

## Staff Report

**EVENTS, FACILITIES, AND SERVICE CLOSURES RELATED TO COVID-19**

May 12, 2020

**BACKGROUND:**

In response to the spread of COVID-19 through the state and community, City staff took steps to close City facilities to the public, suspend City-sponsored events, and halt certain City programs that involve contact between City staff and the public (Attachment 1). These actions are effective through May 15.

**As this date approaches, staff is seeking guidance from the Council as to when and how to resume these activities.**

**RESTRICTIONS UNDER STATE LAW:**

On April 27, Governor Reynolds announced a plan to re-open parts of the state on a county-by-county basis. Story County is included in the list of counties with eased restrictions. The Governor may extend the restrictions, add additional restrictions, or end the restrictions at any time. City staff anticipates revised restrictions being issued by the Governor the week of May 11.

As of May 8, the following state restrictions are in place for Story County:

**Closed until 11:59 p.m. on May 15, 2020:**

- Bars (but may sell by carry out)
- Theaters or performance venues. This includes sit-down movie theaters, theaters where plays or other performances are provided, and other venues for performances. Drive-in movie theaters are allowed to be open, with restrictions (see below).
- Casinos and gaming facilities
- Senior centers and adult day care facilities
- Amusements such as bingo halls, bowling alleys, pool halls, arcades and amusement parks
- Museums, aquariums, zoos
- Skating rinks and skate parks
- Playgrounds
- Swimming pools
- Salons, barber shops
- Tattoo parlors

- Massage therapy
- Door-to-door sales are prohibited
- Gatherings of more than 10 people (exceptions are religious/spiritual gatherings, agricultural auctions, and farmers markets, see below)

Open with restrictions until 11:59 p.m. May 15, 2020:

- Restaurants
- Malls
- Fitness centers
- Agricultural auctions
- Social or fraternal clubs
- Golf clubhouses
- Campgrounds
- Medical spas
- Tanning facilities
- Drive-in movie theaters
- Libraries
- Racetracks (cannot allow spectators)
- Farmers markets
- Religious/spiritual gatherings
- Bookstores
- Clothing stores
- Shoe stores
- Jewelry stores
- Luggage stores
- Cosmetic
- Beauty or perfume stores
- Florists
- Furniture and home furnishing stores
- Tobacco, cigarette, cigar, or vaping stores
- Toy, gaming, music, instrument stores
- Movie rental stores
- Adult entertainment stores

**The Council should remember, although the City may not be less restrictive regarding activities that are prohibited or restricted by the Governor's orders, the City may choose to be more restrictive about events and programs on property under the City's control. The City Council may not regulate activities on private property, and the City Council is not being asked in this report to address any private commercial activity.**

## **MODEL PLANS FOR RE-OPENING:**

The City is not the only organization investigating how to begin to allow activities in a “re-opening.” Both Story County and Iowa State University have published information regarding how they plan to consider re-opening (Attachment 2). Additionally, the White House has released guidance for states and regions to consider reopening (Attachment 3).

## **SUGGESTED DECISION-MAKING CRITERIA**

Access to data regarding COVID-19 cases, symptoms, hospitalizations, and severity is limited and delayed. **These limitations make it difficult to base decisions about City operations on numbers of cases, tests, and other metrics.**

**As an alternative, City staff has prepared suggested criteria to evaluate the feasibility and wisdom of re-opening certain activities. The criteria are specific to whether the activity is an event, City facility, or City program. These criteria are outlined in the sections below:**

### Re-Opening Criteria for Non-City Events on City Right-Of-Way or in City Parks:

In evaluating whether to allow non-City events on City rights-of-way or in City parks, the City Council should consider the following:

- **Is the event allowed under the Governor’s emergency proclamations?**

The Governor’s emergency proclamations regulate the types of activities that are permitted to occur. These orders have also regulated the number of people who may be gathered in one place and have exempted certain services or activities from the lists of prohibitions. These orders are updated with revised restrictions from time-to-time as the public health situation changes.

- **How many attendees are expected, and how densely crowded are they?**

Some events involve participants that are either spread out through a large area, or are coming and going throughout the day, leading to a lower density of participants. However, events that take place within a short time window and in a smaller area make social distancing difficult or impossible.

- **Do event organizers have a plan and equipment/supplies needed for increased hygiene?**

The application for special events includes a safety plan to be submitted by organizers. As an addition to this plan, organizers should be asked to describe how they intend to provide handwashing, cleaning supplies during the event, face coverings for volunteers, and other appropriate measures.

- **Is there sufficient staffing by event organizers to maintain social distancing among participants?**

If event organizers expect to implement increased precautions as a condition of event approval, it is important that organizers also have sufficient staff/volunteers to enforce those restrictions. Events where the entrances and exits are not controlled can make it difficult to enforce precautions expected to be taken by attendees.

- **Is there an increased risk that the event will require City staff to be in close contact with participants or organizers for an extended period of time?**

Some events require increased levels of City staff support for enforcement or traffic management. If an event requires contact between City staff and event participants, that may be a reason to curtail the event or not allow the event to proceed. In no circumstances should City staff be expected to enforce safety precautions required of event attendees.

#### Re-Opening Criteria for City Facilities and Offices:

In evaluating whether to open City facilities to the public, the City Council should consider the following:

- **Is opening the facility or office allowed under the Governor's emergency proclamations?**

The Governor's emergency proclamations regulate the types of activities that are permitted to occur. These orders have also regulated the number of people who may be gathered in one place and have exempted certain services or activities from the lists of prohibitions. These orders are updated with revised restrictions from time-to-time as the public health situation changes.

- **Is the facility allowed to operate under guidance from credentialing organizations?**

Certain City operations are managed in accordance with guidance issued by professional organizations. For example, the City's aquatics facilities use the guidance issued by the American Red Cross for lifeguarding practices. If the governing body or professional organization allows a facility to reopen but has conditions, it is important to evaluate whether those conditions can be met.

- **Are sufficient physical protections in place for employees and customers to conduct face-to-face business?**

Employees who interact closely with the public need appropriate protective gear, including cloth facemasks and sneeze guards at customer service counters. City facilities also need to have ample supplies of soap and hand sanitizers for public use.

- **Are facilities sufficiently staffed to support face-to-face customer interactions?**

A number of staff members at various City facilities have been working from home as a precautionary step to isolate employee groups. This has been possible because the demand for face-to-face interaction with the public has been absent. Additionally, the CARES legislation allows employees to be absent due to child care needs. Therefore, a determination needs to be made as to whether there are enough employees present to staff each service or facility.

- **How many customers are expected to visit the facility, and how densely crowded are they?**

In smaller facilities, social distancing becomes difficult. Facilities could be opened to different degrees. For example, some can be open to the public only by appointment, or to into portions of the facility if escorted by a staff member. Certain areas that cannot be easily supervised, such as meeting room reservations, might remain restricted until social distancing and increased hygiene precautions are lifted.

- **In which areas of a facility can contamination incidents be kept isolated and be handled quickly?**

It is possible that increasing public exposure in City facilities will generate an increase in contamination incidents from people exhibiting COVID-like symptoms. City staff would want to evaluate which entrances and exits would be for public use, and consider whether certain areas should remain off limits to the public to prevent potential contamination of large areas of a facility, which would in turn require more significant cleaning to take place.

#### Re-Opening Criteria for City Programs:

In evaluating whether to resume City programs, the City Council should consider the following:

- **Is the program allowed under the Governor’s emergency proclamations?**

The Governor’s emergency proclamations regulate the types of activities that are permitted to occur. These orders have also regulated the number of people who may be gathered in one place and have exempted certain services or activities from the lists of prohibitions. These orders are updated with revised restrictions from time-to-time as the public health situation changes.

- **Is the program allowed to occur under guidance from credentialing organizations?**

Certain City operations are managed in accordance with guidance issued by professional organizations. For example, the City’s aquatics facilities use the guidance issued by the American Red Cross for lifeguarding practices. If the governing body or professional organization allows a facility to reopen but has conditions, it is important to evaluate whether those conditions can be met.

- **How many participants are expected, and how densely crowded are they?**

In smaller classrooms, social distancing is difficult. Programs may be evaluated to determine if the number of participants can be reduced to an appropriate number while still allowing for an effective program experience.

- **Do program operators have equipment/supplies needed for increased hygiene?**

For each program, supplies of cleaning agents, staff facemasks, and access to handwashing can be evaluated to ensure the increased hygiene expectations can be met.

- **Are facilities sufficiently staffed to support face-to-face customer interactions?**

A number of staff members at various City facilities have been working from home as a precautionary step to isolate employee groups. This has been possible because the demand for face-to-face interaction with the public has been absent. Additionally, the CARES legislation allows employees to be absent due to child care needs. Therefore, a determination needs to be made as to whether there are enough employees present to staff each program.

- **Are sufficient protections in place for employees and participants?**

For certain activities involving an instructor, such as a fitness class, it is not practical to wear a facial covering. Therefore, protections may need to rely on having fewer participants, spaced further apart. Additionally, interpretation questions may arise regarding how to count participant numbers for larger outdoor areas (e.g., is a

softball complex considered one group, or are the players on each field considered separate groups?

- **Is there sufficient public interest in participating to justify the expenses associated with providing the City recreation program?**

Attachment 4 is a non-scientific survey of Parks and Recreation program participants. These participants were asked to describe their interest in participating in certain programs, should they be provided. However, the ultimate measure will be how many people actually sign up for the program.

### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

**The first question for City Council Members to consider is whether you wish to consider re-opening events, facilities, and/or programs at this time.**

In making this decision, the Council must balance the risk of an increased number of COVID-19 infections with the negative economic and social impact that further restrictions might cause.

