

To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilors
From: Michael Spurgeon, City Manager
Date: May 29, 2020
Re: Notes to Council

1. STAFF REPORTS / ITEMS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

- N/A

2. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE / NOTIFICATION

- Press Release – City of Broken Arrow resumes normal procedures for utilities collections
- Press Release – City of Broken Arrow enters Phase 3 of Reopening Plan
- State of Oklahoma Press Release – Oklahoma to begin Phase 3 of OURS plan effective June 1
- Museum Broken Arrow Press Release – Call for Mural Artists, deadline extended
- Cox Communications Local Franchising Authority Memo

3. SPECIAL EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

- N/A

Respectfully submitted

CLM for

Michael Spurgeon

clm

Attachments

1. STAFF REPORTS / ITEMS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION



2. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE / NOTIFICATION



For Immediate Release

Date: May 26, 2020

**Contact: Jennifer Swezey, City of Broken Arrow
918-607-8921 | jswezey@brokenarrowok.gov**

City of Broken Arrow resumes normal procedures for utilities collections

Penalties had been eased due to COVID-19

In March 2020, in response to the anticipated economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 global pandemic, the City of Broken Arrow provided assistance to customers who needed help by temporarily suspending late fees and utility turn-offs for overdue utility payments.

This decision has benefitted approximately five percent of the Broken Arrow utility customer base of just over 38,000.

As the City moves closer to phase three of re-opening the community and finalizes its budget for next year, it is important the City also pays its expenses for operations, projects and debt service. The City must meet its obligations, like all other utility companies, and it does so from payment for services by customers.

Accordingly, and beginning with the billing cycle due June 10, the City will reinstate normal operating practices, which includes assessing late fees. Customers who have been unable to make payments during the past two months because of the pandemic should call the Utility Billing Office to see what options are available. If customers fail to make payment arrangements, utility shutoffs will resume beginning June 29.

“During this unprecedented time, we definitely had to do our part to help our residents struggling because of job loss or other circumstances resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic,” said City Manager Michael Spurgeon. “I understand that this is an extremely sensitive decision and a difficult one for sure. Keeping that in mind, it’s important to help keep the organization running, so it’s important we get back to normal operations so we can keep the water flowing to over 38,000 homes and businesses in Broken Arrow.”

Residents with questions can contact the Utility Billing Office at 918-259-8409 or email at utilities@brokenarrowok.gov.

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For Immediate Release

Date: May 29, 2020

**Contact: Jennifer Swezey, City of Broken Arrow
918-607-8921 | jswezey@brokenarrowok.gov**

City of Broken Arrow enters Phase 3 of Reopening Plan

Phase 3 begins June 1 following Governor's Open Up and Recover Safely Plan

On April 22, 2020 Governor Stitt's Bounce Back Advisory group issued the Governor's Open Up and Recover Safely (OURS) Plan implementing a three-phased approach to open Oklahoma's economy starting on April 24, 2020. The plan is based on scientific modeling from public health experts and is designed to mitigate the risk of the resurgence of COVID-19. It provides a detailed plan for the reopening of Oklahoma's economy that the City of Broken Arrow has been using to implement its reopening plan.

Phase 1 had two parts. On April 24, 2020 part one of the first phase began which allowed certain personal care businesses to open. On May 1, 2020, part two of the first phase began. This reopened dining areas in restaurants, entertainment venues, movie theaters, sporting venues, gyms, places of worship, and tattoo parlors. On May 8, 2020, the City opened additional city-owned athletic facilities to allow sports groups to practice. Phase 2 began on May 15, 2020, which allowed bars, church nurseries, organized sports, weddings, and funerals to resume.

Following the Governor's Open Up and Recover Safely (OURS) plan and seeing that hospital and incident rates have remained at a manageable level for 14 days, the City of Broken Arrow will enter Phase 3 on June 1, 2020.

As we move into Phase 3 of the OURS plan, the limits on social gatherings will be lifted.

The City is pleased to announce that we are opening the Rose District Farmers Market on June 6, the first Saturday in June. It will be open from 8am to noon at the Rose District Plaza.

In addition to the Farmers Market, the following services and facilities will also open in Broken Arrow in Phase 3:

- Central Park Community Center and Nienhuis Park Community Center,
- All remaining outdoor park amenities such as basketball courts, volleyball courts, playgrounds, pavilions, and shelters,
- Splash pads,
- Rose District interactive water feature,
- Ray Herral Nature Center,
- Court Clerk window at the Justice Center, Operations Building lobby window, and Park Grove Cemetery service committal area.

- Nienhuis Aquatic Facility (NAF)*.

*Please note: The City is planning to open at least one pool (NAF) this season, and will update the community if additional facilities are able to open. The opening date for NAF will be announced soon.

