



## Memo Regarding Gloucester Summer Events / Reopening 2021

With the recent announcement by Governor Baker that all remaining COVID-19 restrictions will be lifted effective May 29th, our offices have been receiving numerous requests on special events, gatherings and health mandates. Gloucester will follow the state's guidelines for reopening, which can be seen here:

<https://www.mass.gov/news/baker-polito-administration-to-lift-covid-restrictions-may-29-state-to-meet-vaccination-goal-by-beginning-of-june>

*City Updates are as follows:*

### **Private Events**

City of Gloucester will reopen mirroring the state guidelines and we will consider the city fully reopened when the emergency orders expire on June 15, 2021.

Regarding Fiesta, Horribles, Block Parties, Festivals and other summer events, please be aware that the City of Gloucester is largely the approving authority, not the organizational group. Most of these events use independent and donated money to support these events. Many of these events are run by non-profits who were not able to conduct typical fundraisers, so please direct your questions regarding these events to these organizers regarding decisions to host events this year.

### **Beaches / Stage Fort Park / SFP Trolley**

- Beach parking lots will return to normal capacity this summer ([please see beach sticker information below or click this link](#));
- There will be no discounted admission at the beach lots or SFP after 3:00PM. The full price will remain in effect all day;
- YMCA's, camps, schools, and other such groups wishing to visit Wingaersheek this summer will be limited to two (2) groups per day with a max of 4-5 buses;
- YMCA's, camps, schools and other such groups wishing to visit Stage Fort Park this summer will be limited to two (2) groups per day with a max of 3 buses;
- Buses will not be allowed to drop off a summer group on the boulevard or the footbridge and have that group walk onto the beach or the park;
- Those who park at Stage Fort Park to ride the trolley will have to pay the daily admission fee to park in the lot;
- The Stage Fort Park Trolley will start running Saturday, July 10;
- The Trolley will run the normal route, weekends and holidays, with the first trip at 10am and the last trip at 5pm;

- COVID-19 precautions will remain in place until additional guidance is received. This currently includes face coverings, a reduced passenger capacity, and enhanced cleaning protocols for trolley rides.

### **Memorial Day 2021 (May 31, 2021)**

The City of Gloucester's Memorial Day Ceremony at City Hall will be held this year outside the flagpole (rain or shine) on Monday May 31, 2021 at 10am. This is a significant year in being able to bring our community together and welcome all to attend.

### **Fiesta 2021**

The City of Gloucester is not responsible for organizing and fundraising for Fiesta, however, the [St. Peter's Fiesta Committee](#) has announced that no events will be held for 2021. Similar to 2020, it is our understanding as of the time of this writing that all novenas and related religious events will be held via Zoom. Please see more details from these group organizers on their websites or contact organizers directly.

If you are an organizer, non profit or similar event group, the City of Gloucester welcomes any party to apply to the Special Events Advisory Committee (SEAC) which can be seen here: <http://gloucester-ma.gov/767/Permits-Licenses-and-Forms>

### **Independence Day Festivities 2021**

Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken is pleased to shared that fireworks are being planned for Independence Day 2021 through support of the Gloucester Fund and other donations. Details will be shared once finalized and approved by the Special Events Advisory Committee (SEAC).

Horribles Parade is run by an independent group, not the City of Gloucester. Any summer organizational groups should use the information above to request a meeting with the SEAC team to get approved for their events.

### ***State Guidelines are as follows:***

#### **Effective May 29, 2021**

Effective May 29, all industries will be permitted to open. With the exception of remaining face-covering requirements for public and private transportation systems and facilities housing vulnerable populations, all industry restrictions will be lifted, and capacity will increase to 100% for all industries. The gathering limit will be rescinded.

All industries will be encouraged to follow CDC guidance for cleaning and hygiene protocols. On May 18, 2020, the Administration [published the reopening phases](#), which called for ending restrictions when vaccines became widely available. Today, there are over 975 locations for Massachusetts residents to access vaccines without delay.

## Face Covering Guidance

In line with updated CDC face covering guidance, the Administration will rescind the current face covering order and issue a new face covering advisory effective May 29.

Non-vaccinated individuals are advised to continue wearing face masks and to continue distancing in most settings. The advisory will also recommend fully vaccinated individuals no longer need to wear a face covering or social distance indoors or outdoors except for in certain situations.

Face coverings will still be required for all individuals on public and private transportation (including rideshares, livery, taxi, ferries, MBTA, Commuter Rail and transportation stations), healthcare facilities and providers, congregate care settings and health and rehabilitative day services.

Face coverings will also remain required indoors for staff and students of K-12 schools and early education providers. [Link to mask guidance](#)

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## Meeting NOTES / BULLETS

- Salt Island - Harbormaster, Building Inspector and Conservation Director will follow-up
- Outdoor seating - June 15th state of emergency
  - Sixty days from June 15th but likely state legislation is coming with extended measures
  - Liquor Licensing Board Chair is following up with ABCC
- Special Events - July 3rd
  - Yes fireworks
  - Horribles is a private organization and the Director is working with committee to see if feasible
- ReOpening Managers Meeting
  - Do we open City hall on May 29, June 15?
    - Ask managers via memo draft, ask to work with their staff
  - May 29th - all mandates end
  - June 15th - emergency orders end
- Outdoor events Block Parties and Sidewalk Bazaar and Waterfront Festivals all privately organized.
- Farmers Market will be at Harbor Loop Thursday's 3-6 (Yes)
- The Stage Fort Park Trolley will start running Saturday, July 10
- The Trolley will run the normal route, weekends and holidays, with the first trip at 10am and the last trip at 5pm.
- COVID-19 precautions will remain in place until additional guidance is received. This currently includes face coverings, a reduced passenger capacity, and enhanced cleaning protocols.
- Please add the following to the City Updates:(done, added - thank you!)
  - Beach parking lots will return to normal capacity this summer
  - There will be no discounted admission at the beach lots or SFP after 3:00PM. The full price will remain in effect all day
  - YMCA's, camps, schools, and other such groups wishing to visit Wingaersheek this summer will be limited to two (2) groups per day with a max of 4-5 buses
  - YMCA's, camps, schools and other such groups wishing to visit Stage Fort Park this summer will be limited to two (2) groups per day with a max of 3 buses
  - Buses will not be allowed to drop off a summer group on the boulevard or the footbridge and have that group walk onto the beach or the park.
  - Those who part at Stage Fort Park to ride the trolley will have to pay the daily admission fee to park in the lot