If City Council thinks it is too risky:

One issue our community faces that most in Iowa do not is the presence of the University. Ames has been largely spared from significant COVID-19 case numbers in part due to ISU's decision not to resume in-person classes after spring break. **If the community faces a rise in case numbers generated from events during the summer, it may have impacts on ISU's ability to resume classes as hoped in the fall.**

If City Council believes there is not enough information:

**If the Council believes that there is not yet enough information to proceed with re-opening, the safest answer may be to extend the existing suspension of events, programs, and facilities to a date later this summer.**

If City Council wishes to re-open:

**If the Council wishes to proceed with a re-opening, the second question becomes how to evaluate which events, facilities, and programs to re-open.**

City staff has provided a list of upcoming scheduled special events on City right-of-way, as well as key City facility closures and suspended City programs (pages 10-27 of this report). The provided list of facilities, events, and programs is not exhaustive. These have been evaluated according to the criteria described above, and the conclusions reached by City staff are indicated for each. **The City Council must decide:**

1. **Does the Council agree with City staff's proposed evaluation criteria and conclusions for these events, facilities, and programs?**

2. **If the Council does not agree, what criteria should be used?**
3. **Does the City Council wish to delegate the responsibility for evaluating other events, programs, and facilities not included in this report to City staff, or does the Council wish to make decisions regarding each activity at future Council meetings?**

### **OPTIONS:**

1. Keep the current closures of City facilities and suspensions of City programs in place through July 1, and suspend events on City property until no earlier than September 1.

Under this option, a decision will have to be made prior to July 1 whether to extend the prohibition for City programs and facilities.

2. Agree with the staff conclusions contained in the report for facilities, programs, and events, and authorize City staff to utilize the evaluation criteria to address future requests and decisions.
3. Agree with the staff conclusions contained in the report for facilities, programs, and events, but bring future requests back to the City Council for approval.
4. Modify the staff conclusions contained in the report for facilities, programs, and events, and authorize City staff to utilize the Council's revised evaluation criteria to address future requests and decisions.
5. Modify the staff conclusions contained in the report for facilities, programs, and events, and bring future requests back to the City Council for approval.

### **STAFF COMMENTS:**

These uncertain times demand that difficult decisions must be made by the City Council. You can be assured that no matter what decision you make, there will be one group of your constituents who will support your direction and one group who will oppose it.

In this case, some will argue it is time to reopen our community as it relates to facilities, programs, and events in order to restore a sense of normalcy to their lives and allow our economy to thrive again. In fact, they will emphasize that the vast majority who have been exposed to the virus, either show no signs of being sick, or are able to recover in a few weeks without any lingering effects from the illness. Furthermore, they believe the potential for a negative impact on individuals from the collapse of our economy would be far worse than contracting the virus.



Others will argue that the willingness of our citizens to alter their lives significantly over these past three months has proven to be successful in slowing the rate of the spread of COVID-19. Therefore, they would argue it would be wiser for the City to continue to prohibit large gatherings in City buildings and on City property for a few more months in order to avoid the risk of an increase in positive cases. They believe an increase in cases will cause a return to the shutting down of the community which will have an even more deleterious impact on our economy.

**Given that there is no one right answer related to the decisions needed by the City Council, it would seem most prudent in this instance that the City Council consider the most conservative approach embedded in Option 1. There appears to be more to gain than to lose by adopting this conservative approach.**

**Remember, you are not being asked to decide which businesses should be allowed to operate nor what guidelines that they must adhere to when they are allowed to operate. These decisions are left to the Governor. What you are being asked is whether or not to support large gatherings of our citizens on City property. Not allowing these gatherings will not stifle the resurgence of our economy and will not impede our citizens from getting out of their homes to exercise or socialize with family and friends.**

**EVENT: DOWNTOWN FARMERS' MARKET (IN-PERSON MARKET)**

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

**Is the event allowed under the Governor's emergency proclamations?**

Yes.

**How many attendees are expected, and how densely crowded are they?**

According to the event application, organizers expect up to 2,500 participants in the roughly 1-1/2 block area during the five hours of the market. However, City staff estimates market attendance is likely to be lower in early weeks of the market, particularly in light of COVID-19. The area occupied by attendees is roughly 18,000 square feet in size, which would allow for approximately 600 attendees at any one time if they were to maintain six feet of separation from other attendees. It is difficult to separate market participants from pedestrians not participating in the market who are walking through the area.

**Do event organizers have a plan and equipment/supplies needed for increased hygiene?**

In its April 20 letter to the City Council, market organizers indicated a variety of proposed protective measures, including markings for social distancing on the street, spacing the vendors further apart, requiring vendors to clean their spaces frequently and wear gloves, and following state restrictions prohibiting seating, entertainment, and non-farm-product vending. Organizers also intend to place three hand washing stations throughout the market area.

**Is there sufficient staffing by event organizers to maintain social distancing among participants?**

The organizers indicate three volunteers and two staff members will be present, according to the submitted safety plan. These individuals will be divided among the virtual market pickup area and the physical market. Organizers have indicated two staff members will be dedicated to the market, which will consist of 18-22 vendors in the early portion of the market season.

City staff is not confident this level of staffing will be sufficient to maintain the minimum safety and hygiene precautions required by the state or the additional precautions described by the organizers' April 20 letter.

**Is there an increased risk that the event will require City staff to be in close contact with participants or organizers for an extended period of time?**

This event generally does not require participation by City staff to manage crowd issues. Event organizers indicate in their April 20 letter that they will need City staff to enforce safety procedures, if imposed (masks on participants, social distancing).

**CONCLUSION:**

As proposed, there are not enough support staff members to give City staff confidence that the safety and hygiene protocols will be enforced as described by market organizers. Additionally, it is unclear whether there will be enough space to support the distancing between patrons, if more than approximately 600 are in attendance at the same time. Because the market area is not access-controlled, the numbers of attendees cannot be regulated.

**Therefore, the evaluation criteria suggest that this event cannot be supported as currently planned. This evaluation does not apply to the virtual market pick-up, which the City Council approved to begin starting May 9.**

**EVENT:      FOURTH OF JULY PARADE AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

**Is the event allowed under the Governor’s emergency proclamations?**

This event constitutes a gathering of more than 10 people, and would therefore not be permitted under the current social distancing guidance.

**How many attendees are expected, and how densely crowded are they?**

Organizers estimate typical attendance of 5,000 to 6,000 along the parade route, which is nine blocks long. The pancake feed typically hosts 1,500 to 2,000 participants. At any one time, approximately 250 are seated in the dining area.

**Do event organizers have a plan and equipment/supplies needed for increased hygiene?**

It is not clear that increased hygiene precautions could be feasible for an event of this scale.

**Is there sufficient staffing by event organizers to maintain social distancing among participants?**

It is not feasible to enforce social distancing along the parade route. This event requires a considerable number of volunteers at intersections for traffic control, along the route to keep participants back from the street edge, and in staging and disassembly areas. Enforcing social distancing along the parade route would not be feasible. If six feet of distance was required between attendees, the parade route could only accommodate approximately 1,250 attendees.

**Is there an increased risk that the event will require City staff to be in close contact with participants or organizers for an extended period of time?**

The parade requires traffic control from City staff at key intersections where more firm direction is needed for detouring motorists. The pancake feed requires approximately 15 staff and Council Members to be in close contact with patrons at any one time.

**CONCLUSION:**

Both the Fourth of July parade and pancake feed are very large gatherings of people. It is not feasible to implement additional hygiene precautions with crowds of this size. Additionally, social gatherings of more than 10 people are prohibited by the Governor under the current order. **Therefore, assuming that social distancing and increased hygiene precautions remain advisable into mid-summer, both aspects of this event**

**should not proceed.** Separately, City staff is exploring whether the fireworks can be successfully held, and will report to the City Council once more details are known.

**EVENT: RUMMAGE RAMPAGE**

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

**Is the event allowed under the Governor's emergency proclamations?**

Yes, provided social distancing restrictions are relaxed.

**How many attendees are expected, and how densely crowded are they?**

The event spans 11 days. Last year, the event included roughly 3,000 total attendees and 600 total volunteers.

**Do event organizers have a plan and equipment/supplies needed for increased hygiene?**

The donations come from many sources. It may be possible to clean surfaces of hard-surfaced donated items or to limit what items are permitted to be donated. It would be more difficult to clean soft-sided donations. Volunteers could be provided masks and hand sanitizing stations could be established inside the area.

**Is there sufficient staffing by event organizers to maintain social distancing among participants?**

This event requires a significant number of volunteers to manage the movement of donations. It would be difficult to enforce social distancing with the volume of customers seen at busy times. It may be feasible to control access into the donation area and limit the number of customers at any one time. However, this would likely reduce the sales of goods.

**Is there an increased risk that the event will require City staff to be in close contact with participants or organizers for an extended period of time?**

This event does generally require close contact between staff and patrons who are donating and purchasing goods, as well as among those who organize the donations in the event area.

**CONCLUSION:**

This event may not occur unless it is significantly modified to reduce the number of customers and staff who interact. Significant cleaning protocols would need to be implemented to ensure products received are sanitized, and some items may be difficult or impossible to effectively clean. **Until protocols for social distancing and cleaning can be fully developed, the evaluation criteria suggest this event cannot take place as it has in previous years.**

## **EVENT:      BLOCK PARTY TRAILER RESERVATIONS**

### **EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

#### **Is the event allowed under the Governor's emergency proclamations?**

The Block Party Trailer is allowed; however, the events that use the trailer typically involve gatherings exceeding 10 people, which is not allowed.

#### **How many attendees are expected, and how densely crowded are they?**

Reservations have been accepted for May 16 and later and through May 7, nineteen reservations are approved for the 2020 season. (May = 4, June = 3, July = 2, August = 5, September = 1, October = 4) Attendance data is not collected so it is hard to estimate how many attendees are expected at events. Most reservations involve a request for a one- or two-block street closure in low density residential neighborhoods, with invitations extended to residents on those street(s).

The trailer includes folding tables and chairs to accommodate about three dozen individuals. Residents may also bring their own lawn chairs, or sit on porches, etc. Block parties would likely have several focal points with greater attendee density, e.g., the trailer, food serving and consumption locations, and groups of game and activity participants.

#### **Do event organizers have a plan and equipment/supplies needed for increased hygiene?**

This is unknown at this time but could be made a requirement of making a reservation. The trailer supplies include a modest First Aid kit but no PPE is stocked.

