

From: [Mayor](#)
To: [Mayor](#)
Subject: COVID-19 Update: City reopening plans
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 7:41:29 AM



A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Nadine Woodward".

The City of Spokane

COVID-19 News Update for May 8

Information about Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19) is evolving rapidly. We want to make sure our City employees have up-to-date information. We will provide this update, as needed, to communicate what you need to know, while we work to reduce the spread of this disease in our community and continue to provide critical public services.

Operation Homecoming – City Reopening Plans!

We all have been reading through the state's four-phase Safe Start Plan for reopening the Washington economy. Mayor Nadine Woodward and other regional leaders are continuing to reach out the Governor's office about the possibility of reopening at a somewhat different pace than the rest of the state. Regardless, reopening will proceed over the coming weeks, and at the City, we are working on our own reopening plan.

As the City transitions back to more normal day-to-day operations, we will need to take steps to help maintain the gains we have achieved against COVID-19, including:

- Limiting illness in the City organization and ensuring that sick employees stay home or go home if they are ill.
- Accommodating appropriate social distancing between employees and between employee and citizens/customers.
- Providing for appropriate hygiene practices, including hand washing and hand sanitizing as well as use of protective equipment such as masks and gloves.
- Providing for appropriate cleaning practices, especially in common areas.
- Asking employees to be accountable for following health guidance and restrictions.

A draft reopening plan is in the works for the City organization overall. And, the Mayor and the City Administrator have asked department directors to work on their own individualized reopening plans. They'll be looking at everything from social distancing to managing public counters to cleaning plans—to help keep everyone safe while we continue our critical work on behalf of the citizens.

Have You Participated in Census 2020?

According to latest counts, there are still approximately 35 percent of Spokane County citizens who have not responded. **Census 2020 will determine how billions of Federal funds are distributed, the number of seats Spokane County has in Congress, where critical infrastructure is provided and much more.**

Representation in government and funding for programs like schools, fire stations and roads all depend on a complete Census count. Spokane County will lose over \$30,000 per person missed. Funding that could be

used for after school programs, rural healthcare and more. [Find out more.](#)

Treat Mom & Help Local Businesses

Mothers' Day is Sunday. Treat mom to a great takeout or delivery option and help one of our local restaurants.

#OrderUpSpokane with 10-minute parking zones near restaurants in the City core allows citizens and delivery drivers to efficiently pick up to-go orders. Check out these lists of restaurants for an idea for Mom.

- [Spokesman Review](#)
- [The Inlander](#)
- [Operation Grub n' Growlers](#)
- [Downtown Spokane Partnership](#)

More Information to Assist Our Employees

Here are some more resources from our Employee Assistance Program:

- [Pregnancy and COVID-19: What are the risk?](#)
It is not clear if pregnant women have a higher chance of getting sick from COVID-19, or if they are likely to experience severe illness. Pregnant women are at higher risk of severe illness from other respiratory infections.
- [COVID-19: Who's at higher risk?](#)
The risk of developing symptoms of COVID-19 can increase in people who are older and people of any age who have a severe illness. Example: Heart or lung conditions, weakened immune systems, severe obesity, or diabetes.

To access more topics related to COVID-19 visit: [EAPHelpLink.com](https://www.eaphelp.com), using company code: **CITSPO**

Employee Information Portal (covid19.spokanecity.org/)

Remember, this Employee Information Portal is a great resource for employees to stay current on what's happening with the COVID-19 response. The [Employee Information Portal](#) can be accessed from work or home, using a computer or mobile device. All of the emailed information we have sent to employees is archived here.