



Mayor Robert E. Simison

City Council Members:

Treg Bernt  
Joe Borton  
Luke Cavener

Brad Hoaglund  
Jessica Perreault  
Liz Strader

## SOCIAL DISTANCING ORDER

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19, also known as the novel coronavirus, is a viral infection which spreads rapidly from person to person within communities, and is known to cause serious illness, particularly among persons over 65, pregnant women, and persons with compromised immune or respiratory systems or serious underlying medical conditions;

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) has issued guidelines for preventing infection by avoiding exposure, recommending six feet (6’) of distance between people in order to reduce the spread of COVID-19 through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes;

**WHEREAS**, the CDC also recommends that individuals clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily, using bleach- or alcohol-based solutions; washing hands frequently and properly, particularly after contact with potential pathogen sources;

**WHEREAS**, the CDC has advised that organizations identify operations which might be limited or temporarily discontinued during the outbreak, and to find alternative solutions that will ensure continuity, especially for vulnerable populations served;

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization, on March 11, 2020, classified the outbreak of COVID-19 as a global pandemic, has been detected in Ada County and other Idaho counties, and is thus an imminent public health hazard to the Meridian public;

**WHEREAS**, the President of the United States has issued guidelines for slowing the spread of COVID-19 within communities, including avoiding bars, restaurants, food courts, gyms, and other indoor venues or social gatherings with groups of more than ten (10) people, reducing or not using dine-in options at bars and restaurants, and practicing good hygiene;

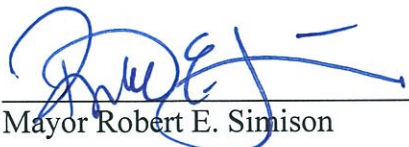
**WHEREAS**, the where a public health hazard is imminent, Meridian City Code § 4-3-3(B) authorizes the mayor to summarily enact a social distancing order, which order may establish measures to be taken in order to prevent or mitigate a foreseeable, imminent, or present public health hazard;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Mayor of the City of Meridian does hereby declare:

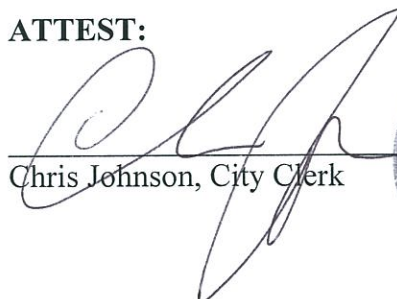
1. That the proprietor, manager, or organizer of any indoor or outdoor venue or event where ten (10) or more people are present, including, but not limited to, bars, restaurants, movie theaters, personal service facilities (e.g., gyms, salons, spas), and stores must comply with the following social distancing requirements, as feasible:

- a. Persons may be invited into the venue, so long as such persons may be accommodated, whether seated or standing, in groups of no larger than ten (10) people.
  - b. Each group, and each member thereof, must be accommodated at least six (6) feet away from each and every other group, whether seated or standing.
  - c. Carry-out and drive-through services shall be allowed, so long as a distance of at least six (6) feet is available between buyer and seller.
  - d. Delivery services shall be allowed, and delivery personnel are encouraged to take measures to maintain a distance of at least six (6) feet from the customer to whom they are delivering.
  - e. Proprietors must follow heightened cleanliness practices by disinfecting all frequently touched surfaces after human contact, and advising all servers and staff to wash their hands frequently and in accordance with CDC guidelines, particularly after contact with potentially pathogenic sources.
2. That if the social distancing requirements set forth in article 1 of this Order are not feasible for a particular venue, the proprietor, manager, or organizer is hereby ordered to close the venue to the public for the duration of this Order, and any subsequent extension thereof.
  3. That the social distancing requirements set forth in article 1 of this Order shall not apply to grocery stores, sites providing social services, medical facilities, or governmental agencies. However, it is advised that all persons in such locations implement and observe social distancing and cleanliness protocols, as advised by the CDC, as much as is feasible.
  4. That no person shall be entitled to recover from the City of Meridian any costs incurred or profits lost as may be alleged to be attributed to the enactment of this Order.
  5. That this order shall be effective at 12:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 21, 2020, and shall remain in effect until 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, April 4, 2020, unless extended or otherwise modified by subsequent order of the Mayor.

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED** this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
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Mayor Robert E. Simison

**ATTEST:**

  
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Chris Johnson, City Clerk

