

NEWS BULLETIN May 2020

As I'm sure you are all aware, the CoVid19 pandemic has severely affected the Puerto Peñasco area. The measures put into effect have really have changed the day to day lives of the Peñasco residents. On May 11, Presidente (Mayor) proposed a three phase program to bring lives back to normal in Peñasco. The bottom line is tourists/nonresidents will not be allowed to enter the city until mid June at the earliest. Obviously, this makes the Summer Steak Fry on June 13 impossible to plan and execute, so it has been canceled. The OBSC leadership is moving ahead with our usual Fall festivities in October of 2020 and will keep our members informed as the details become available. If you are interested in the Presidente's three phase plan, continue reading.

Sonora Governor Claudia Pavlovich has detailed certain parts of the state's economy will gradually reopen between May 16th – 22nd, while Puerto Peñasco mayor Kiko Munro went on air this morning to outline proposed phases for reactivating the local economy. These comprehensive proposals, he described, will now go before the Municipal Business Board as well as the Municipal Health & Safety Board for approval. NOTE: Reopening of beaches is based on Federal declaration.

In brief, the reopening of Puerto Peñasco FIRST WITHIN THE CITY ITSELF (or rather, not tourists until Phase 3). The health filter (roadblock) at the entry to town will remain in place throughout all three phases being proposed. In addition, the nightly 10 p.m. curfew in town (and hence siren) will also remain in place. In addition, moving gradually from one phase to the next in these proposed steps will be based on whether certain criteria concerning health, ongoing reduction of mobility, and following hygiene/sanitary guidelines are strictly adhered to.

Proposed phases for reopening economic activities in Puerto Peñasco:

Phase I Estimated from May 18th – May 31st

Businesses that operate via prior appointments, and only in tending to one client at a time, such as: beauty salons, barber shops, spa, mechanics, electricians, sewing workshops, A/C service providers, printers, and others that apply. Businesses that are able to deliver their services directly or provide services without clients entering their establishment, for example: restaurants, copy stores, florists, beauty supply distributors, coffee shops, small convenience stores, fumigators, shoe stores, jewelry, street vendors of food or crafts (but NOT in tourist areas of beach or Malecon), furniture stores (only for sale of air-conditioners, fans, refrigerators), and others that may provide delivery service.

Access to the "La Milla" recreational area – Limit 50 people/hour. Personnel from Public Safety, Municipal Health, and the Municipal Sports Office will supervise activities at the recreational space. Limit 1 hour per person.

Construction projects with worker limits depending on size of construction: 1 worker per every 50m2 of construction, no dining area, transportation to/from site of no more than 9 people. This opening includes cement, gravel, block makers/providers, as well as for transportation (within the city) of construction material.

Phase II Estimated from June 1st – June 15th (If criteria from Phase I is met)

The following may begin to operate at 40% capacity: restaurants, coffee shops, taco places, pizza establishments, fruit drink/smoothie sale points, furniture stores, distributors, gyms, and others that may apply (ongoing information made available as possible).

Opening of public spaces, with social distancing of 6 ft between people or stands: street vendors (does NOT apply to beach or Malecon), ecotourism (for residents IN PEÑASCO – i.e. Morua Estuary), golf, sports fishing, water activities, ATV rentals.

Places of worship may reopen under recommended prevention measures including: 6 ft. distance between families, use of every other pew or chairs, ongoing sanitizing of chairs, pews, entries, and exits after each service.

Phase 3 Estimated mid-June (If criteria from Phase II are met)

General reopening of additional local businesses, under strict health criteria to be determined as appropriate.

Proposal for entry of visitors into Puerto Peñasco in Phase III

Installation of thermal cameras and video cameras at north health filter into city (road block)

Each person wishing to enter the city will be asked to go through the thermal screening

If the camera detects an anomaly (raised body temperature), a second review will be done via a rapid test for corona-virus, isolating the person from their companions as necessary.

If the rapid test is positive, the person will be asked to return to their point of original and given recommendations to prevent contagion with anyone else on their way to a health center.

Full reopening of economic activities: Phase 3 will remain in effect until there are no new outbreaks.