Unloading and reloading trailer equipment, supplies, and activities may require individuals to work within close quarters inside and outside of the trailer. There would be many shared surfaces as equipment is used as well as a lot of common touch points from the parts and pieces of games and activities supplied with the trailer. Since most of these events tend to be pot lucks, shared food serving utensils would be another potential shared touch point. Significant resources would be required to sanitize trailer equipment and supplies between events, doubly so on the weekends including two separate events.

#### **Is there sufficient staffing by event organizers to maintain social distancing among participants?**

This is also unknown since most block parties are informal neighborhood events with one or more event planners/organizers, but no structured supervision. Social

distancing would rely on self-monitoring and voluntary compliance of agreed upon criteria. Without enforcement, adherence to social distance standards would likely vary greatly among individuals and neighborhood events.

**Is there an increased risk that the event will require City staff to be in close contact with participants or organizers for an extended period of time?**

Parks and Recreation staff have limited, episodic contact with Block Party Trailer contacts, usually limited to delivery of the trailer yard sign to the resident's home along with an in-person hand-off of the trailer key. Police staff are involved with trailer delivery and pickup. Community Service Officers would have limited public contact, if any, during these transactions. Both Police and Fire staff are frequently invited to attend Block Party Trailer events. These visits involve extensive personal interaction between City staff and the public, as well as public contact with Police and Fire vehicles and equipment.

**CONCLUSION:**

This event involves promoting large neighborhood gatherings. Additionally, there are not sufficient resources needed to sanitize equipment and supplies. **Therefore, the evaluation criteria indicate the Block Party Trailer should not be reserved for the 2020 season.**



**FACILITY: FURMAN AQUATIC CENTER**

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

**Is opening the facility or office allowed under the Governor's emergency proclamations?**

Furman Aquatic Center is scheduled to open May 23. The Governor's proclamation prohibits the operation of pools through May 15.

**Is the facility allowed to operate under guidance from credentialing organizations?**

There are several organizations that provide guidance as to how pool activities are conducted, however, none of them directly prohibit pools being opened.

**American Red Cross (ARC)** is the entity used for certifying Lifeguards, Water Safety Instructors, and individuals on First Aid, CPR, and AED's. As of right now, ARC guidance is to not perform any in-person skills training (e.g. water rescue, backboarding, etc.) if social distancing is recommended in your area. Even if pools can open and social distancing is recommended, certifying and training staff will not be possible.

The **CDC** had indicated it would be issuing guidelines for reopening pools sometime in May but have now said they will not. The CDC was considering the following four items in their guidelines: 1) Staff and patrons practice social distancing of at least 6 feet; 2) Lifeguards and patrons wear a mask while on the deck; 3) Increased frequency of cleaning high touch point areas; and 4) Lifeguards are to not be responsible for enforcing social distancing.

The **Iowa Department of Health (IDPH)** is responsible for the State of Iowa Pool Code which governs how pools are operated. IDPH will be issuing guidelines in the near future for reopening pools, however, there is no indication at this time what will be included.

**Are sufficient physical protections in place for employees and customers to conduct face-to-face business?**

Physical protections between staff and customers are non-existent at the entrance gate area. In addition, staff currently sit side by side which will need to be addressed as well. There are sufficient protections in place in the concession stand for staff – customer interactions, however, staff will work in close proximity to one another at times.

Additional concerns are the Lifeguard Room, First Aid Room, and the Staff Office. These areas are accessed by the customer for various reasons and there are no

protections for face-to-face interactions. Changes will also need to be made for staff meetings so social distancing can be achieved.

### **Are facilities sufficiently staffed to support face-to-face customer interactions?**

Due to the ARC restrictions in place and pools being closed, it has not been possible to certify and train staff, making it impossible to open Furman Aquatic Center on May 23. If pools are allowed to open and ARC restrictions are lifted, certification and training processes can begin. Preparing the Aquatic Center for opening (e.g. filling the basins, cleaning, etc.) can also begin at that time. **It is estimated, the earliest possible date to open Furman Aquatic Center is June 13.**

Please note that Municipal Pool could be opened earlier for some activities, however, priority of pool use would be given for certifying and training staff. The Ames Community School District (ACSD) will need to be consulted on this as ACSD staff perform cleaning duties.

### **How many customers are expected to visit the facility, and how densely crowded are they?**

Parks and Recreation sent a survey to approximately 6,800 users via email to gauge how willing they are to come back to facilities and programs if they were reopened in June. The results of this survey are shown in Attachment 4. As you can see, 62% of past users indicate they are willing to come back to the aquatic center. It should be noted that the survey was sent to season pass holders (e.g. lap swimmers, Ames Cyclone Aquatics Club (ACAC) members, etc.), however, daily admission patrons would not have received it unless they participate in other Parks and Recreation programs.

The Aquatic Center has a capacity of 1,428. With social distancing guidelines in place, 315 patrons could be in the 50 Meter Pool, 213 in the Splash Pool, and 192 in the Lazy River for a total of 720 in the water. There is ample deck space to accommodate an additional 708 patrons who were not in the water.

### **In which areas of a facility can contamination incidents be kept isolated and be handled quickly?**

It will be very difficult if not impossible to isolate contamination in this facility as people roam freely throughout all areas of the Aquatic Center.

### **CONCLUSION:**

There are still many unknowns regarding pools and what restrictions and/or guidance will be in place. Looking at other Parks and Recreation Departments in Iowa, Osceola has closed its pools for the summer while Des Moines has extended its pool closures through

at least June 15. Other Iowa communities are waiting to decide until the Governor, IDPH, and CDC issue further guidance regarding pool operations.

The question may not be “Can the pool be opened?” as much as it is “Should the pool be opened?”. Locker rooms (rest rooms, showers, and changing areas) must be open for pool operations but also contain many high touch points (faucet handles, toilets, benches, etc.) which will be difficult to keep clean. Chaise lounge chairs and upright chairs will also have multiple users throughout the day and be difficult to keep clean.

Although there may be enough space on deck and in the water to social distance, enforcement will clearly be difficult. Cleaning and enforcement also come at a cost and may not be as effective as it needs to be. As indicated in Attachment 4 (Summary of Survey Responses), cleaning and social distancing were mentioned 206 and 178 times respectively, regarding what protocols should be in place to keep patrons and staff safe.

**The evaluation criteria suggest that there is not yet enough information to decide about the entire aquatic season. At present, with pools prohibited to open and social distancing requirements in effect, the opening of Furman Aquatic Center must be delayed until June 16 at the earliest.** This decision can then be re-evaluated as more direction is provided from ARC, IDPH, CDC, and the Governor. **Because this particular decision is so complex, City staff can provide an update to the City Council at the May 26 City Council meeting.**

**FACILITY: CITY HALL/OTHER CITY OFFICES/UTILITY PLANTS**

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

**Is opening the facility or office allowed under the Governor's emergency proclamations?**

City Hall and other customer service locations are not required to be closed by the Governor.

**Is the facility allowed to operate under guidance from credentialing organizations?**

N/A.

**Are sufficient physical protections in place for employees and customers to conduct face-to-face business?**

City staff is obtaining sneeze guards for customer service counters/desks in City offices, as well as additional masks for employees. Given the demand for these supplies, there is no definitive delivery date yet.

**Are facilities sufficiently staffed to support face-to-face customer interactions?**

A number of City staff members are working from home as a workforce protection strategy. This has been possible for certain staff members whose jobs allow it because they do not currently have face-to-face customer interactions. Others are still on leave under the CARES Act due to a loss of childcare for their children. Staff is not yet certain whether enough staff will be available to provide staffing for certain services.

**How many customers are expected to visit the facility, and how densely crowded are they?**

Aside from attendees for recreational programs, City Hall and other City facilities are visited by residents to pay utility bills, attend court, attend meetings, or meet with City staff. Since the buildings have been closed, residents have been conducting business over the phone or online. It is expected that a significant amount of business will continue to be conducted virtually, even once the facility re-opens.

Dense crowds do form for public meetings. Therefore, it may be important to continue prohibiting the use of the facility for these meetings until the public health restrictions related to social distancing have been eased.

**In which areas of a facility can contamination incidents be kept isolated and be handled quickly?**

City facilities can be access-controlled to allow public entry only through some entrances. Facilities can also be set up to allow City staff to escort visitors for appointments to avoid the possibility of a person with COVID-like symptoms from contaminating large portions of the building. City staff needs additional time to develop a plan for which portions of the facility can be opened to the public.

**CONCLUSION:**

Because 1) sufficient customer service counter screens and other supplies are not yet in place, 2) a return-to-work plan has not yet been finalized, and 3) a strategy has yet to be developed regarding which portions of the facility should be opened to the public, the evaluation criteria suggest these facilities should remain closed to the public. It is staff's recommendation that this closure remain in effect at least until July 1.

**It is important to note that City Council, Boards and Commissions, and community meetings may need to continue being held virtually after City Hall has opened to the public, depending on the public health guidance related to gatherings.**

**Additionally, because of the need to take extra precautions for City utilities and public safety functions, tours of City facilities will be discontinued until further notice.**

**FACILITY: AMES PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

**Is opening the facility or office allowed under the Governor's emergency proclamations?**

Yes. The governor has allowed for libraries to reopen in most counties at 50% capacity.

Most larger libraries around the state remain closed and are looking to do a gradual phased reintroduction of services and partial reopening – curbside pick-up or lobby pickup, moving to limited browsing and computer use with incremental expansion.

**Is the facility allowed to operate under guidance from credentialing organizations?**

Yes.

**Are sufficient physical protections in place for employees and customers to conduct face-to-face business?**

For the most part yes. Staff is waiting for desk sneeze guards to be delivered and installed. Those staff members currently working in the building are equipped with face masks. However, additional masks will be needed for staff returning from work from home status.

The Library will be installing sneeze guards, quarantining returned materials, arranging furniture for social distancing, using floor decals to space queues, increasing frequency of cleaning, making hand sanitizer available and heavily messaging around safe practices.

**Are facilities sufficiently staffed to support face-to-face customer interactions?**

Nearly half of the staff are currently working in the building, while the other half works in a remote capacity all or part of the time. As the transition back to more in-building operations occurs staff will be asked to return . It is anticipated that many will continue to need to be away from work due to challenges with finding child care.