Municipal Court will resume on June 2. There are new guidelines that court visitors must follow including social distancing and face coverings. Those guidelines are posted on our website at www.brokenarrowok.gov/coronavirus.

We have resumed normal billing and collections process for utilities services. If you missed or had late payments in the past couple months, please contact the Utilities Customer Service office for help setting up a payment plan. They can be reached at 918-259-8409 or by email at utilities@brokenarrowok.gov.

All remaining public meetings for the City of Broken Arrow will also transition to in-person meetings in Phase 3.

The City will continue following the Governor's Safer at Home order for vulnerable populations, which goes through May 31. As a reminder: this plan is voluntary, and we encourage businesses to open and residents to get out when they feel it is safe to do so. All businesses and activities that are reopening should continue following CDC guidelines for safety such as social distancing and good hygiene practices. The Governor has announced that limited visitation to hospitals may be reinstated at the discretion of the facility, and visitation at nursing homes and long-term care facilities will remain suspended except for end-of-life situations until explicitly lifted by a future executive order.

Residents and businesses with questions can continue using the City's online COVID-19 resource center, www.BrokenArrowOK.gov/coronavirus.

Background

On March 15, 2020, the Governor of Oklahoma issued Executive Order 2020-07 declaring an emergency caused by the impending threat of COVID-19 to the people of Oklahoma and the public's peace, health and safety.

The City of Broken Arrow issued emergency proclamations related to the COVID-19 pandemic on March 19, 2020 and March 31, 2020. The March 19th proclamation ordered the closing of certain business and commercial establishments in Broken Arrow either in-full, or with special conditions for limited operation.

On March 31, 2020 Mayor Thurmond proclaimed an Amended Emergency Proclamation, ordering all citizens in or visiting the City of Broken Arrow to shelter at their place of residence

PRESS RELEASE

except for “Essential Activities”. This Shelter in Place order went into effect on April 1 and was set to expire April 30.

Mayor Thurmond terminated the City’s emergency declarations on April 23, 2020, effective at midnight.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Baylee Lakey | baylee.lakey@gov.ok.gov | (405) 522-8878

**OKLAHOMA TO BEGIN PHASE 3 OF OPEN UP AND RECOVER
SAFELY PLAN ON JUNE 1**

Additional guidance issued for individuals and businesses

OKLAHOMA CITY (May 29, 2020) – Oklahoma will proceed to Phase 3 of the [Open Up and Recover Safely plan](#) Monday, June 1, Governor Kevin Stitt announced Friday.

Oklahoma currently has just 708 active COVID-19 cases out of nearly 4 million residents and 5,236 people have already recovered.

Active cases in Oklahoma and Tulsa counties, the state's two largest, make up less than 0.03% of the population in their respective counties.

As of May 28, 188,665 tests have been performed with just 3.77% coming back positive. Since Phase 2 of the OURS plan was initiated May 15, 69,914 tests have been performed and just 2.1% have been positive.

“We are making responsible decisions based on the data in our state,” said Gov. Stitt. **“While cases continue to decline 36 days into our reopening, it is important Oklahomans remember COVID-19 is still in the United States and we must continue to be diligent about washing our hands frequently, maintaining physical distance and protecting our most vulnerable populations.”**

Under Phase 3, businesses may resume unrestricted staffing at their worksites by observing proper CDC-recommended social distancing protocols and are recommended to continue increased cleaning and disinfecting practices.

Individuals should minimize time spent in crowded environments and continue following CDC guidelines regarding social distancing.

Additionally, summer camps are allowed to open provided they follow [safety guidelines](#). Businesses that had been operating by appointment only may begin accepting walk-in clients at their discretion.

In conjunction with the Oklahoma State Department of Health and the statewide medical community, limited visitation to hospitals may be reinstated at the discretion of the facility.

As the data shows COVID-19 has a significantly more profound impact on the elderly and immunocompromised populations, visitation at nursing homes and long-term care facilities will remain suspended except for end-of-life situations until explicitly lifted by a future executive order.

While the data continues to improve on a statewide level, local governments are encouraged to make decisions that best fit their communities.

“Our measured approach to reopening has been a key reason why our data remains trending in a positive direction,” said Secretary of Health Jerome Loughridge. **“It is vital that communities across the state only move to Phase 3 when their local data supports that decision. The OSDH and the Governor’s Solution Task Force are available to consult any local officials on the best practices for their specific areas.”**

Free COVID-19 testing remains available to all Oklahomans at more than 80 locations across the state. Detailed information is available at coronavirus.health.ok.gov.

