



# Department of Public Health

## MAYOR

Dee Margo

## CITY OF EL PASO HEALTH AUTHORITY ORDERS FOR OUTDOOR MASS GATHERINGS IN EL PASO CITY-COUNTY

## CITY COUNCIL

### District 1

Peter Svarzbein

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Cassandra Hernandez

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Cissy Lizarraga

## CITY MANAGER

Tommy Gonzalez

JUNE 29, 2020

## EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

This Order supersedes the May 9, 2020 Health Authority Order for mass gatherings.

This Amended Order is effective immediately and shall be in effect until terminated or modified by a subsequent Order.

In light of the presence of COVID-19 in our community, the Department of Public Health is issuing the following Health Authority Orders for all Outdoor Mass Gatherings in El Paso County:

### Definitions & Permits

- All Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holders must limit the number of participants to no more than 100 participants, unless prior approval from the Mayor is obtained (or the County Judge in the case of a gathering in an unincorporated area).
- Outdoor Mass Gatherings include but are not limited to concerts, conferences, festivals, other outdoor celebrations, bazaars, block parties, street dances, sidewalk sales, show exhibitions, outdoor weddings and outdoor wedding receptions, birthday parties, outdoor burials, etc. For gatherings relating to parades or outdoor markets, please see the corresponding Local Health Authority Order for the same.
- Applicants for permits of “Special Events” as defined in El Paso City Code 13.38.020 must strive to submit an application at least 30 calendar days prior to the special event pursuant to El Paso City Code 13.38.040(A) as opposed to as prescribed by 13.38.040(B) in order to allow proper situation evaluation.
- Sporting events, indoor weddings, indoor receptions, and funerals shall comply with Governor Abbott’s respective constraints and minimum standard health protocols.

### Angela Mora – Interim Public Health Director

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DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES



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## Social Distancing and Other Public Health Interventions

The Outdoor Mass Gathering Permit holder is responsible for ensuring compliance with all of the requirements below:

- Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must include in their marketing printed material to the public that anyone who is ill or considered to be an at-risk individual must stay home.
- Outdoor sale stands with tables for exhibiting merchandise must be placed to allow at least 6-ft between tables, booths or spaces.
- Walkways must be wide enough to provide ample way for people to walk in an organized manner in a single direction.
- Clear signs and displays around the Outdoor Mass Gathering must be posted regarding the social distancing and face covering requirements.
- The Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must display posters or signs reminding individuals that per the Mayor's Local Emergency Directive and County Judge's Order, individuals shall not gather in groups larger than ten (10) (English and Spanish).
- The Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must display posters and signs to frequently remind guests to take steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19 (English and Spanish). These messages must include information about:
  - Staying home if you are sick or do not feel well, and what to do if you're sick or feel ill.
  - Reminders of facial hygiene and cleanliness, such as avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
  - Covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throwing the tissue in the trash.
  - Washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - If soap and water are not readily available, people can use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

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- Outdoor sale stand vendors must ensure appropriate social distancing of at least 6-ft between display tables/stands and clients.
- Outdoor sale stand vendors must limit the number of clients serviced at the same time, unless clients are 6-ft apart from each other.
- Vendors shall minimize manipulation of any goods or merchandise by the clients.
- The Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must encourage vendors to use touchless payments and digital ordering to further minimize touching of writing implements and high touch surfaces.
- The Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must ensure appropriate social distancing of at least 6-ft between participants.
- All Outdoor Mass Gathering participants, volunteers and staff must wear a form of face covering.
- Outdoor Mass Gathering participants, volunteers, workers and the public in general must not greet others with physical contact (e.g., handshakes). Include this reminder on signs about social distancing.
- Participants, volunteers, workers and the public in general must not share items (e.g., pens, bottles, etc.). Any items that are shared (e.g. microphones, cash box, etc.) must be cleaned, and the equipment upon discontinued use of the same must be disinfected.
- The Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must designate and staff an area separate from the general public and Outdoor Mass Gathering for people that are feeling sick. Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holders must be ready to provide face coverings to those who are ill and being cared for in the designated sick bay.
- Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must include in their marketing to the public that ill and at-risk individuals must stay at home.
- The Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must ensure that any employee, volunteer, participant and vendor be sent home if they present with new or worsening signs and symptoms compatible with COVID-19, or have tested positive, or are awaiting test results from COVID-19 as described in the grid under the "Staff" section.

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- Outdoor Mass Gathering vendors and participants shall only make single-serve food items and utensils available for consumption.

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**Staff**

- Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must adopt and implement a health screening policy for all staff and volunteers, and establish protocols for employee/volunteer exclusion if they develop any of the following symptoms:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Cough	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sore throat
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeated shaking with chills	<input type="checkbox"/>	New loss of taste or smell
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chills	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diarrhea
<input type="checkbox"/>	Muscle pain or body aches	<input type="checkbox"/>	Headache
<input type="checkbox"/>	Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit	<input type="checkbox"/>	Known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19
<input type="checkbox"/>	Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fatigue
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nausea or vomiting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Congestion or runny nose

- Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must use a touchless infrared thermometer to check the temperature of employees/volunteers each day.
- Employees/volunteers with a temperature above 100°F or with any of the above symptoms must be sent home.
- Do not allow employees or volunteers with new or worsening signs or symptoms as listed above to return to work until:
  - In the case of an employee/volunteer who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to work when all three of the following criteria

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are met: No fever without the use of fever-reducing medications for at least 3 days (72 hours); **AND**

- The individual has significant improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); **AND**
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; or
- In the case of an employee or volunteer who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and does not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, the individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to work until the individual has completed the same three-step criteria listed above; or
- If the employee/volunteer has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to work before completing the above self-isolation period, the individual must obtain a medical professional’s note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis.

- All employees/volunteers must wear a face covering while at work and interacting with other employees and public in general.
- Employees must use gloves and must wash hands often for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use disinfectant hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Staff assigned to sick bay area must wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) of at least N95 mask, gloves and eye protection.

## Sanitation

The Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must comply with the below:

- Clean and disinfect surfaces and equipment routinely throughout the event.
  - When available, use wipeable covers for electronics.
  - If no manufacturer guidance is available, use alcohol-based wipes or spray containing at least 70% alcohol to clean equipment buttons and touch screens.
- Ensure all vendors, and employees practice hand hygiene frequently: wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

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- Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holders must supply sanitation stations at least 1 per 100 people and make at least 10% of those stations ADA accessible.
- Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holders must supply portable restrooms at least 1 per 100 people and make at least 10% of the restrooms ADA accessible.
- Ensure bathrooms at the event are supplied adequately with soap, water, and drying materials so that the public in general and staff can wash their hands as recommended.
- Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must ensure adequate amount of trash receptacles are placed along the route.
- The Outdoor Mass Gathering permit holder must provide an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol for use if hand washing station is not in close proximity. Place the alcohol-based hand sanitizer in visible, frequently used locations such as registration desks, water stations, sick bay, etc.
- Vendors shall keep an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol for use at every vendor table or booth. If a vendor has more than one table or stand, owner shall place at least one hand sanitizer per booth/table.
- Practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces: including tables, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.
- Frequently disinfect surfaces that may be contaminated with germs with EPA-approved products effective against emerging viral pathogens to include the virus that causes COVID-19. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method and contact time, use of personal protective equipment). A list of products with EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens is available.

Hector I. Ocaranza, M.D., MPH  
Health Authority City/County of El Paso, TX

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