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Mayor Rilling releases Reopen Norwalk Plan

Phased plan focused on municipal services and facilities tentatively starts May 20

(Norwalk, Conn.) - On May 12, 2020, Norwalk Mayor Harry W. Rilling released the Reopen Norwalk Plan focused on municipal services and facilities. The plan is tentatively scheduled to start on May 20, 2020, to align with the State of Connecticut Reopening Plan. The Mayor's four-phase plan can be found in full at norwalkct.org/reopennorwalk.

"The Reopen Norwalk Plan takes into account the health and safety of the public and staff, as well as the needs of the public. I am proud that the City of Norwalk has continued to provide essential services throughout this pandemic. As the State of Connecticut begins to ease restrictions on certain businesses, I felt it was the right time to begin our phased plan to reopen Norwalk," Mayor Rilling said. "The plan identifies the parks, amenities, and services in the City and restrictions and guidelines during every phase. I hope the plan provides members of the public clarity on what to expect in the weeks and months ahead."

Phase One of the reopening is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, 2020. Calf Pasture Beach and Shady Beach will reopen to vehicular traffic. However, parking capacity in the lots will be reduced to 50 percent capacity. Additionally, there will be a new designated non-resident parking area with a limit of 150 vehicles. The use of park amenities, like the splash pad, playgrounds, and picnic tables, will be prohibited.

Additionally, Cranbury Park will reopen to vehicular traffic with the parking lot also at 50 percent capacity. The use of playgrounds and the disc golf course will be prohibited. Dogs are permitted, however they must remain on a leash at all times.

All athletic courts, playgrounds, and athletic fields will remain closed during Phase One. City Hall and the Norwalk Public Library will also remain closed to the public throughout Phase One. Norwalk Public Schools remain closed for the academic year following the Governor's executive order, however free meal distribution will continue through at least June 30.

The timing of when to move phases will be coordinated with the State of Connecticut. The Reopen Norwalk Plan remains subject to change based on the current health situation or local conditions. The plan is focused strictly on municipal services and facilities, and Norwalk businesses are advised to follow the State of Connecticut guidelines. Gathering sizes, physical distancing measures, and the use of masks or face coverings are to be determined by the State. The Norwalk Police Department will be enforcing these guidelines, and members of the public found in violation may be subject to fines.

The Reopen Norwalk Plan can be found online at norwalkct.org/reopennorwalk.

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