**How many customers are expected to visit the facility, and how densely crowded are they?**

Last year the library saw on average 1,300 visitors a day. It is hard to know at what level people will return, but the Library could easily have several hundred visitors over the course of a day if there are no restrictions.

**In which areas of a facility can contamination incidents be kept isolated and be handled quickly?**

Once a decision is made to open the facility to visitors, it will be difficult to isolate contamination if it occurs in the facility.

**CONCLUSION:**

The Library has planned for a gradual reintroduction of services: curbside pick-up, moving to a phased reopening, coordinating timing with the City Hall and other city departments. Safety measures will be in place for staff and public to the extent that staff can control. However, public use of a building and its resources will involve contact with materials and other people, and will hold some risk.

At this time, the Library intends to open no earlier than July 1, in conjunction with City Hall and other City facilities.

## **PROGRAM: PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS**

### **EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

#### **Is the program allowed under the Governor's emergency proclamations?**

With the Governor's order of social gatherings of no more than 10 people, most of the programs Parks and Recreation offers would not be able to be held.

#### **Is the program allowed to occur under guidance from credentialing organizations?**

The CDC is currently recommending organized sports should be postponed or cancelled until local, state, or national guidelines allow these activities to be held.

The American Red Cross has not yet given direction on adaptations in order for staff to remain safe while teaching swim lessons.

#### **How many participants are expected, and how densely crowded are they?**

At any one time, there could be 4-100+ individuals participating in a class or program. This number does not include spectators or parents/siblings attending a class with their child. The results of the Parks and Recreation Survey (Attachment 4) indicate 52% - 64% of the respondents are not ready to come to programs if they started in June. As a result, it is hard to determine how many participants there will be.

Some program participants (e.g. tennis, golf) can be spread out to achieve social distancing while others (e.g. adult soccer, ultimate frisbee) are not. The additional struggle with youth programs, especially swim lessons, is the number of parents and siblings that attend the lessons. They tend to sit in close proximity to each other.

#### **Do program operators have equipment/supplies needed for increased hygiene?**

This is still unknown as cleaning protocols are being developed for each program. There have been discussions about not providing equipment (e.g. batting helmets, yoga mats, etc.), however, staff is concerned about what impact that will have on disadvantaged youth. In all likelihood, equipment will still be provided for some programs and the challenge will be the frequency of cleaning equipment in order to be safe for participants.

#### **Are facilities sufficiently staffed to support face-to-face customer interactions?**

For some programs there is enough staff and for others the answer is no. Recreation Managers are regularly communicating with staff to determine who is



returning and who isn't. Additional staff may need to be added so smaller groups can be held and social distancing can be better achieved.

### **Are sufficient protections in place for employees and participants?**

Masks will be needed for staff but may not be feasible for all staff to wear (e.g. fitness instructors). Employees will need to self-monitor temperature and symptoms so additional thermometers may be needed.

One question being asked across the country is whether participants should be recommended or required to wear a mask. Another question is whether participants should be screened prior to entering a class. If the answer to these questions is yes, then enforcement of these policies may be difficult. Some Parks and Recreation Departments are not allowing parents or spectators to attend classes, activities, and/or games to provide less opportunity for transmission of COVID-19.

In the survey results, 76 respondents indicated staff should have or be required to wear masks (51), gloves (17), and face shields (8). As far as patrons wearing PPE, respondents felt patrons should be required to wear masks (117) and gloves (9).

### **CONCLUSION:**

Because there are many programs offered and they vary as to how they are delivered, some may be able to be held, while others will not. **Therefore, staff is requesting the latitude to determine which programs are safe to offer and when to offer them.**

## **PROGRAM: MUNICIPAL BAND CONCERTS**

### **EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

**Is the program allowed under the Governor's emergency proclamations?**

No, with the current social gathering limits of no more than 10 people.

**Is the program allowed to occur under guidance from credentialing organizations?**

No.

**How many participants are expected, and how densely crowded are they?**

On average, approximately 600 people attend Municipal Band concerts with the range being 300 (cooler days) to 1,500 (when Simon Estes is performing). The area where attendees generally sit is approximately 17,000 square feet. This area could accommodate 567 people socially distanced which would be acceptable for most concerts, but not all. However, as an outdoor event it will be difficult to enforce the number of people attending and/or social distancing.

**Do program operators have equipment/supplies needed for increased hygiene?**

There are no soap dispensers in any park restrooms including the ones at Bandshell Park. Dispensers would need to be installed and will increase the parks operational budget long term if this is done in all park restrooms. Additionally, the restrooms are not large which will make social distancing difficult and there is only one way in and one way out.

**Are facilities sufficiently staffed to support face-to-face customer interactions?**

Staffing is not an issue as there is little face-to-face customer interactions at these concerts.

**Are sufficient protections in place for employees and participants?**

Not for the band. In order for band members to be on stage with social distancing guidelines in place, there would need to be barriers placed between each band member. If there are no barriers, there is not enough space on stage to separate members to meet social distancing guidelines.

Since it is an outdoor venue, there are no protections in place for concert attendees.

## **CONCLUSION:**

Dr. Golemo, Municipal Band Director, has indicated that with social distancing guidelines in place it is not possible for the band to play. Band members would be too far apart to see the Band Director. Dr. Golemo suggested a shortened season of five concerts could be done in July (4) and August (1) at a cost of approximately \$15,000. Another suggestion is to do virtual ensembles throughout the summer at a cost of \$6,100.

In the current fiscal year, final amendments included no funding for the Municipal Band and it has been suggested for FY 2020/21 to remove funding for the 2020 summer band season. If social distancing is still in place throughout the summer, doing concerts in July and August will not be possible. In addition, the full extent of lost revenue for the City is still unknown. **Therefore, it seems reasonable to cancel Municipal Band for the 2020 season.**

## ATTACHMENT 1

### Summary of City Facility Closures, Events Suspensions, and Service Changes

(All actions effective through May 15)

- Beginning March 16:
  - Suspension of recreation classes
  - Suspension of events taking place on City streets
  - Closure of Community Center, City Auditorium, Ice Arena, Municipal Pool, Dog Park, Animal Shelter (except by appointment), and Library
- Beginning March 17:
  - Closure of aquatic centers (by order of the Governor)
- Beginning March 18:
  - Suspension of Vending Licenses and Peddler's Permits
- Beginning March 19:
  - Closure of City Hall and other City facilities to the public
  - Suspension of car line and household hazardous material drop offs at Resource Recovery
- Beginning April 3:
  - Closure of playgrounds
- Beginning April 7:
  - Closure of Skate Park (by order of the Governor)
  - Closure of playgrounds (by order of the Governor)
  - Closure of Ice Arenas (by order of the Governor)
  - Closure of golf course clubhouses (by order of the Governor)

## ATTACHMENT 2

### **Summary of Re-Opening Criteria for Story County and Iowa State University**

Story County – On April 24, the Story County Board of Supervisors released a series of benchmarks it intends to use in evaluating whether to re-open County buildings<sup>1</sup>. These are:

- Data reflects a 14-day downward trajectory of new COVID-19 positive cases;
- All precautions to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 within Story County government operations are in place; and
- No unanticipated events or trends have occurred which would suggest reconsideration of moving forward.

Iowa State University – ISU's plan, updated April 29, describes the guiding principles it intends to use for planning Fall activities<sup>2</sup>. While this reflects a longer planning horizon, it may offer some helpful guidance to the City's planning efforts. ISU's planning principles are multifaceted, given the university's numerous activity areas (classroom learning, research, residential living, athletics, campus visits, etc.). Two key elements of ISU's planning framework that have relevance to the City's operations are:

- It is not expected that all risk from COVID-19 can be eliminated. Rather, the fall plan must be developed in a way that continuously monitors and evaluates risk, and adapts to mitigate that risk as determined by the Senior Leadership Team and Fall Planning Executive Committee, in light of direction and guidance by the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other health professionals and experts. Any planning will take into consideration campus, community, and state healthcare capacity.
- The fall plan must include strategies for resuming as a residential campus with students, student athletes, faculty, and staff, resuming their university roles physically on campus. In preparing for an on-campus presence, the plan should consider risk mitigation elements such as:
  - testing
  - contact-tracing
  - social distancing
  - class/lab/studio size
  - academic calendar adjustment and scheduling
  - personal protective equipment (PPE) use
  - protection of vulnerable campus community members
  - facilities management and cleaning
  - event approval procedures/restrictions

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.storycountyiowa.gov/1450/Current-News>

<sup>2</sup> <https://web.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/University%20Fall%20Planning%20Guidelines.pdf>

- residence hall and dining management
- infection/exposure response and control
- quarantine and isolation practices
- limiting or mitigating the impact of university sponsored travel
- other methods for mitigating the risk of resuming as a residential campus.

## ATTACHMENT 3

### White House Guidelines for “Opening Up America Again”

The guidelines for “Opening Up America Again” released by the White House include a three-phase approach for states and regions to consider re-opening<sup>3</sup>. To progress through each phase, “Gating Criteria” must be met related to symptoms, cases, and hospitals. The Gating Criteria are:

- **Symptoms:** 1) Downward trajectory of influenza-like illnesses reported within a 14-day period, and 2) Downward trajectory of COVID-like syndromic cases reported within a 14-day period
- **Cases:** 1) Downward trajectory of documented cases within a 14-day period, or 2) Downward trajectory of positive tests as a percent of total tests within a 14-day period (flat or increasing volume of tests)
- **Hospitals:** 1) Treat all patients without crisis care, and 2) Robust testing program in place for at-risk healthcare workers, including emerging antibody testing

According to the White House plan, states or regions that meet the above-listed Gating Criteria may enter Phase 1. Phase 1 includes a variety of protective measures, including the measures below that are relevant to the City of Ames:

- Social distancing should still be practiced for groups larger than 10 people
- Non-essential travel should be minimized
- Workplace common areas should be closed so congregation does not occur
- If possible, return to work in phases
- Schools and organized youth activities, if closed, should remain closed
- Visits to senior living facilities and hospitals should be prohibited
- Large venues may operate under strict physical distancing protocols
- Gyms can open if they adhere to strict physical distancing and sanitation protocols

If these and other Phase 1 measures take place, and the Gating Criteria are met a second time, Phase 2 can be initiated. In Phase 2, relevant protective measures include:

- Gatherings of more than 50 people should be avoided
- Non-essential travel can resume
- Workplace common areas should remain closed so congregation does not occur
- Schools and organized youth activities can resume
- Visits to senior living facilities and hospitals should remain prohibited
- Large venues may operate under moderate physical distancing protocols

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/#guidelines>

If the Gating Criteria are met after Phase 2 has been implemented, Phase 3 can be initiated. In Phase 3, there are few restrictions on the activities that can be conducted or the protocols that must be in place.



