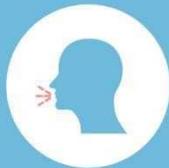
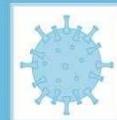


Coronavirus



MAYOR'S MAY 8, 2020 STATEMENT

The Honorable Joseph M. Corradino

This week has been relatively quiet, but much work was done to advance our progress against this disease.

We successfully opened our parks to passive use. People have complied with the rules, there has been no overcrowding and we experienced few, if any issues.

Frustration has begun to climb. People are out of their homes more than at any time since we started our "Safer at Home" orders.

Miami-Dade County has announced that it plans to remove some restrictions on non-essential businesses by May 18th. The County is steadily moving towards a set of recommendations that will guide these businesses. Guidelines for Hotels, Restaurants, Manufacturing, Retail, Museums, Small Businesses, and Real Estate should be announced early next week. We will have nearly a week to prepare prior to the relaxation of the regulations. It is anticipated that there will be capacity limitations on the businesses, just like we see in grocery stores. Some places will not be low risk enough to open. The rules and the timing is being reviewed and endorsed by medical professionals.

The situation we are in is complicated and we are at an inflection point. We have made great sacrifices to address the disease. Our goal was to preserve the capacity of the hospital system, so that everyone who needed critical care, was able to get critical care. This has been accomplished. The County tells us we have close to 80% available capacity in the system, where 30% is required to move forward. The social distancing measures have been successful. We have seen a decline in both the average cases per day and the percentage daily positive cases of those people tested for well over the past two weeks. Testing has become more widespread. The County feels that all first responders and hospital workers can be tested at will. Convenience testing is starting and we are satisfying the current testing demand. New sites are opening and the criteria to receive a test are decreasing. This week, at many sites, anyone over the age of 12 will be able to schedule a test, regardless of symptoms. Pinecrest is working with companies to get testing close to home.

The sacrifices we have made, have been enormously successful from a medical perspective. The bad news is that they have been financially devastating to many people and businesses.

After we have a relaxation of regulations we need to continue to track the hospital system capacity and trajectory of the disease. A new county-wide dashboard is being developed and will be used to measure our progress and throttle our response. This does not mean the emergency orders will be lifted. They may not fully be lifted until a vaccine exists or we have repetitively met the phased criteria. Of course, County orders cover the entire county. Each of our cities has the ability to be more restrictive, but not less restrictive than those orders. Pinecrest will receive these recommendations, evaluate our ability to enforce and maintain healthy and safe conditions, then determine what we can and cannot do.

Regardless of the guidelines and the timing, it is critical that we continue to protect our most vulnerable people. As we move forward we urge anyone that can work from home to work from home, and let those who can't get back to work in a safe manner. Similarly, continue to be careful and limit your exposure to others while out.

This is a ray of hope that we are moving in the right direction. It is not without controversy. It is "low risk" but not "no risk."

As always stay safe. You can reach me via text, call or email at 305-606-2364 or jcorrardino@pinecrest-fl.gov. Or contact our Village Council (council@pinecrest-fl.gov) and staff (manager@pinecrest-fl.gov) at 305-234-2121. We are all working together as a unified team every day to make this as painless as possible.