Shelter-In-Place Order for City of Meridian

The City of Meridian supports and takes seriously the shelter-in-place order that Gov. Tate Reeves announced for Lauderdale County today. I am also adding three additional measures to help protect the public.

Our first and best line of defense is to stay home. If you do need to leave home for essential travel, we all need to practice social distancing (at least 6 feet away from others), gather in groups of 10 or less, and wash our hands thoroughly so we can avoid becoming infected. Otherwise, Meridian’s health care system will be overwhelmed.

We appreciate our healthcare facilities and the incredibly skilled and dedicated people who care for us. Unfortunately, we have limited resources in medical equipment and supplies in our area.

The three additional steps that I am imposing, which will take effect at 10 o’clock tonight, are these:

- All retail stores will close to the public, except for grocery stores, drugstores, gas stations, and convenience stores. For a complete list, please reference the City of Meridian Shelter in Place Order COVID-19 (2) effective March 31, 2020.
- All outdoor parks will close. That includes Bonita Lakes Park, Northeast Park, Highland Park, Planet Playground, and all other parks, playgrounds and sports complexes.
- Daycares are only open for children of essential personnel including healthcare providers, first responders, and others deemed essential.

“Shelter in place” means to stay home – to stay inside and go out only for essential activities. Essential activities could include caring for someone in a population that is especially vulnerable to COVID-19, getting food or other necessary supplies, and working for essential business.

The previously announced curfew for Meridian will remain in place from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily except for essential travel by those 18 years of age or older.

This is an emergency situation. We all need to protect each other right now so we can get through this COVID-19 crisis together and get our lives back to normal as soon as possible.

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