“As we enter Phase 3 of reopening, the Oklahoma State Department of Health will be focused on maintaining and expanding trusted partnerships with the public to help us minimize the presence of COVID-19,” said interim Commissioner of Health Lance Frye. **“We remind Oklahomans they do not need to be experiencing symptoms to get tested for COVID-19 at our more than 80 county facilities. We also encourage Oklahomans to take calls from, and stay in communication with, our growing contact tracing team, which will be a powerful tool in ensuring we can protect public health and the state’s economy as we recover.”**

The Catastrophic Health Emergency declaration will end Saturday, at which time Gov. Stitt will issue a new executive order keeping critical protections in place to allow state agencies to effectively manage the continued impact of COVID-19. This new executive order will encourage elderly and vulnerable Oklahomans to remain Safer at Home.

[Industry-specific guidelines for safely reopening](#) are available on the Department of Commerce website.

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For Immediate Release

May 28, 2020

Julie Brown, Executive Director

jbrown@brokenarrowmuseum.org



Call for Mural Artists
Historic Mural Project **DEADLINE EXTENDED TO AUGUST 28, 2020******

Broken Arrow, OK- The Museum Broken Arrow announced today it is extending the proposal deadline for their public art mural project, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mural artists are still encouraged to submit a proposal for this large--scale work of art to be displayed in downtown Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, on the south exterior museum wall. This project is sponsored and funded by The Museum Broken Arrow and grants received on behalf of several organizations. Artists can email jbrown@brokenarrowmuseum.org with any questions regarding mural submissions.

"We understand that many artists have been dealing with other priorities since COVID-19 struck our nation. This is why we felt it necessary to extend the proposal deadline for our mural project. This project is not only in line with our mission, but it will also serve as a sign to our community that Broken Arrow is united and looking forward to the future. We hope everyone continues to stay safe and take advantage of the museum worlds' extensive social media outlets. Art educates and inspires, especially during times like these." said Brown, The Museum BA Executive Director.

The Museum Broken Arrow is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located in historic downtown Broken Arrow. In addition to showcasing local history, the Museum also offers events, educational opportunities and facility rental. The Museum June COVID temporary hours: Tuesday & Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and by appointment. For more information, call (918) 258-2616 or visit BrokenArrowMuseum.org.

Dear Local Franchising Authority,

As you know, Cox is required to obtain permission from local broadcast stations and cable networks to provide their signals on our video channel lineup. Our company is in discussions to renew agreements with the following programmers and broadcasters:

Station/Network	SD Channel	HD Channel
GMA Pinoy TV	401	N/A
NBC – KJRH	2	1002
Bounce TV – KJRH	79	1079
LAFF – KJRH	80	1080
Music Choice Hit List	901	1901
Music Choice Max	902	1902
Music Choice Dance/EDM	903	1903
Music Choice Indie	904	1904
Music Choice Hip-Hop and R&B	905	1905
Music Choice Rap	906	1906
Music Choice Hip-Hop Classics	907	1907
Music Choice Throwback Jamz	908	1908
Music Choice R&B Classics	909	1909
Music Choice R&B Soul	910	1910
Music Choice Gospel	911	1911
Music Choice Reggae	912	1912
Music Choice Rock	913	1913
Music Choice Metal	914	1914
Music Choice Alternative	915	1915
Music Choice Adult Alternative	916	1916
Music Choice Rock Hits	917	1917
Music Choice Classic Rock	918	1918
Music Choice Soft Rock	919	1919
Music Choice Love Songs	920	1920
Music Choice Pop Hits	921	1921
Music Choice Party Favorites	922	1922
Music Choice Teen Beats	923	1923
Music Choice Kidz Only	924	1924
Music Choice Toddler Tunes	925	1925
Music Choice Y2K	926	1926
Music Choice 90's	927	1927
Music Choice 80's	928	1928
Music Choice 70's	929	1929
Music Choice Solid Gold Oldies	930	1930
Music Choice Pop & Country	931	1931
Music Choice Today's Country	932	1932
Music Choice Country Hits	933	1933
Music Choice Classic Country	934	1934
Music Choice Contemporary Christian	935	1935
Music Choice Pop Latino	936	1936
Music Choice Musica Urbana	937	1937
Music Choice Mexicana	938	1938
Music Choice Tropicales	939	1939
Music Choice Romances	940	1940
Music Choice Sounds of The Seasons	941	1941
Music Choice Stage & Screen	942	1942
Music Choice Soundscapes	943	1943
Music Choice Smooth Jazz	944	1944
Music Choice Jazz	945	1945
Music Choice Blues	946	1946
Music Choice Singers & Swing	947	1947
Music Choice Easy Listening	948	1948
Music Choice Classical Masterpieces	949	1949
Music Choice Light Classical	950	1950

Should we be unable to reach equitable terms for a new agreement by their expiration dates, these networks have the right to require Cox to remove their programming from our lineup.

We continue to actively negotiate with these networks and are working toward renewing our agreements without any disruption of service to our customers. We are meeting our customer notification obligation through an ad in the local newspaper.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robbie Squires". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robbie Squires
Director, Government Affairs
Cox Communications Central Region

3. SPECIAL EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

