



**CITY OF CORAL GABLES  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
PROCEDURES FOR REOPENING LOCAL ECONOMY**

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**City Staff**

**Assistant City Manager, Ed Santamaria, PE**

**Economic Development Director Julian H. Perez, AICP, CFM**

**Economic Development Assistant Director, Belkys Perez**

**Assistant City Attorney, Naomi Levi Garcia**

**Fire Chief, Marcos de la Rosa**

**Task Force Members**

**Susana Alvarez Diaz, MBA, University of Miami**

**Dr. Bhavarth Shukla, MD, MPH, University of Miami Medical School**

**Thad W. Adams, The Allen Morris Company**

**Ana R. Chaoui, Grove Bank & Trust**

**Nick Sharp, Owner, Threefold Café**

**Mary Snow, Executive Director, Coral Gables Community Foundation**

**Mitchell Kaplan, Owner, Books and Books**

**Cristina Mendoza, General Counsel, Benihana**

**Mark Trowbridge, President, Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce**

**Aura Reinhardt, Executive Director of the B.I.D.**

**Taciana Amador, B.I.D.**

Economic Development Director Perez: Today's meeting is our fourth meeting of the task force, and we're going to have a very quick meeting. There are a number of items that we want to talk about, including what the city is now doing with the open-air dining and the approval of those permits, as well as other activities that have transpired since we last met. There's one correction to the agenda, the meeting minutes section should be changes from April 14<sup>th</sup> to May 21<sup>st</sup> and June 3<sup>rd</sup> of 2020, respectively. That concludes my opening remarks. Assistant City Manager has a word or two that he wants to express to the task force.

Assistant City Manager Santamaria: Good morning all. Again, thanks for participating. I just want to say that I'm very pleased with the work that's been done here. I think there have been valued contributions that have been made into the reopening and I know that the reopening now has kind of evolved. There's some uncertainty in the process now, due to the spike in positive cases, but I think it's still going to continue to evolve. We're not really in Phase 2 yet according to the county plan. But we are at what I call Phase 1B, because the county has issued amendments to their reopening plan and integrated these amendments into Phase 1. So, with that, I turn it over to Julian, so he can continue the meeting. Thanks, Julian.

Economic Development Director Perez: Thank you so much Ed. And with that we can go to Technical Memorandum Number 5. Again, I want to remind the members of the task force that if you have an event that you would like for us to consider to please send it to us. We are planning to have a meeting with a working group early next week, to begin to identify those events. It will be greatly appreciated if you can send your ideas, so that it can be incorporated as part of the discussion.

Item Number 4 – Phase 1 of the reopening update timeline. There's an attachment to the agenda that gives you the latest on the timeline. Only one major activity since we last met and that was Amendment Number 3 to the Executive Order 21-20 from Miami Dade County. There is a brief summary of that Amendment. So, if you have any questions, feel free to call us and we'll be more than happy to walk you through it.

Item Number 5 is the City of Coral Gables regulatory relief update (Temporary Open-Air Dining Program). We have received a number of permit applications for open air dining that are going through the review process right now and they're getting approved. Hopefully most of them will be approved by the end of the week. There's one that is already been approved and that's Liberty Cafe. We're working very diligently to get those applications through the process, as quickly as we can, and get them out to the individual business owners. The Liberty Cafe is located at 997 North Greenway. They're going to be allowed to have 20 seats and five tables. So again, if you have any questions regarding the open-air dining permit, please give us a call. Attached to the agenda, we included a copy of the business report that I'm going to talk about in a few minutes. In the business report, we included a table that provides a step-by-step description for completing a temporary open-air dining permit. Please share this information with your colleagues and your business partners, especially the restaurants. If we don't have any questions on the regulatory relief update, then let me go into Item Number 6.

In Item Number 6, we have good news for you. As of June 15<sup>th</sup>, the Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program is open to small businesses. They can now participate in the program, as well as

the territories of the US. So, we're very happy to learn that small businesses can also be part of this program, and especially when it comes to the \$10,000 advance that they give you for applying. If there's any questions again, from the task force members, or any of your colleagues, please feel free to call us. We'll be more than happy to provide you with the information that we have and walk you through the requirements. The other thing that I wanted to point out too, and you you'll find a summary of the programs in the business report that was put out on Friday, is the reinvestment in our small business economy. That's the RISE Revolving Loan Fund that was started by the county. As of a day or two ago that I look into their website, this program was not yet up and running. So, if anybody has more recent update, please let us know. The Business Report includes an overview of the RISE Loan and Paycheck Protection Program Feasibility Act (PPPFAC). The PPPFAC adopted several provisions that improves the PPP Loan Program. Again, if anybody has any questions, I'll be more than happy to go over those amendments. I think that in the future the Chamber is going to have a webinar on this program, and especially the Forgiveness Application, and so forth. Is that a fair statement Mark?

