It's all good news this week. Everything is progressing well with minimal complications. Last Monday, Pinecrest followed Miami-Dade County's lead and entered the second phase of the relaxation of emergency orders with the partial opening of most businesses except for gyms, bars and beaches. We met with the business owners to introduce the rules and we are working closely with them to certify those who have opened safely. We are happy to report that there have been no issues. The process is running smoothly.

We continue to monitor the hospital capacity and it is still at about 80% open. The rates of infections, hospitalizations and deaths are essentially stable. Most of the hospitalizations are now coming from assisted living facilities and nursing homes. That's why it is critical to continue to practice caution. As you get back to real life, please keep your distance from others, wear a mask and practice great hygiene. We must protect our most vulnerable people.

Testing is significant at this point. More free locations are opening each week and the criteria to be tested are being relaxed. Pinecrest is seeking proposals from testing companies as we search for highly accurate and convenient antibody tests. There are few of these at this point. The bulk are highly inaccurate and extremely expensive. There are four urgent care facilities in Pinecrest and three have some type of testing available. Miami-Dade County is working with the State of Florida to develop a contact tracing program. The state's Department of Health is in charge of tracing. It cannot be done by municipalities or counties. Between 500 and 1000 people are being hired to provide the contact tracing services locally.

Enjoy the long holiday weekend, stay safe and stay healthy. Pinecrest, as from the beginning, is monitoring the situation and will continue to do so.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, please text/call (305-606-2364) or send an email (jcorradino@pinecrest-fl.gov). Or contact our Village Council (council@pinecrest-fl.gov) and staff (manager@pinecrest-fl.gov). We are all working together as a unified team every day to make this as painless as possible.