



**April 22, 2020**

**Dear Business owner,**

The Wheat Ridge City Manager has issued a new order requiring face coverings for anyone entering a Wheat Ridge business. This new order is intended to help keep your employees, customers and our residents safe from contracting COVID-19. The Order goes into effect as of April 27, 2020, and expires at midnight on May 30, 2020.

The order applies to “critical business,” as defined by the Fourth Updated Health Order 20-24 of the Colorado Department of Health and Environment, to:

- Wear medical or non-medical cloth face coverings, such as to cover their nose and mouth, when entering any such business and in conducting any interactions within such business.

We realize this is more restrictive than any state-issued stay at home order or other public health order; however, the intent is to continue to control the spread of COVID-19 as we begin to reopen businesses by putting measures in place that will help to protect our community.

Persons violating the terms of this Order are subject to enforcement as a misdemeanor offense as provided in Section 6 of Resolution No. 16, Series of 2020.

Here is what you can expect under the new Safer at Home order issued by the Governor and effective April 27, 2020. A brief summary of the new order is listed below but please refer to the order for specific details and timeframes when available on <https://covid19.colorado.gov/>:

- Retail: Able to open for curbside delivery
- Restaurants and bars: Curbside and delivery service remains available but remain closed to in-person dining
- Child Care facilities: Can reopen but with strict precautions
- Personal services: Hair and nail salons, tattoo parlors, dog grooming, personal training, etc. can reopen but with strict precautions
- Real Estate: In-person home showings but open houses will still be prohibited.
- Schools: Remain closed with online learning
- Pools and gyms: Remain closed
- Non-critical offices: Reopen at 50% capacity with strict social distancing precautions (more shifts, etc.)
- Large workplaces: Advised to have systems to check symptoms and temperature
- Telecommuting: Maximize this for employees when possible
- Elective Surgeries: Available with strict precautions, adequate PPE and to meet critical care needs

We are all still encouraged to stay home as much as possible to avoid a spike in cases. Governor Polis continues to strongly advise everyone to wear face coverings in public and to socially distance. His ban of gatherings of more than 10 people is still in place and he asks everyone to avoid unnecessary travel. Perhaps most importantly, he reminds older Coloradans and vulnerable populations to stay at home if possible.

We know this has been and will continue to be a difficult time for all of us. Please continue to visit <https://bit.ly/WRBizContinuity> for business resources and updates. For questions about this order, contact Steve Art at 303-235-2806. Thank you for your resiliency as we work through this crisis together.

Please stay well,

Patrick Goff, City Manager

Steve Art, Economic Development Manager