Mr. Mark Trowbridge: That is a fair statement and it is on June the 25<sup>th</sup>, so it's a week from today. It will be primarily focused on PPP loan forgiveness. They have since, the original paperwork was distributed. They have since come back in amended that to make it a bit more user friendly, but will be doing a full seminar that morning at 10 a.m. And we'll be sure to send the invitation out to the entire task force. But just so you know, it's a week from today, Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>.

Economic Development Director Perez: Mark, thank you so much for hosting the seminar. It's extremely important, and highly recommended, if you have a PPP loan you should attend the Chamber's webinar. Mark. Yes, there's a short version of the application that came out not too long ago and it's very important that we are very familiar with it so that we can take advantage of the program. There are two other initiatives we covered in the business report: (1) Retail Webinar; (2) Technology Webinar. We are sponsoring these programs in conjunction with our business partners (B.I.D. and Chamber). If you haven't listened to it, I highly recommend it. Real good information and presentations. We had over hundred people that participated in the Retail Webinar. The City is working with the University of Miami to support the information technology internship program, where students are match with local businesses to assist them with their information technology needs. Improving our businesses technological capabilities and making sure that resources are available to them will make businesses more resilient. If there are no questions on the business report review. Let's move forward and ask the Chamber to please provide us with an update of their upcoming programs, Mark.

Mr. Mark Trowbridge: Thank you Julian. Appreciate the invitation and an honor to be with all of you, of course, Just a couple of things and I'll reiterate some of the things that Julian mention. The EIDL program has reopened up as of Monday. There was a lot of demand for folks who were not able to make application in the first round, much of that due to just uncertainty related to their business and business opening. So very happy that that is opened up again. I think most of you That is a program through the SBA and for nonprofits that allows you to take a loan up to 30 years at a 2.75 percent interest rate, and for-profit companies, same terms, little higher interest rate at 3.75. So, I would encourage anyone who is on this call looking at it for your own

companies, but also sharing the news that that is open and available for application. And as Julian also mentioned, the PPP program has been alive and well since April the 3<sup>rd</sup>. There is still money left in the second tranche of that in the Cares Act, and I would encourage you, if you've already applied for that, received it, and they're beginning to look at forgiveness that you join us at 10 a.m. on June 25<sup>th</sup>, and I'll send everybody that invite and we can circulate it through the Chair. I know Julian mentioned the County's RISE program, that's going to go very quickly. It's 25 million dollars that is available now and that was done by a number of our County Commissioners. Some very specific requirements. So please read through that and I think Julian, we're still waiting on some information from the Feds regarding the Main Street Lending and Recovery Program. There's over 400 billion dollars and that funds through the Federal Reserve. There's just been a little bit of time to figure out how to deploy that, but that could be another resource much like the EIDL coming back online. We are going to be doing a program on July 8<sup>th</sup> with a local business called Jim Tara, on how to help your companies if they wish to do testing as you begin to phase in and bring back clients, bring back employees, bring back customers, into your space. And so that's going to be on July 8<sup>th</sup>. I don't have the time confirmed as of yet, but we're working with Brian Claw and his team. They've done some work already with a few of our members, including Stearns Weaver Miller, and I think Thad Adams is on here and he worked, Jim Tara worked with that and Amco as well, and so we're going to be doing something. Just so you know, what resources are out there, the efficacy of some of the testing that's out there and how to do that in a way that is, you know, not overly intimidating to your team and why you should do it, why they are encouraging companies as you have a return to the workplace to look at testing. I know that Julian talked a little bit about the outdoor dining permits. I was wondering if there's a way to get an update on how many folks have taken advantage of that. I know you talked a little bit about the folks at Liberty Cafe. But any others are things that are in process. I know there was a commitment to move those through very quickly. So, thank you as well as providing barricades. If you have to move out into the right-of-way or into parking, so Julian or team.

Economic Development Director Perez: Mark an answer to your question. Yes, we're going to provide you with a matrix with all of the restaurants that have submitted and so give us a few days and we'll get that out to everyone. Okay.

Mr. Mark Trowbridge: So, I appreciate that. And then I'll just ask a more general question. Any discussion on what is going to be happening for July 4<sup>th</sup>? I mean that's going to be here in just about two and a half weeks. And so, I know we're not doing the traditional fireworks program that our community is so well known for and it's so loved, but any thoughts on what we might do in the interim, I mean, obviously it's on a weekend. It's a Saturday with taking into account, you know, our requirements in terms of outdoor seating and number of people at a table and gatherings and seeing this, you know, spike over the last week and positive cases. I just didn't know if there was any more thought on what might be done as an alternative to July the fourth, versus sitting at home and staring at one another for another day.

