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April 5, 2020

Dear Community,

We face challenging days which calls on all of us to moderate our daily behaviors in the interest of defeating the highly contagious COVID-19 virus. We are thankful to all of you whom have adjusted your schedules, social interactions and been extra thorough in your personal hygiene to help stop its spread. We should all be thankful to our healthcare workers, first responders and citizens who support essential industries. We need to adhere to federal, state and local guidelines to overcome this virus in order to resume our lives and support our economy.

To that end, building on Missouri's efforts to control, contain, and combat COVID-19, Governor Mike Parson issued a statewide ["Stay Home Missouri"](#) Order effective beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, April 6, 2020, until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, April 24, 2020. We understand this order from the Governor may have caused confusion or concern here in the Sedalia. It's important to understand that Sedalia has been following the principles outlined in Gov. Parson's order for the past three weeks based upon the Pettis County Emergency Proclamation issued on March 17<sup>th</sup>, Public Health Order issued March 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the City of Sedalia Civil Emergency Declaration issued March 30<sup>th</sup>. The primary change from this latest Governor's order focuses on further safety measures for essential retail establishments.

An essential step for us to successfully battle COVID-19 is to remain resolved to careful, healthy behaviors but also remaining patient.

- We're asking that everyone be supportive of the requirements for grocers and other essential supply stores to limit their occupancy to 25 percent or 10 percent of their normal capacity.
- We are staying in close communication with Sedalia's essential retailers to monitor store supply levels and ensure they have or are developing sound plans to comply with the requirements. They are maintaining good store supplies so let's all be patient with our retailers as they support our needs.

We remind you that at this time, residents are still permitted to shop at grocers, gas stations, convenience stores & pharmacies, purchase take-out food from restaurants, visit physicians and health services, deliver food and supplies to family members who need it, and go to work as directed by your employer.

It is essential to support the social distance guidelines in place to help limit spread of the virus.

- While in public – stay six feet apart and wash your hands frequently before, during and after being in public. Consider wearing a mask or similar face covering.
- While at home, we can spend time outside, be out in our yards or common areas, being mindful of the same guidelines. I encourage you to work in your yards and gardens and get fresh air. Take your dog for a walk, again maintaining six feet distances. Smile and wave to your neighbors.
- Please follow the [presidential guidelines](#) to slow the spread. If you or your children feel sick, stay home. Do not go to work and contact medical provider. Follow their instructions in support of your family, friends and fellow citizens. Avoid social gatherings in groups of 10 or more. Avoid discretionary travel. Practice good hygiene by washing your hands, avoid touching your face, sneeze or cough in a tissue or inside of your elbow and disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible.

We believe that these additional requirements will help slow the spread of this disease. However, it still takes everyone taking personal responsibility in doing their part to help our community avoid becoming a hot spot for the spread of this virus.

Uncertainty can be challenging. There are regular developments and we pledge to keep you updated and to work to fulfill the measures to keep you safest. This pandemic will pass. We will once again be able to resume our routines, perhaps appreciating our lives a bit more. Until that time, we must all do the one thing that will best keep us safe – stay home if it is not absolutely necessary for you to be in public. Please know there are many people working hard to keep you safe. Remember – YOU ARE SAFER AT HOME! In conclusion, our goal is to minimize the risks, stay healthy and get back to normal as soon as we can. Please do your part and make it the Best Day Ever.