



Mayor
Jerome A. Prince
City Of Gary, IN



5-29-20

City of Gary COVID-19 Update

COVID-19 Reopening

We are well into reopening our City of Gary operations, houses of worship and local businesses, and we continue to monitor COVID-19 test results to determine the rate of new infections in Gary.

We will see higher numbers because we will see increased testing.

As Mayor, I have the right and authority to ease restrictions or return to a more restrictive environment to protect our City.

Beaches/Parks

Chicago and Illinois remain under tight restrictions, which means we have higher numbers of Illinois visitors, especially from Cook County and Chicago, coming to Gary. This has presented a number of security and logistical challenges, because we have larger crowds on our beaches and our parks.

I ordered the opening of our beaches and parks because our residents deserve to get outside and enjoy the weather and our outdoor spaces. We cannot prevent visitors from other states and other parts of Indiana, but our Gary Police Department will continue to work with Lake County Sheriff Oscar Martinez and his deputies to patrol our parking areas, parks and beaches to ensure they are safe.

If we find our beaches, parks and parking areas are overwhelmed, and it becomes a safety issue, I reserve the right to reduce access to those outdoor areas.

Houses of Worship, Businesses

By close of business Monday, we will have updated information on worship services and businesses. Until then, please abide by the guidelines we have already presented.

Updates

# of Indiana residents COVID-19 tested:	248,713
# of Indiana residents COVID-19 positive:	33,558
# of Indiana COVID-19 related deaths:	1,946
# of Lake County residents COVID-19 tested:	22,651
# of Lake County residents COVID-19 positive:	3,538
# of Lake County COVID-19 related deaths:	185
# of Porter County residents COVID-19 tested:	4,543
# of Porter County residents COVID-19 positive:	516
# of Porter County COVID-19 related deaths:	27
# of Gary residents COVID-19 tested:	644
# of Gary COVID-19 related deaths:	48

Closing

Our fight against the spread of the COVID-19 virus is a work in progress. This week we changed our methodology for counting the number of new COVID-19 cases and COVID-19 related deaths in Gary.

From the beginning of this public health crisis, we have been committed to releasing the most accurate information possible. Determining the number of new COVID-19 positive test results is relatively straightforward, but determining how many deaths were caused by the COVID-19 virus is much more challenging. We act out of an abundance of caution and sensitivity whenever we share that information.

We have modified our accounting methods for new COVID-19 cases and COVID-19 related deaths.

The COVID-19 pandemic has taken many turns over the past three months. I remain committed to providing the most accurate information possible in a timely manner.

As always, I remind you if we remain calm and patient, we will get through this together.