Economic Development Director Perez: Mark, the answer to your question is, we have not really defined if we're going to have some other activities besides the fireworks at this time.

Mr. Mark Trowbridge: Okay. Then may I just offer a suggestion that maybe, you know, as many of us are working offline and our partner groups obviously with the city, the B.I.D., you know, our Chamber and others that maybe we just have a conversation, even if it's just an opportunity for that weekend to do some type of social media reminder of, you know, restaurants being open, retailers being open, and supporting them through a holiday weekend. They really didn't get much out of Memorial Day weekend. I'm sorry to say. We had some weather issues, we had some protest issues here in the community and beyond Coral Gables. And so, just any way we can help them and remind folks that, you know, businesses are open, they're taking every precaution, but try to give them some lift. July 4<sup>th</sup> is always a great time, a lot of people travel, especially when it's a long weekend. I don't see that happening. I think most people will be closer to home or taking staycations.

Economic Development Director Perez: Very good point and we're going to get together on that. Okay.

Mr. Mark Trowbridge: Okay.

Economic Development Director Perez: Alright.

Mr. Mark Trowbridge: Thanks very much. That's it for me on our end and I want to thank Thad and Ana, again for their great contributions, really appreciate their support and leading our Chamber.

Economic Development Director Perez: And I just want to add one more thing on the Economic Injury Disaster Loans is that, there's a \$10,000 advance that would not have to be repaid. Okay. It will be deducted against your total approved loan that you're eligible for. That's very important. And with that let me move on to the B.I.D. Is Taci or a representative from the B.I.D.?

Solanch Lopez: Taci is there, she is just muted.

Economic Development Director Perez: Okay. While we wait for Taci...

Ms. Taciana Amador: Good morning.

Economic Development Director Perez: Oh, good morning, Taci. How are you?

Ms. Taciana Amador: Good morning. Yes, actually, if you don't mind, I know that Aura is on and she may be able to give you an update. I just wanted to be on to support her. Aura, if you're on please, if you can give a B.I.D. update.

Solanch Lopez: Aura, we are not getting any audio from you, sorry. Now we can hear you.

Aura: Sorry about that. Anyway, I just wanted to get say this is my opportunity to say hello to everyone. This is my third day at the B.I.D., so if you don't mind I am not going to run through some specifics with you, but it's an absolute pleasure to be part of the city, to be part of the community as a whole, and I look forward to learning from you and thank you for Taci, actually, for being on the line right now, but more importantly for all of the transitional work that we're doing together, so that I can be brought up to date with all the programming that's going forward.

As far as I can see and for where I've been focusing on in some meetings is what we're doing with the restaurants right now, and the opportunity to go out and find out exactly how many restaurants have filled out that application form. So, I'm delighted that that Julian will be submitting them giving us a matrix, so we know who we can approach and who we should encourage to participate. So, at the moment, thank you all very much for welcoming me, not just today, but as I walk the streets and I look forward to working with everyone. So, thank you.

Economic Development Director Perez: Thank you so much and it's a pleasure meeting you and I look forward to working with you and we'll get that information to you as quickly as we have the matrix updated. Any questions you have, more than welcome to give us a call. And if you need an overview of what the task force has done, and so forth, again, we're here.

Aura: Thank you very much.

Economic Development Director Perez: Give us a call. Thanks. Just wanted to bring up two quick items. Number one, we are now working and looking at the at the matrix that we put together for Phase 1, and we're looking at Phase 2, and what would be some recommended guidelines for Phase 2. Hopefully, I would have that together for our next meeting in about two weeks as well as some information on projects that the team is evaluating to activate our downtown area and help our business community. So hopefully, we'll have some real good news for you on those two programs that we're looking at in the very near future. Probably even before we have our next meeting. With that, are there any questions from any of the members?

Ms. Mary Snow: I don't have a question. It's Mary. Hi. I don't have a question, but I just wanted to mention my family and I dined last night at Salumeria 104. They were slammed. I was so happy to see it. They were packed. They were taking every precaution. Bill Talbert happened to be at the table next to us. So, I thought that was that was really nice. But I just as Aura mentioned and as we all feel and in Mark touched on for the Fourth of July weekend, I think it's so important that we encourage our constituents all to dine and shop at our retailers and eat at our restaurants. There's nothing to be afraid of, we need to be careful, but they're open for business and they need us. We don't want to see anymore empty storefronts. But yeah, it was just it's everything that our restaurants are doing, they're doing a good job for sure and we need to support them.