## Constant Contact Survey Results

**Survey Name:** Parks and Recreation Reopening Survey

**Response Status:** Partial & Completed, 1217 Participants (368 Clicked on Link but did not participate)

**Sent To Mailing Lists:** Mayor, Council & Commissions, Auditorium Interest List, P & R Employees, Newsletter Signup, Customers from 01/01/18 to 05/01/20 With Valid Email (6654 Total)

1. As a past user, if the following facilities were to reopen in June, would you return at that time? (Please answer yes, no, or I do not use to all items.)						
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	YES	Percent of Yes/No Answers	NO	Percent of Yes/No Answers	Total Yes/No Answers	DO NOT USE
Community Center Gymnasium, (i.e. open gym, badminton etc)	135	45%	167	55%	302	906 75%
Community Center Weight/Cardio Room	140	45%	170	55%	310	898 74%
Municipal Pool	279	50%	274	50%	553	655 54%
Furman Aquatic Center	602	62%	369	38%	971	237 20%
Brookside Wading Pool	160	45%	194	55%	354	854 71%
Ames/ISU Ice Arena (i.e Public Skating)	149	46%	176	54%	325	883 73%
Ames City Auditorium	186	44%	239	56%	425	783 65%
Dog Park	137	61%	88	39%	225	983 81%
Skate Park	75	50%	76	50%	151	1057 88%
Park Shelters	553	71%	226	29%	779	429 36%

2. As a past participant, if the following programs started in June, would you participate at that time? (Please answer yes, no, or I do not participate to all items.)						
Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	YES	Percent of Yes/No Answers	NO	Percent of Yes/No Answers	Total Yes/No Answers	I DO NOT PARTICIPATE
Swim Lessons	210	45%	252	55%	462	746 62%
Lap Swim	234	58%	171	42%	405	803 66%
Water Walking	374	62%	227	38%	601	607 50%
Open Swim	398	57%	300	43%	698	510 42%

**3. As a past participant, if the following programs started in June, would you participate at that time? (Please answer yes, no, or I do not participate to all items.)**

Top number is the count of respondents selecting the option. Bottom % is percent of the total respondents selecting the option.	YES	Percent of Yes/No Answers	NO	Percent of Yes/No Answers	Total Yes/No Answers	I DO NOT PARTICIPATE
Adult Sport Leagues	106	46%	122	54%	228	973 81%
Youth Sports Programs	175	47%	197	53%	372	829 69%
Fitness Classes ( if you are age 59 & younger)	126	41%	183	59%	309	892 74%
Fitness Classes ( if you are age 60 &older)	97	44%	124	56%	221	980 82%
Small Group Programs (i.e. tennis and golf lessons)	103	48%	111	52%	214	987 82%
Preschool Programs	68	36%	122	64%	190	1011 84%
Youth Summer Camps	99	38%	160	62%	259	942 78%

**4. When we open, what protocols would you suggest be in place to keep you and staff safe in the City's facilities and programs?**

This is such a tricky question. I feel like Parks and Rec staff need to be safe and to FEEL safe - they will probably have a better notion of what that means to them. As for me/my family, I'm afraid I won't feel safe being out around crowds or in small spaces with others until there is a vaccine for Covid19. This is obviously hugely disappointing for all of us, but safety is a top priority for us as it should be for you and your employees.

Encourage good hygiene.

I may change my answers depending how the numbers change in the month of May. Right now, my family is choosing to stay home as much as possible. If we go somewhere, I'd feel most comfortable avoiding crowds (so not maximum capacity) and being somewhere outdoors.

limiting attendance, possibly having reservations available and making sure everyone has an opportunity to reserve (limiting reservations to 1-2 times per week per person)

Social distancing

Limit the capacity of the spaces (pool, etc.). I also would see us begin using these spaces later in June, not necessarily June 1.

Lower class sizes.

Hand washing stations, social distancing, decrease pool capacity

Offer hand sanitizer Stringent cleaning protocols on shared surfaces

I think it might be reassuring if we used hand sanitizer or washed hands as we entered the areas where we would be taking the fitness class. I think it also might be reassuring to wear masks, but I'm not sure how easy it would be to take fitness classes with masks on. Maybe if there was a way to ensure that we kept our distance during the fitness class. Also, frequently cleaning and disinfecting machines, weights, etc.

My main concern would be Furman. Not sure, how long a virus stays infectious, if it enters the pool. Those could be measures to still opening:

- 1) Increased sterilization treatment of water - I'm not a specialist - so, whatever is possible, without harming persons (perhaps also by water circulation/filtration)
- 2) Like supermarkets: limit first period (2 hours or so) to vulnerable persons only, especially persons 60 and older. After that, perhaps only activities allowing distancing such as lap swimming, water walking - reduced capacity.
- 3) Limit access to Ames residents only - low infection rates currently / avoid attraction of residents from counties with high infection rate and closed pools; at entry: swimmers can only enter, if they have no infection themselves, or been in contact with COVID-19 infected in last 2 weeks or so; perhaps take temperature. Whoever enters, needs to be made aware of risk - no liability by Ames & Rec
- 4) (3) also applies to other outdoor activities

Smaller classes to promote social distancing

proper social distancing and regular cleaning of the facilities. Thank you.

I don't know how you would keep any safe distance or masking

Recommend that those who are more likely to become ill should stay home.

Please do not open until it is absolutely safe to do so. According to date, Iowa will not peak until the end of June. I believe opening activities in June would be unsafe and unwise. Until we are sure the virus is gone, I would suggest you do not endanger people by reopening activities and areas. I say this as a parent who would love to sign my children up for summer camps and go to the pool. But it is not safe and it is not yet time and we will not be participating in summer activities this year, especially as the case count in Iowa continues to rise.

Seems impossible that anything would keep things safe enough at this point for immunocompromised folks like me. Sigh...

Social distancing, less people allowed at a time, requirements of face masks when possible and frequent sanitizing of facilities.

Mandated masks. Routine disinfection of high contact surfaces. Mandatory / designed social distancing wherever possible.

Follow the stricter of CDC or local guidelines

Social Distancing

Number of participants should be strictly limited to allow people to maintain distance. Enhanced cleaning. Limit interactions with staff. Don't open until doctors and scientists say so not politicians. Don't put staff at risk.

Lots of sanitizing stations

Regular disinfection of bathroom facilities

Take people's temperatures as they enter facility

Anyone coughing should be asked to leave facility

Notifications at entrance that if you are sick or have been in contact with someone who is sick, please go home

Open swim - maybe limit to 60-70% capacity

Distance between participants/users. Keep surfaces cleaned daily or more often.

Facility cleaning

Clear guidance on group size guidelines (if any) and proper sanitizing options for groups. I think things like group fitness could still work with the small group sizes especially if things like hand sanitizer were provided and encouraged. We would love to be able to resume these activities

Social distancing. Limited numbers in class. Frequent cleaning.

I would have preferred a maybe answer instead of a straight yes or no. I would like to be able to come back and use the pool but the number of cases would be of determination. I would want to know how you will handle capacity at the pool. What happens if I have a season pass and show up and can't get in. Will slides be open and if so how will you manage that? Will the wading pool be open and how will you manage that? Will chairs still be there or will there be set areas we can sit?

Limiting class sizes or admission to accommodate social distancing. The risk of transmission in an environment like the Furman Aquatic Center is low if families are able to have some space.

Limit numbers in certain facilities or classes

This is a tough one...re: the swimming pool, I would try to limit the number of patrons (if socially distancing is still recommended) and \*encourage social distancing as much as possible. I realize opening the pool will be tough. Regarding city parks, I would say "open at public's own risk" and not have as many limitations.

Maybe reducing max capacity?

You must enforce social distancing

Common sense

Observe distancing rules. Limited numbers in certain areas. □

Constant Cleaning down within the facility□

At Furman Pool use the changing rooms but with no shower facility only bathrooms /hand washing and changing.□

Trained staff who are prepared to speak to people who do not observe safe practices.

That's a really hard question to answer not knowing where we will be at with numbers of cases. Masks and easy access to hand washing and/or hand sanitizer will probably still be needed as well as some kind of spacing strategy. That would probably be easier in classes that are held in rooms/gyms. I do not know how you would be able to keep up these standards in the pools. My yes answers above are really more of an "it depends" answer.

Social distancing, take temperatures of all indoor participants., hourly cleaning.

Wait until it's actually safe, please. Once you do, maybe have reduced numbers allowed in spaces and make sure to sanitize floors as well as all of the obvious contact surfaces! Provide testing for staff members and adequate sick leave and PPE. Require masks as necessary for people using the facilities to protect each other and staff, even if they don't want to.

Limit number of people at each facility and mandate social distancing

Na

I hope I'm wrong, but I expect what we're about to get is the COVID-19 equivalent of the 1918 Spanish Flu second wave: far deadlier than the first after everyone opened things up too quickly after the first wave. As such, we plan to continue social distancing for as long as we can until there's either a vaccine or a reasonable treatment regimen.□

□  
By opening up too quickly, it's my fear that Ames Park & Rec will allow the spread of the virus into communities which haven't yet been affected in Story County, as the idea of opening back up will draw in people who think it's safe who would otherwise have continued to keep their distance. There are still many towns around the Midwest where the disease is spreading (particularly around meatpacking facilities).□

□  
I know it's not a popular stance, but I hope the Parks & Rec will keep things closed until it's clear whether or not there will be a Second Wave, and then decide.□

□  
I miss the Aquatic Center. So do my wife and daughter.

Have hnd sanitizer dispensers available. spacing between people would be good. We love the Municipal Band concerts. We hope there is a way to have all/some of the concerts. It reaches so many people in this community.

