

Appendix A:

Reopening Plan

Task Force members expressed early on that one of the most challenging aspects of the shelter-in-place order was the uncertainty about when and how businesses would be allowed to reopen, making it difficult for businesses to plan ahead. The Task Force recommended that the City develop a plan for reopening the economy with clear milestones, guided by industry best practices, to provide residents and businesses with some clarity about when different sectors would be allowed to reopen. Businesses also needed clear communication about what the health orders meant for them and how to apply best practices to their unique situations.

In response to these needs, the City developed the Reopening Plan (Plan). The Plan was informed by the work of the Task Force, in alignment with the State's guidelines, and based on a San Francisco-specific risk model to control the spread of COVID-19 and protect public health. The plan and timeline to reopen businesses and activities was created in coordination with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's (SFMTA) Transportation Recovery Plan. For each reopening phase, SFMTA would add and adjust services incrementally.

The State initially developed a six stage reopening roadmap and the Plan separated the State's second stage into three phases – Phase 2A, 2B, and 2C. San Francisco's Phase 3 and 4 were equivalent to the State's Stage 3 and 4. San Francisco entered Phase 2A on June 1, 2020, which allowed curbside pickup for most retail, construction, elective surgeries, and permitted outdoor businesses like carwashes, flea markets, and garden stores to operate.

The Plan details which sectors the City anticipates will be allowed to reopen in each subsequent phase, and suggests dates for each phase, assuming positive trends among citywide health indicators. As the City's health indicators reach specified milestones, representing progress in impeding the spread of COVID-19, the details and dates of each phase are finalized and enacted through amendments to the Health Order or directives.

A key part of the Roadmap included expanding face covering requirements for residents when outside of their homes and near other people, both indoors and outdoors. It also depended on the public's compliance with other health and safety requirements and

recommendations, such as social distancing, handwashing, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces.

In July 2020, San Francisco was placed on the State's COVID-19 watch list due to rising case numbers and hospitalizations, restricting many activities and requiring the City to pause further reopening. On Friday, August 28, 2020, the State issued new criteria and a four-tier colored-coded system, replacing the watch list and original six reopening phases. San Francisco was placed on the "red" tier, which provides the City the discretion to move forward with reopening some activities. While San Francisco recognized the State's thresholds, the City continued on its initial planned reopening path which takes into account its unique challenges and successes, and maintains the ability to open more gradually than what the State allows.

The path forward in September 2020 started with lower risk outdoor activities and advanced to lower risk indoor activities with limited capacity. Outdoor personal services and indoor malls resumed operations at limited capacity. Concurrently and on a rolling basis, child and youth development activities and in-person learning resumed. In October 2020, indoor movie theaters with limited capacity and playgrounds reopened. Additional services, businesses, and activities will resume over the coming weeks and months, as long as San Francisco continues to make progress on limiting the spread of COVID-19.

The gradual reopening of outdoor services, malls, and children's activities will increase travel and interaction throughout the city, which means increasing community spread of the virus and an increase in cases. Public health officials will need to regularly assess key public health indicators, particularly new positive case counts and hospitalizations, to ensure San Francisco has the necessary resources available to care for those that are infected.

As San Francisco moved forward with reopening businesses, it also launched Community Hubs on September 14, 2020 to provide in-person support for distance learning and activities for children and youth in need, before and after school time. Other child and youth development activities are underway including after-school programs and childcare facilities. Reopening for San Francisco schools will be on a rolling basis, starting with the youngest children and led by the San Francisco Unified School District for public schools; private schools can reopen after submitting an application that will be reviewed and approved by the Department of Public Health.

San Francisco's updated reopening plan is outlined below and is available online at [SF.gov/reopening](https://sf.gov/reopening). Reopening is dependent upon San Francisco's health indicators remaining stable or improving, and the plan below is subject to change. All San Franciscans must do their part to limit the spread of COVID-19, including face masking, social distancing,

and handwashing. The reopening of additional activities and businesses requires limited capacity and approved health and safety plans.

San Francisco's Reopening to date