Economic Development Director Perez: Absolutely and that's excellent news. I've heard the same thing from folks that have visited our restaurants and other retail stores. Despite the fact that we're having some challenges (spike in the number of cases). I think we've seen the people respond to helping the business community and taking all the precautions that they are supposed to. I'm really, really pleased, and I think that we're going to get over this. Are there any other comments, questions to either the department or the working group? If not, we're going to schedule our next meeting for, not next Thursday, but the following Thursday.

Assistant Economic Development Director Belkys Perez: Julian if I may?

Economic Development Director Perez: Yes.

Assistant Economic Development Director Belkys Perez: I'm sorry. I'm getting some feedback here. Chief de la Rosa is on the call and he has some information on how to clean COVID businesses. So basically, if you have a business that has had a positive case, there are some guidelines for that. And so, if he can -- I'm going to put it in the chat, the link to that, you could just tell us a little bit about it.

Economic Development Director Perez: Okay, great. Excellent. Chief.

Chief de la Rosa: Good morning everyone. Just a couple things that I want to remind everybody is, when we have our weekly meetings with the other cities and as well as the county, the numbers you have seen an increase in positive cases. It's an incremental increase. I'm not going to say that we've had a surge in increases, but that number in comparison to the hospital capacity of the number of people that you're seeing having to either visit a hospital or be hospitalized as a result of COVID. One number is going up which is the number of positive cases, but the number of people having to be hospitalized or having to go into the hospital remains flat. So therefore, which is the part that's most concerning, we're not seeing a run on our capacity of the hospital. So that is a bit of a silver lining if you're seeing the number go up. But with the number going up that is something that we need to address. So, I'm asking, and you heard the press conference from the Mayor yesterday that as business owners that you be vigilant on the wearing of the masks, whether it's your customers or to your employees. But as time goes by, its kind of wears down on us and we're maybe less vigilant about. Additional to that is employee screening. Make sure you're staying on top of your workforce, inquiring about flu-like symptoms. If they're sick, they should be staying home. That keeps your workforce safe and your customers safe and it avoids you having to now take measures to decontaminate your facility or close your business down as a result of that. So, your constant reminder to your employees is critical to your ultimate success of staying open and moving your plans up along. And lastly, to what Belkys was referring to, she forwarded a question to me from one of our business partners regarding what she can do if their facility, if they had an employee that came down with COVID and what steps they need to take with regards to decontaminating or protecting their place of business. I just want to let everybody know. I forwarded the website link to her. But if you go on the CDC website, and I'm going to, I'll be the first to tell you. It's not the easiest website to navigate.

Assistant Economic Development Director Belkys Perez: We just linked it. It's on the chat. If you guys go to the chat, you can click on that link that I just provided you.

Chief de la Rosa: Beautiful. Thank you. If you go to the CDC.gov backslash coronavirus, if you navigate to like, scroll down to like the middle of the page, you're going to see something that says covid-19 2019 or 2020 response, you click on that banner, and if you go to the bottom of that page, there's going to be an area that says, businesses and employees and that is chock full of good information. Every time I find one that I can narrow down and send a link to Belkys, I do that, the one that I sent you that is now on the chat, basically is a guide, if you do have either a customer or an employee that visits your place of business and now comes down with COVID, it gives you a guide on what measures you need to take to decontaminate or make your place of business safe after that person has come down with COVID. So, I forwarded that to Belkys. I thought that that would be a good link for all of you to have, and if you're looking for further guidance outside of the county or our plan, that is a good website to visit under the business, is

just I will be the first to tell you it's a little wordy and it's not easy to navigate, but you know, you have to get through that. That's all I have. Thank you very much.

Economic Development Director Perez: Chief, thank you for the information and thank you for reviewing the Gables Cinema reopening plan. I forgot to mention that they now have a reopening plan approved by the county, as well as the City of Coral Gables.

Chief de la Rosa: You're welcome.

Economic Development Director Perez: Any questions for the Chief? Comments? Concerns? If not, let's go ahead and adjourn the meeting. And again, feel free to call us, if you have any questions.

Assistant City Manager Santamaria: Julian, before you close. I want to just correct something. So, we did look at the Cinemas plan, but we didn't, it's not our job to approve whether the plan is acceptable or not. It's really a county function to do that. So, we did review it in terms of life safety considerations, ingress and egress and we did find that there were no issues, but we didn't approve the plan. Just want to make that clear. Nor do they require our approval, only the county's.

Economic Development Director Perez: Thanks for the correction. Alright. Any other comments? If not, we'll see you in about two weeks. Thank you for your participation. And don't forget your input please, on the business events. Thanks. Bye.