Monitoring and Enforcement of Current City Emergency Regulations and Executive and County Orders

Ad Hoc Committee COVID-19 Human and Social Recovery and Assistance



April 30, 2020

Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager Christopher J. Caso, City Attorney

Overview

- Complaint Process and Coordination
- COVID-19 Code Enforcement Data
- Governor's Plan to Open Texas Phase One
- Involuntary Compliance
- Other Monitoring and Enforcement Priorities
- Reopening of Certain Park Amenities



Complaint Process and Coordination

- All COVID-19 related complaints are processed through 311.
- Any complaints coming to 911 are dispatched to C-19 officers for response.
 - DPD has responded to 37 calls for service regarding large gatherings since 4/20/20 on last update.
 - There have been no citations issued by DPD to date.
 - Fire Marshal has written 10 citations to date.
- The Park Ranger is utilizing a hotline to address general rule violation questions, general park questions, or concerns that are non-emergency from 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM daily.
- DPD continues to coordinate with the Dallas County Sheriff's Office on complaints brought to the City by Dallas County.



COVID-19 Code Enforcement Data

Date	Total Initial Inspections	Total Reinspection's	Total No Violation Found	Total Complied w/ Notice of Violation without Citation	311 Reactive	Proactive
March	2,975	272	1,900	1,261	693	2,196
April	14,414	320	10,684	3,685	1,918	12,450
Total to Date	17,389	592	12,584	4,946	2,611	14,646

Updated April 29, 2020.



COVID-19 Code Enforcement Data

- 14,646 of the cases regarding COVID-19 have been proactive.
- 2,611 cases were called in (311 reactive).
- The vast majority of all cases have been non-posting of the Amended Emergency Regulations (AER).
- 4,946 Notices of Violation (NOV) have been issued (mostly for the AER not being posted). Out of those 4,946 NOVs, only 14 locations required a citation to bring about compliance. 18 locations required providing Chapter 54 letters regarding AER violations to bring about compliance.

Governor's Plan to Open Texas – Phase One

Education and Awareness

- Develop public service announcements and public awareness campaigns
- Continue to ensure voluntary compliance is successful
- Focus on high impact businesses that are reopening for awareness of the minimum health standard protocols
- Make direct contact with high impact businesses as necessary

Continued Enforcement

- Compliance issues reported to 311
- Continued internal coordination on monitoring and enforcement response



Involuntary Compliance

Legal Strategies	Data
Referral of Violation to Community Prosecution	11

Cases are referred to the Community Prosecution Section of the City Attorney's Office following the issuance of a citation.

Involuntary Compliance

Legal Strategies	Data
CAO Violation Notice Letters	18

Once a case is referred to the CP, a notice letter is issued to the business owner, and potentially the property owner.

CP will also coordinate with County officials to ensure consistency and a coordinated collaboration. A cease and desist letter may also be issued by County Judge Clay Jenkins.

Involuntary Compliance

Legal Strategies	Data
District Court Lawsuits (coordination with the County)	1

If a business owner fails to comply with the emergency regulations following citation and notification from CP, a lawsuit may be filed.

On April 29, 2020, CP filed a lawsuit against Salon A La Mode to request a district court issue an order requiring the business to cease operations. A temporary restraining order was issued that afternoon.



Other Monitoring and Enforcement Priorities

- PKR's primary monitoring focus is closed amenities such as playgrounds, pavilions, basketball courts and athletic fields, along with social distancing compliance in open areas of parks, such as trails.
- White Rock Lake parking lot monitoring plan remains in effect.
- Parking enforcement continues to monitor parks, trails, and the surrounding neighborhood for parking compliance in collaboration with other enforcement agencies in the City.

Reopening of Certain Park Amenities

- On May 1st, Parks and Recreation is reopening some amenities
 - Golf courses, tennis centers, Elm Fork gun range and outdoor fee-based programs under social distancing controls. Tennis courts located in the parks will also be available for single play.
 - Gates at general park tennis courts will be chained in open position to minimize repeat surface touches and signage will be installed at all courts to communicate singles play (1 vs 1) only.
- On May 5th, the Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee will be briefed on these efforts. On May 7th, the Park Board will be briefed.



Discussion



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