Small Class sizes-under 8-10. Masks on everyone and precautions for social distancing as best as you can. Full Refunds if classes are not being held.

Appropriate cleaning of facilities.

6 feet distancing

CDC guidelines that are recommended at that time

Please wear masks.

Smaller group sizes,

Limited patrons in locker rooms. - Regular cleaning. - Sanitizing wipes or dispensers available for patrons. - As a teacher, we have had parents sign up for times to come get supplies, could be a practice for workout facilities. have patrons sign up for a time

Limit numbers. Staff and participants wear masks, take temperatures upon arrival

Reduce limits of size

No suggestion. Please let our swimmers back in the water!!
I'm not sure I would feel comfortable for many months more. I'm probably more paranoid than most. I will wait and see if the virus spreads after businesses, gyms, etc. start to open up. There is a 2 week lag after opening before anyone would show symptoms and then I will personally wait a few more months.
I think that it is too soon to open. If City of Ames will open, there should be a strict policy of wearing masks and social distancing. Checking temperature at doors. Strict guidelines on parks and implement it.
Please reopen the dog park ASAP. Make a rule saying until such a date in the future, please stand 6 feet apart from other guests and wear a mask.
Not sure to be honest with you.
reduce numbers of participants so social distancing can be maintained
I have young children and am fully aware of the challenges of getting them to practice social distancing. I would not expect the Parks and Rec staff to have to enforce that in their programs. It seems impossible to enforce that in athletic events, swimming pools and parks. My family would be comfortable participating without any extra measures taken and are accepting of the consequences of those choices.□
□
I respect any decisions you make as they are not easy. My only suggestion is maybe posting signs that advise of the potential danger (similar to swimming in lakes with no lifeguard).
For the ice rink, clean common areas (including the whole north side area where skaters enter the ice) after each event; provide easily accessible hand sanitizer dispensers; think about masks for staff; require all user groups to have safety protocol in place for their programs; post your rink protocols in more than one place; limit the # of people in the building and on the ice to insure social distancing.
I think outdoor programs and facilities should open. Indoor should remain closed for now. Even outdoors, crowd sizes should be limited to a set amount. I see that as a necessity at Furman, in particular. Definitely open playgrounds immediately, with some parks staff unable to do their usual work instead on sanitizing and crowd size monitors duty at parks.
Things based in science, data, and medical reason, not financial or political.
Whatever the governor suggests...nothing more or nothing less.
I think it would be important to wait to open things until new Covid cases decline for two weeks. Afterward, as things re-open, it might be a good policy to have smaller class sizes, leave more time between classes, recommend people (instructors included) not attend if they are feeling ill, and clean areas and equipment more often.
Require masks for employees and attendees
The trouble with the pool is that the things you can do with reasonable distancing (lap swimming, maybe lessons) are not compatible with what brings the money in (open swim). If the pool were open, I would lap swim.
Whatever ISU scientists/Mary Greeley doctors/CDC recommends at that time.
Same that are in place now!
Wiping down and cleaning share equipment after each use. For restorative yoga, people need to bring their own props.
Limit capacity. Wear masks by all. Frequent sanitizing. Hand sanitizer available
Clean locker rooms and pools.
Reservation systems would be best...even for things like water walking, etc
Sanitizer

Significant cleaning and sanitation on regular basis. Limit numbers in facility at same time. Masks for any desk staff.
If possible, limit of the number of swimmers at the pool. It's usually packed in the summer, and I can understand why, but that would be a huge concern if there are so many people and you couldn't maintain some kind of social distance (I wouldn't expect 6 ft cuz that just isn't possible). Thank you.
I would not attend anything until we are at least 2 weeks beyond peak. I would recommend having people 6-10 ft apart when possible. I would require masks when possible. I would recommend limiting entrance into facilities and class attendance.
Social distancing, capacity limits, personal hygiene, hand washing/sanitizer stations,
Masks and glove by all staff and participants, frequent and thorough sanitization, social distancing, free virus and temp checks for all - strict enforcement.
You're asking to be hit by second wave? Keep them closed.
Just keep everyone safe :)
Constant cleaning and enforcing social distancing and minimal capacity
I would continue to encourage social distancing as much as possible; I could see limitations on number of participants or visitors to try to keep people safe.
Just to make sure swimming pools are chemically balanced.
I'd like to see daily posts/texts messages on any changes in number of positive covid people in the Ames and surrounding areas. I'd feel safer using the pools and common areas knowing that the numbers of infected people wasn't increasing after the re-opening of these areas
Use on-line or credit card only sales. Limit staff interaction with the public for everyone's safety. Keep up the good work.
I would love to return to fitness class, but class size, if in aerobics room, would have to be small. It would be difficult to wear a mask during cardio, so spacing would be a major issue. Also would need some way to sanitize weights, balls, bands, etc after every use. I put no to returning in June, but the answer would be yes if I could maintain the 6 ft distance. I would also need to be confident equipment would be sanitized after every use, and that really doesn't seem doable. Actually, classes without the equipment would be better for a while. Zumba, etc. or back to hi-low.
Chlorine kills the Covid -19 virus increase the amount of chlorine in the pools
No Idea and while I would love to see the pool open on time unless cases are dropping significantly I would rather wait until it is safer to do so.
Just following IDPH and CDC guidelines if possible. I miss the City's Rec programs but I am also really happy with how things have been handled for our safety. Thanks!
Good question-I really enjoy Furman Aquatic Center (each summer for about the past 8-9 years), but I'm not sure of the best way to open it! I love the work-out that I get & also the social aspect. I hate to write this, but I question whether it would be cost-effective to open FAC this year. I'm afraid that it wouldn't be safe to open in June (maybe July 4th?) - & by then it would be such a short season. I question if it would then be worth the filling of the pool, the staffing expenses involved & other expenses for such a short season. I would really hate to miss Furman this summer, but these are very unusual times! Thanks you for giving me the opportunity to give my opinion.
Social distancing as much as possible
Participants stay at least 6 feet away and wear masks
Safe physical distancing. If in a swimming pool allow for more defined hours for adults, children and the elderly.
I think the protocols should be defined by the experts.

Hand sanitizer available. Hand wipes available. Staff visibly cleaning the premises. Staff wearing masks if still recommended by CDC.

Please, please, please open furman :-)

staying several feet apart from each other. If masks were required I personally wouldn't participate in a fitness activity, but completely understand and accept if that is a requirement.

Masks and 6 feet apart

I believe that normal, scheduled thorough cleaning of the facilities is always important. I do not believe that additional protocols such as social distancing or limiting attendance will be necessary.

Gloves for employees will do a lot to protect employees themselves, however regular washing of hands and being aware of not touching your face will provide the same kind of protection.

Smaller classes in bigger areas. Close locker rooms. Move whatever can be outdoors.

Limiting numbers of patrons in facilities

Make sure to sanitize all equipment between classes

Sanitize equipment between users, encourage good hygiene, encourage those with any symptoms of illness to stay home

Limit class size, emphasis cleaning and not participating when feeling ill

Social distancing. Making sure that ALL people follow the rules, not just some of the people. If people are not doing what they should do, get them out of the situation.

At the pool, it is hard to imagine what you'd want to have on hand except maybe to wipe things down again at night?? HOping sunshine and chlorine would help deter the persistence of germs.[]

[]

At the weight room, people already wipe off equipment--or should. Maybe more regular wiping. Is the spray a strong disinfectant? Maybe something aimed more at what we're dealing with? I would probably wear a mask in the weight room, if there are other people there. Often I find myself one of two people there at times in the morning, so I think it is a lower risk. And, you have a lot of elderly clientele, so they likely won't start up again for a while.

Hand washing stations and limit the amount of participants

Keep classes as small as possible. Keep social distancing practices.

It will be very hard to maintain social distancing guidelines, or to ensure that the water in the pools does not contain the virus. Any chance for people to gather outside in larger groups will increase the risk of contagion for those they will later get in touch with.[]

The number of cases in Iowa is climbing - it is irresponsible to think of reopening at this time and risk a wider spreading.

masks-social distancing-gloves and masks and hand washing - food prep and serving

Nothing needed for outdoor. No option for indoors.

I have no idea. Just wish it would leave our Earth

Extend hours at Furman to spread out use.

They just need to be open! The virus isn't going away, but we can't hide forever. Clean stuff well, limit participants if needed, and open up!

Making sure surfaces are sanitized. Temperature scans. Social distancing. PPE for participants and instructors



Have Zuma classes in gym so we can spread out. Limit number of people in weight room at a time. p  
Ask people not to use facility if they have fever or other symptoms related to virus. Make sure equipment is extra clean in weight rooms.

Social distancing. If Ames could provide more hand sanitizer stations that would be good.

No more than 10 people in the weight room at any given time. Keep the sanitizer accessible etc. Stay on schedule with filling the aquatic center pool.

The heat, humidity and chlorine content of the water will reduce the risk of transmission of the virus. Seniors can water walk with masks if necessary.

If necessary, have all pool participants sign a waiver before entering the pool.

I don't think we need anything for outdoors, I have opinion on indoor activities.

Hand sanitizer available at all locations-Staff cleaning and disinfecting areas used by public-Limited hours  
Signage reminding patrons to maintain social distancing-Limit number of patrons in each facility

Have hand sanitizers available - Fewer people in the facility allow them to keep their distances-smaller group sizes  
Temperature checks

Move stuff outside as possible. Smaller classes maybe more frequently

Organized league sports seem like a bad idea. PPE needs to be available for staff/participants as needed.

Extra precautions for programs primarily for older people.

Contact tracing, we need to be able to tell if people are spreading through these programs, if they are suspend them again.

Thank you for asking - We'd want the same practices that are in place now: social distancing, no attendance if sick or around someone who is, etc

I would prefer to bring my own exercise equipment to classes and keep 6 feet away from other participants.

I also enjoy online classes that have been offered.

Restriction on number of people. Enhanced social distancing. Play structures/benches etc not be used, or at user's risk. One way walking on trails where possible? Delineate trails and pathways available for walking/running/biking? Smaller areas, facilities to be used by reservation?

All this puts a lot of pressure on staff. Make their life easier too. Keep open areas open and restrictions on all indoor spaces.

