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2525 Estero Blvd., Fort Myers Beach, Fla. 33931

Council votes unanimously to fully re-open beaches and parking

Parks and cultural facilities to partially re-open

Fort Myers Beach, Fla. – Following guidelines set by Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and in coordination with neighboring communities, the Town Council of Fort Myers Beach voted today in a special meeting to fully re-open beaches and parking effective 6 a.m. on Saturday, May 2, 2020. Parking will be enforced from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

As set forth by the Governor, restaurants and retail establishments can re-open with the following limitations:

- Restaurants may offer outdoor seating with six foot space between tables and indoor seating capacity at 25 percent
- Retail can operate at 25 percent of indoor capacity

Council members also kept in place their decision, made at the special meeting last Monday, to allow hotels to start accepting reservations on May 15, 2020, effective for occupancy dates as soon as May 15. The prohibition on short-term rentals remains in effect per the Governor's Executive Order 20-112.

Bay Oaks Recreational Center grounds will be open, including tennis courts and pickle ball courts, but the ball fields, basketball courts, gym, restrooms and community pool (under repair) remain closed. Mound House grounds will be open starting tomorrow from sunrise to sunset; however, the Mound House public restrooms and museum remain closed. Newton Park grounds, parking and restrooms will be open sunrise to sunset.

With all of these actions, the Council urged strict social distancing and personal sanitizing measures. The public is also strongly encouraged to follow all CDC guidelines. Face coverings are recommended when social distancing standards cannot otherwise be met.

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The Town of Fort Myers Beach is on Estero Island off the southwest Florida coast of the Gulf of Mexico. The beach stretches for seven miles and the Town has a variety of unique parks, recreation, and cultural facilities, shops, and restaurants. The Town has been incorporated since 1995.