Rapid City Business Re-Opening Plan

- Terminology – we do not have a:
  - Retail closure
  - Shut-down
  - Lock-down
  - Stay-at-home order

- We have **not** defined “essential” or “non-essential” businesses.
- We have a narrowly-focused ordinance, affecting 8% of Rapid City Business and 11% of its employees.
- Based on a point-in-time analysis of information available on March 20th.
Business Re-Opening Plan

The Situation

- Early March 2020
  - Coronavirus activity in China, Italy, Spain, Washington State
  - Early predictive models indicate widespread infection, illness, death
  - Social distancing is introduced
  - The “curve” is introduced

- The Experts, CDC, WHO:
  - 30% - 60% of population infected
  - 80% mild symptoms, 20% hospitalization rate, 5% ICU rate
  - Immediate testing and PPE supply shortage noted
  - Lack of hospital capacity is a credible threat
Business Re-Opening Plan

Assessment and Response

- Early March 2020
  - New strain of virus - viral behavior is unknown
  - Early State response:
    - Using a variety of models
    - No closures indicated

- Early City Response: Authority to act under state law.
  - Many municipalities lacking authority or confidence to act under circumstances
  - Decision for Rapid City to act, following CDC guidelines.
  - City ordinance 6412: Effective March 28th
Business Re-Opening Plan

The Situation Today:

- U.S. data now widely available
- Hospitalization rate 25% of original prediction
- Smithfield Plant in Sioux Falls serves as an example
- Slow onset of disease in Western South Dakota
- Major employers are Monument Health, Ellsworth Air Force Base, Black Hills Energy
- All have been afforded time to prepare for the spread of Coronavirus
Business Re-Opening Plan

- Community has had time to adjust to social distancing standards

- Medical community and our emergency preparation has benefitted from the additional time afforded to us.
Then and Now

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March 27, 2020</th>
<th>April 20, 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of International Data</td>
<td>Analysis if US data, including SD data</td>
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<tr>
<td>80% mild symptoms</td>
<td>80% mild symptoms (20% of those, no symptoms)</td>
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<tr>
<td>20% hospitalization rate</td>
<td>4.5% hospitalization rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>5% ICU hospitalization rate</td>
<td>5% ICU hospitalization rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>The curve – hospitals overrun with cases</td>
<td>The curve – hospital capacity appears safe</td>
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<td>More accurate predictive modeling</td>
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<td>Ability to measure effectiveness of mitigation tactics</td>
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<td>March 27 data no longer valid</td>
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<td>Evidence of community willingness to distance</td>
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<td>Rapidly changing situation calls for flexible plan</td>
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</table>
Scope of Rapid City’s “Closure”

All Rapid City Businesses

92%

8%
Scope of Rapid City’s “Closure”

All Rapid City Employees

- 89% All Rapid City Employees
- 11% Affected Employees

- Affected Employees
- All other Employees
COVID-19 Testing

- On average, 1% of county populations are being tested.
- Pennington County = .3%
- Tests follow viral activity, symptoms
- Widespread testing is inappropriate under circumstances
- Widespread testing is not possible under circumstances
- Hospitalizations regionally support low viral activity
Modifications are Needed to City Ordinance 6412

- To ensure uniform social distancing implementation throughout the community.
- To help reduce risk in light of restricted businesses re-opening.
- Ultimately to protect access to life-saving hospital resources.
- The curve is flat today.
  - It is not flat, solely because of the 8% of businesses affected by the ordinance.
  - It is flat for a variety of reasons, including our community response to the threat of COVID-19.
- The next logical step, is to balance the threat of the virus, with the threat created by a faltering economy
Food security is decreasing among the low income population. Demand for food assistance is increasing.

Food supply to the local non-profit distributors is at risk of decreasing.

Major food production facility shut-downs nationwide, affect national food supply.

Our duty is to avoid a collision of the demand increase and the food supply decrease.

Where possible, those out of work, should return to work to become self-sufficient again.
Proposed new Restrictions

- A minimum six-foot space exists between tables, chairs, and barstools.
- Capacity limits in restaurants, bars and casinos to 10 people, or 1 customer for every 125 square feet.
- Require handwashing at regular intervals for restaurant and bar employees.
- Food service employees must be masked.
- Video lottery machines cleaned and disinfected between each customer
- Customer seats in businesses and theaters marked as “not available due to social distancing guidelines”
Proposed new Restrictions

- Approved public health announcements, once hourly in retail stores larger than 50,000 square feet in size.
- Posting of regular cleaning and disinfecting schedule, specific to each business.
- Hand sanitizer locations throughout retail and grocery stores, readily available for public use.
- Require social distance spacing while waiting for service or entry into business.
Proposed new Restrictions

- Enhanced cleaning/disinfecting requirements for motel and hotel rooms.
- Exercise equipment and/or mats cleaned and disinfected between each customer.
- Seating for large gatherings reduced to comply with a six foot minimum distance between attendees.
- Clearly marked one-way shopping aisles in grocery and retail stores.
- Limit number of customers in grocery, retail, recreation and fitness businesses based on available square footage. One customer for every 200 square feet.
- Plexiglas divider between cashier and customer, where physically possible, in retail and grocery businesses.
Proposed new Restrictions

- Hair and nail salons, barber shop employees to be masked during customer contact times. Customer seating must be six feet apart.
- Public social gatherings limited to 10 people.
- Encourage public masking whenever possible.
- Encourage daily employee screening.
- Ongoing strict social distancing policies to protect the elderly and those most at-risk.
Odds and Ends

- City facilities to be handled separately
- None of the new regulations take the place of safe practices – social distancing
- High-risk groups should stay home, take extra precautions
Enforcement / Education

- Rapid City Code Enforcement will lead effort
  - Emphasis on education
  - Emphasis on voluntary compliance
Future Risk Mitigation

- The ordinance must be as fluid as the problem being addressed
- Unconventional for a city ordinance / government action
- These are unconventional times.
Community Outreach

- Send comments to mayorsoffice@rcgov.org
- Or, 394-4110
- Submit message for public comment for public meetings
  www.rcgov.org/covid
Questions?