Thanks for all the hard work!

Require face masks & enforce distancing guidelines.

Follow CDC and WHO guidelines

Don't know. We are waiting for the number of cases to be consistently decreasing. Thank you.

I don't know how you can until there is an all clear assessment. Not just the Gov. Reynolds states it is ok to open fitness centers.

Mask requirements. No shared equipment. More outdoor exercise options. Added/increased cleaning procedures

More cleaning and smaller classes

Limiting attendance and serious cleaning protocol. I would prefer outdoor opportunities like yoga in the park and boot camp to any facility-located programs

I think only outdoor facilities should open in June. Indoor spaces, especially when people are exercising, are still too close to one another to be safe. Limiting capacity for Furman Aquatic Center will be necessary. It may require the City to extend hours to accommodate guests so they can spread out throughout the day and evening.

#### ENOUGH SPACE TO APPROPRIATELY PHYSICAL DISTANCE

Common sense. Social distancing if possible, don't come if you or someone in your family is sick. This virus has very, very low mortality for young healthy people. Keeping parks and pools closed any longer is not necessary and is detrimental to our community.

Pool could initially be opened without tubes slides, employees can frequently wipe down chairs, although sun is known to kill the virus.

Use chlorine in the pool. Disinfect commonly touched surfaces.

no locker room use??? as many as possible stated mitigation strategies

Limit entry, limit time people can stay at the pool so others can come in.

We have no problem with requiring social distancing. We use masks and gloves and at the Dog Park did NOT pet other dogs or interact with people beyond brief civil comments and even then ONLY from a distance. I'm not looking to make friends of socialize, I just want to get my dog out where she can run off her excessive energy without running off. PLEASE open it back up.

Whatever you suggest is the best I think that is fine. I suggest group fitness be outside when possible.

Limited numbers of people at a time. Frequent cleaning of bathrooms. Immediate communication if someone tests positive who used the facility.

Whatever makes you feel better, I and mine are not worried.

Mask and gloves

Group size limits, masks, extra sanitation, temperature screening

Clean all equipment that SilverSneakers uses -dumbbells, balls. & bands.

There must be both universal testing and positive contact follow up before it is safe for anyone to start intermingling

I think it's way too early to reopen right now, especially the pools - talk about virus soup!

I would like to see the playgrounds reopened but with signage encouraging physical distancing. We enjoyed the playgrounds until they closed with frequent hand sanitizer breaks since there was usually no one else on the playground

I suggest the guidelines put in place by cdc are followed Nothing should open until there is a decrease in state covid cases for 14 days the governor is not following these guidelines and it is a mistake that is going to cost lives

I would love to see the Furman pool open, but I am very concerned about transmission of the virus in that environment and will understand if the decision is made to not open the pool. I honestly think we need a vaccine before the pool opens.

I want to say yes to fitness classes in June, but I don't know what that looks like. Fewer class participants so that we can try to keep a safe distance between participants. Sanitizing workout equipment between each use. People could bring their own mats. Hand sanitizer in the fitness rooms I don't know how wearing masks and working out will work?

I appreciate your efforts in trying to figure out starting fitness classes at this time. I walk, but miss working out.

Sorry, but I don't plan to start going back to fitness classes until the coronavirus is under control with a vaccine or reliable immunity tests. I've made this decision because exercising usually involves lots of opportunities to spread germs (that I didn't really think of before all this).

That said, I'm a big fan of Stacy's kickboxing class. So when I do start going back to kickboxing sometime in the future, I suppose the best safety measures I can think of would be to each have individual bags (rather than teaming up) and to sanitize our own bags before & after class. I suppose we'd need to bring our own mats for floor work, too. Our gloves would be our own responsibility.

Thank you for asking for feedback! This is super important since this is a community center.

Limited capacities and extra cleaning

Limit class size, extra cleaning of all equipment to be used in class, more hand sanitizer visibly available around exercise rooms. Carpet in exercise room is worrisome.

Everyone wears a mask, keeps the 6ft recommended distance and facilities open at 50% capacity. Of course this all depends on if there is a decline by June 1. If there isn't a 14 day decline by June 1, I wouldn't recommend opening at all.

Close pool changing rooms (enclosed space with lots of things to touch).

Disinfecting wipes for equipment. Participants can clean their own before and after use. Social distancing in classes.

I don't think you could do social distancing in a pool setting. There are no safety efforts that you could take to make me feel

Distancing protocols.

Keep them closed

Outside activities should open before inside.

I have most recently used the Cardio room. I have observed that, although employees keep this room very clean, there are people who come in, use several pieces of equipment and leave without wiping down any of them. It seems like maximum safety would require an employee to wipe down each piece of equipment after every user.

Limit the number of people allowed into places, provide hand sanitizer/handwashing stations, take temperatures of people entering into public place.

This is really complicated. I will leave it up for the experts to help you decide.

Masks and limited numbers

Regular sanitation

Limit max capacity to allow to reasonable social distancing; sanitize and clean high touch areas more frequently;

Designate exclusive time for senior use

Have more limited park hours and have aggressive cleaning procedures in practice.

I'm not sure - but I do feel that you need another category in this survey - one that states yes I'll use so long as it's safe to do so. I mean just because restaurants are open today doesn't mean I'll be rushing right out. There were 740 new cases today so that doesn't make me feel safe to go out and sit at a restaurant.

I am interested in Silver Sneakers classes. Use social distancing & masks if necessary.

I would like to go to the Furman Aquatic Center to sunbathe but the thought of a lot of people being in the same water would gross me out too much to actually get in the water (at this time).

Places where you don't have to come in contact with other people (and/or their fluids) like park shelters, fitness classes, the skate park, etc. would feel just fine to me!

Take temps/questions at facilities. I am high risk so I don't know when I will go back. I do, however, miss my aqua class.

Limit size of groups. Usual sanitation and distancing requirements.

Perhaps limit numbers for water walking and open swim. I know that seems unfair, but better to limit and be well.

Everyone like normal should practice good personal hygiene.

Limited numbers of participants and maintain adequate space. If masks are needed maybe we really aren't ready to resume. Close locker rooms also
Social distancing, disinfecting, training staff in COVID precautions, limited group size (e.g. having people commit to pool time).
appropriate sanitation
Keep people 6 feet from each other, and don't open any programs that have people closer than that.
Please open playgrounds in the first round of openings. We miss our playgrounds and I feel comfortable returning to them very soon.
Limit class size, set spacing, provide hand sanitizer
None
Correct use of PPE, especially correct use of masks.
Normal.
social distancing strictly abide by
Water Walking. My goal is to always be the 1st in the pool every day. I walk with a friend for only 50 min. The only time I pass anyone, is at the wider area. What I plan to do is the following: 1. wear a mask 2. not use the public restroom to change clothes. I'll drive and wear my clothes home. MANY DO. 3. I'll only walk 50 min. with 1 friend. 4. This can work if everyone agrees, knows the rules and we have a person to enforce and keep time for others. 5. We could sign up for times and if miss, another can take that spot but spots should be limited and managed. Thanks for asking...
1. Require masks while using facilities. 2. Provide part-time staff members in the weight room, multi-purpose room, gym, and aerobics room, etc. to clean equipment and water fountains between uses. 3. Provide sanitizer and wipes in all facilities and instruct patrons to use them as they work out. 4. Do not make shared yoga mats or other equipment available unless it can be easily sanitized.
Limit number of people who can be in band shells at parks, limit number of people in all facilities. Provide disinfecting wipes.
We participate in aqua classes at Forker and Fuhrman pools. I would want some distancing and keeping facilities sanitary
Enforcement of 6 to 12 feet apart and requiring individuals to leave if they do not comply.
At this time everyone needs to wear a mask to keep the virus at bay, as well as, practice social distancing. We never know what people are experiencing in their lives and it is impossible to believe that venues can be open and keep people healthy at this time.
Daily sanitizing of equipment if doable. Availability of hand sanitizer for patron use.
We already feel plenty safe..try to hire the best workers you can. The cover-19 has already passed through. We are not worried at all and are excited to participate in youth and adult sports. Especially the pool.
greatly limit the number of participants so that safe distancing can be maintained. Take the temperatures of all of those entering facilities. Require masks.
I would like to see the city wait until the numbers of positive COVID cases in iowa go down significantly for a minimum of 2 weeks I am concerned about fitness classes because of the heavy breathing. Everything else is something that simply gets too crowded
Spatial distancing...hand disinfectant and masks

Until a vaccine, treatment, or cure to the virus can be found, I don't see a way to make public facilities safe. At a minimum, I would expect everyone to wear a mask, and all surfaces to be cleaned constantly. It's the asymptomatic carriers that pose the most danger: these individuals would go out in public thinking everything is fine, but be actively spreading the disease. Opening can normalize being out and about and give people a false sense of safety. Virtual workouts guided over internet video chat would be a way to get people involved, stay healthy, and limit physical interaction.

Played golf at Homewood today. The protocols were appropriate.

Common sense

Frequent disinfecting. Social distancing enforcement- not just advisement. You can do this at the city gym by just walking around once in awhile. Rules enforcement and etiquette has always been lax so if it's going to work, you're going to have to be present in the area and not behind the counter all the time. It's about more than kids being obnoxious and adults being nosy or on their phones now. This could mean life and death for someone. We've all seen firsthand that many citizens think this is a joke.

I think the next several weeks will be telling about where Story county is headed with any additional outbreaks. I would support opening of outside venues like parks and pools. You might need to consider daily limits to Furman especially for water walking. I would like the city to consider "hiring" some seasonal workers as these college students were planning on this income for living expenses and tuition in the fall.

Our family trusts that you will make the right necessary protocols

Smaller classes so social distancing can easily be practiced.

Perhaps provide pool-goers with a disinfect wipe packet and ask patrons to please wipe down their chairs before and after use.

Given what we know about this virus I dont think there us much that can be done. You cant play sports with a mask, they really arent all that useful unless they are N95s anyway... I will probably take the risk if coming anyway...

Maintain 6' distance until pandemic is over. Wear masks and gloves in public spaces. I'd err on the side of caution.

