have been provided or, if not feasible, payment systems are sanitized regularly. Describe:

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- Curb-side drop-off/pick-up of products is available.
- People are prevented from self-serving any items that are food-related (including bulk food, plates, cups, lids, etc.).
- Optional—Describe other measures (e.g. providing senior-only hours):

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**Measures To Reduce Exposures in Employee Transportation** (check all that apply to the facility or work site)

- Hand sanitizer is used by each passenger when entering the vehicle.
- The number of passengers has been reduced by 50% of the vehicle's occupancy, and passengers sit in locations to maximize the distance between one another.
- Passengers will wear a non-medical, cloth face-covering when in a vehicle containing more than 1 person.
- Windows will remain open and ventilation is increased.
- All high-contact surfaces of the vehicle are disinfected at the end of each day.

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*Any additional measures not included here should be listed on separate pages, which the business may attach to this document.*

**You may contact the following person with any questions or comments**

**about this protocol: Name:**

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**Phone number:**

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### Daily Symptom Check-In

\*\*\*If symptoms are reported, please stay home, isolate yourself from other family members, and call your medical provider\*\*\*

Employer Name:

Date:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Do you have any of the following symptoms today (y/n)?</b> COVID-19 symptoms include -- Headache, sore throat, fever, dry cough, recent inability to taste or smell, shortness of breath, body aches, fatigue, diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain.

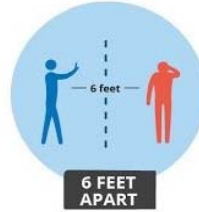


# This business is complying with Colorado and Moffat County Public Health Orders

Please observe the following rules:



Avoid this area if you have a cough or fever or are otherwise experiencing symptoms of the virus



Maintain a minimum six-foot distance between you and others



Sneeze or cough into a tissue, or into your elbow; place used tissue in the trash



Do not shake hands or engage in unnecessary physical contact with others

Thank you for respecting these rules to protect everyone's health.

## Este negocio cumple con las ordenes de Salud Pública de Colorado y del condado de Moffat.

Por favor observe las siguientes reglas:



Evite esta área si tiene tos o fiebre o si experimenta síntomas del virus.



Mantenga una distancia mínima de seis pies entre usted y otras personas.



Estornude o tosa. en un pañuelo de papel o en el codo; coloque los pañuelos usados en la basura



No dé la mano a otros ni participe en contacto físico innecesario con otras personas

Gracias por respetar estas reglas para proteger la salud de todos.

# Colorado Roadmap - The New Normal

## Indicators that must be met to move into the Stabilization Phase



### 1. A sustained decrease in cases for at least 14 days

- Measured by new cases per day, self-reports (where applicable), and positivity rates
- Proxy measurement - new cases among healthcare workers
- Proxy measurement - outbreaks and/or new cases within skilled nursing facilities
- Proxy measurement - hospital admission for COVID-19



### 2. Hospitals are safely able to treat patients without resorting to crisis standards of care

- Hospital census - regional census may be helpful
- Access to regional alternative care center or regional plans are in place
- Hospitalizations are stable or decreasing



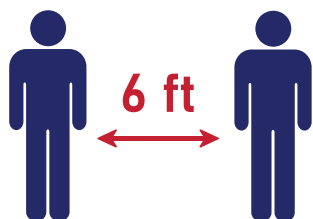
### 3. Testing can be performed for all people with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection

- Working towards testing capacity that is routinely accessible to every person who is symptomatic within 24 hours and results can be returned within 12-24 hours of specimen collection.



### 4. Active monitoring can be accomplished for all COVID-19 cases and their contacts

- Isolation orders can be delivered within 6 hours of case report
- Active monitoring and isolation must be in place
- Capacity improved and maintained at state and local level with roles delineated
- Enforcement capacity and process is clear in every jurisdiction



### 5. Clear protocol in place that requires social distancing and assists with case identification

- Older adults (age 60 and older) and individuals with underlying medical conditions that are at increased risk of serious COVID-19 are encouraged not to attend (including employees) or to tele-work where possible.
- Employees must be screened for COVID-19 symptoms each day. Anyone symptomatic will be excluded from work for at least 7 days, will be tested within 48 hours, and will have face coverings provided for all household members.
- Social distancing measures must be employed to ensure that employees and the public can easily maintain a minimum of 6 foot distance.
- Social distancing protocol is provided to all employees and available to any customer
- Enforcement capacity and process is clear in every jurisdiction

**Getting to the Recovery Phase will require that vaccine is widely available**