

CITY OF NEWPORT

R E S O L U T I O N
O F T H E
C O U N C I L

No.

- WHEREAS, the coronavirus has drastically changed the way we experience life in Newport and around the world, and the safety of our residents is of the utmost importance; AND
- WHEREAS, the vast majority of Newport residents are doing their best to follow the public health measures put in place to combat this pandemic; AND
- WHEREAS, along with implementing public health measures and instruction, we must also work to enforce these new rules for the health and safety of all of Newport; AND
- WHEREAS, the City, residents, and businesses will all need to work together and be creative to create uniquely Newport experiences while still helping our community stay healthy; AND
- WHEREAS, public facilities will need to implement and maintain restrictions in the interest of public health; AND
- WHEREAS, crowding increases the risk of disease spread, the City can increase access to open, car free space to allow people to better spread out and maintain social distancing; AND
- WHEREAS, these newly opened outdoor spaces can and should be used for safe public enjoyment, creative expression, retail, outdoor dining, and more; AND
- WHEREAS, multiple arts and culture organizations have had their typical events cancelled or postponed. These organizations are already regrouping to provide a different version of summer in Newport; AND
- WHEREAS, in order to help Newporters enjoy their summer, and to help improve the overall morale of our community, the City Council and City administration will need to do as much as we can to support local businesses and organizations. This can be done by loosening restrictions where possible, thinking outside the box, working collaboratively with local businesses and organizations, and more; AND
- WHEREAS, the reopening of the Rhode Island and Newport community is being done in phases, City administration must adapt to these changing phases and communicate effectively how these changes will affect our businesses and residents; AND NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the City Administration shall loosen restrictions where possible and practical to allow our local businesses to remain open with public health measures in place; AND THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that streets, parking areas, and other public areas may be approved by the City for use as space for dining, retail, and forms of safe public enjoyment and to facilitate outdoor pedestrian travel while maintaining appropriate distancing measures; AND THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the City Administration will work with the Police Department to develop mechanisms to enforce the public health measures; AND THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the City Council adopts this document as a set of guiding principles for Summer 2020 in Newport and instructs the City Administration to take appropriate action to implement this policy and vision.

JAMIE BOVA

IN COUNCIL
READ AND PASSED

Laura C. Swistak
City Clerk