Wipe equipment down after using. Participants should be required to do that.

wear mask - keep distance

Masks, social distancing, small classes (10 or less) wipes & hand sanitizers available for each machine use. Availability of restrooms?

Spatial distancing.

I think you should wait until closer to the time to see if Iowa's rates have started going down. The state policies are dangerous and are going to likely have ill effects.

Limit patron counts. Possibly temp check.

Heightened disinfecting/cleaning, people more spread out

??

Fever screen. Limit numbers.

Comprehensive contact tracing

Measure the temperature

Be six feet apart and possibly outdoors. Ie: Yoga in the outdoors. I would want the blessing of medical/ CDC on pool use before would participate and then make the discount available retroactive.

Limited participants, extra cleaning measures For kids programs take the time for hand washing or sanitizing frequently

Hard to know at this time - Appreciate the survey - Thank You

I am most interested in seeing the playgrounds open up. Maybe it would be helpful to have volunteers/staff clean them once per day (end of day)? I have no idea. I don't have a clear vision for what this new reality looks like, tbh.

Required masks for staff and participants as possible hand sanitizer available designated hours for elderly pregnant women kids etc

Advise people to stay 6 feet away from others AT ALL times, if possible.

Better instructions on use of disinfectants. Consider limiting the number of people in cardio and weight rooms. Consider monitoring social distancing every where in the Community Center. Masks may restrict breathing such that it would be hazardous to some people doing cardio. I am sure there were many days that a City employee spends more than a minute or two in the weight room or the cardio room.. Many can be trusted to do the correct thing, a few cannot.

It is difficult to answer these questions based on a date. I do not know what the situation will be in June. My answers may change if rather than "in June" it said something like: "after the daily number of new cases has dropped consistently for at least a week".

As far as protocols, I would require wearing masks for everyone, no physical contact ever, 6ft distance, very frequent disinfection of surfaces, equipment, door handles, bathrooms. I have no idea what to suggest for the pool not knowing how the virus behaves in such an environment.

All equipment should be sanitized between exercise sessions. Flooring should be the type that can be sanitized routinely. Not carpet! Thermal entry systems that measure body temps at entrance to evaluate potentially infectious fever. Sanitizing wipes should be accessible throughout the room, not just at exit door. Lined waste containers available to accommodate them. There should be a cleaning check off list at the end of every day. This should be reviewed routinely for compliance. I would question the use of floor fans that potentially propel unwanted particles in the air such as bacteria spores and viruses.¶

All participants should sign an agreement when registering for classes to follow the city's recommendations for health safety which states consequences if not adhered to.

Sick people need to stay home. Everyone should wear masks if the virus is still rampant by then. Keep groups small.

Lots of cleaning, face masks when applicable, social distancing

I'm a lap swimmer and since I can't answer "Maybe", I would not say I'm a firm yes on going back in June. Still waiting to see how the summer goes. Definitely would use the dog park.

I'd prefer that employees wear masks and that facilities are wiped down on a regular basis, not just at the end of the night. I'd also prefer a limit of pool users, or possibly sign-up times to come in.

Stay 6ft apart, clean and sanitize as much as possible. Thank you for this survey. We really appreciate the inclusion. I will also want to participate in the activities when able to do so but not in June.

I still feel like we have a severe lack of information about how to best keep people safe and that is one of the biggest problems. If we could get full testing in the state, that would be a good start. Thank you for asking and for taking care of the citizens of Ames. I have loved doing the workouts online and feel like the city has done a wonderful job so far.

Maintain social distancing practices - Close water fountains - Provide hand sanitizer in portable restrooms and clean daily

At this point I can't even imagine what would help unless things get in control in the world with coronavirus. Of course sanitizing things very often would help, as well as masks, and social distancing. We appreciate the wonderful services you offer and hope things get back to a safe and healthy place soon. Take care!

For lap swimming, perhaps longer hours or assigned lap times with fewer swimmers at one time and requiring masks from check in desk to locker rooms.

Lots of sanitizing.
Seems like sanitizing the floor surface and keeping sanitized the many various pieces of equipment used, as well as the wearing of masks would be very challenging --- with respect to Classes in Aerobics room on 2nd floor
Stay home with fever/symptoms.
Social distancing = 6' - Limited number of users/participants
This is going to be tough. I know in my own neighborhood, there are lots of play dates and gatherings both in and out of the house. I have tried speaking with one of my neighbors, to no avail. It's frustrating. Some of your younger employees may have a rough time enforcing distancing.
I would not attend
I do have reservations about coming back to programs. Masks and smaller classes could be an option. Hard to say whether or not we will be out of the woods by then.
Complete safety so I would feel confident attending as before . Since I am over 70 with underlying conditions
Limit to small sizes--10 or more for youth programs. Constant cleaning. Spectators must wear face masks and be within 6 feet of each other or stay in cars outside area. Please be safe--let's help Ames stop the spread, not create more spread!!!
No slide use near the Lazy River...water walkers only; no kids using the lazy river even in tubes
Social distancing and masks
Can Ada Hayden be made one way? There are too many people using the path and it is hard to maintain a distance when passing oncoming walkers/runners,
I would consider doing outdoor activities if appropriate space can be maintained. I don't know how that would work!! I would have liked a maybe button instead of only yes or no...
Social distancing where appropriate. Hand sanitizer readily available. Common areas wiped down frequently. While I certainly don't wish for anyone to get sick, we can't hide at home forever. This virus isn't going anywhere and we need to learn how to deal with it responsibly while also allowing people to get back to supporting their families
I don't believe I would feel comfortable returning with my family to a public pool without a vaccine available. I think programs that can be accomplished with social distancing and ability to wash hands/wear masks may be ok, but seem counter to the best interests of the community.
Assigned times for aqua walking in Furman Pool.
Limit the number of people at a time. Change pool hours so that the mornings aren't just set aside for toddlers and adults. Social distancing measures at the entrance of the pool.
Limit class sizes. Sanitize all equipment. Adequate ventilation. This may not be possible.
Fewer users and smaller groups at a time to ensure social distance.
Keep the number of people in the pool to one swimmer per lane at lap time. Have the changing rooms well-sanitised . If people have to wait to use the lap lanes one at a time, have them at the 6 ft. distance -or even try to manage assigning scheduled time. I miss my swimming very much as I am sure everyone else does - but I must urge you not to open before you think it is really safe. Many of us who lap swim are seniors.
I mean this in the best possible way, this is a loaded question. We don't know what to expect or what would make us feel safer but right now in the current climate with the current leadership at both the state and federal level it seems like we're looking at local officials to make the correct decisions. Thank you for the survey, I hope my answers help or are added to some sort of database to make informed decisions.
Mandate masks when feasible. Limit capacity.

The only fitness class I would feel comfortable participating in is the aqua aerobics classes with classes limited in size to allow for at least 6 feet between each participant at all times. If these classes were at Furman, I would not participate if they were held during open swim times.

To insure safety at the library, I would have all staff wear masks, mark off distances for checkout lines, provide sanitizers at each station and encourage/require patrons to wear masks as a public service.

Limit the number of users. Enforce social distancing.

Limited to half capacity,. I dont think its a good ideal to reopen anything to be honest at this point.

I would love to water walk but only if the # of people was limited & everyone had to wear a mask.

Masks, space but bottom line we need to see a decrease in cases to safely open Thank you for asking

Opening the playgrounds is the most meaningful to our family.

Social distancing and require masks to help slow the spread of the virus. Please keep offering online fitness classes until this is over.

Social distancing, 6 feet apart, frequent disinfectant on high touch areas

Small class sizes

No one in my family (3 of us) can imagine any safe way to participate in a Step class, for example, in that small room. Even a class in the gym would be difficult, because you cannot keep people apart, and we don't see how you could possibly ventilate the space or filter the air.

Testing and tracking fully implemented across the state

I'm unable to say

Fitness class sizes be limited, so that people could spread out. All of my "yes" responses are dependent on the number of confirmed new COVID-19 cases in the state having plateaued at a relatively low level.

Wondering how to make water walking "safe" ? Would wearing masks & not allowing use of changing rooms be enough? It would be annoying to be forced to all walk same direction (likely with current) but better than not going at all. Would be ok with me if had to stay 6 ft apart and walk alone BUT would be less "fun" but better than not there at all.

Do not open them.

If people don't feel safe/comfortable coming to swim, they can stay home. Healthy people should not be quarantined, as the definition of quarantine literally is, isolating sick, unhealthy people. Those in the high risk group and those who aren't comfortable can stay home as long as they want. Everyone else should be free to use the facilities our tax dollars pay for.

The fair and consistent enforcement of the posted guidelines or rules in a specific environment (pool, ice arena) would be much appreciated. Thank you for your concern and efforts!

Clean after every class.

These are hard questions to answer because I have no idea what the state's numbers or cases will look like in June. I'm personally uncomfortable participating in any events that would bring me back into close contact with other people. The pool would be safe if I am swimming laps on my own and if I can avoid touching railings, benches in the locker room and shower handles. However, I don't know if that is feasible. I do think that arranging for smaller classes or more fitness classes outside would help. I'd be more comfortable participating in an outdoor yoga class than an indoor one.

Not sure. Opening in June might be the best idea. Limit how many people per class, but then there will be a lot who can't participate and may just stop period. I miss my classes but want everyone to be safe. Yoga...own mat. Have one person hold door open, wipe off when done. Strength is hard because of touching equipment.



Concerning the library, I am hoping all the books and videos would be cleaned before making them available to the public again. I would recommend that all employees be provided with masks and that the library require all patrons to wear masks as well. I love the Ames public library and I am very grateful for all the services they provide. I would need to assess the risk level to myself and my family before returning however.

At least for June, keep classes such as Cardio Dance and Zumba smaller than usual. Maybe begin water walking in the lazy river at 10:30 and 6:30 instead of 11 and 7 so the river won't be so crowded with folks all at once on the especially hot days.

Encourage the vulnerable to stay home

Extra cleaning and limit numbers of participants somewhat. I would particularly like to see the dog park reopen as soon as possible. I see no reason for it to be closed as long as people stay distant from each other.

Minimize occupancy - Mandatory bathroom breaks (10 minutes every hour)

I'm not sure-is there anything about the virus being carried through water? Would people need to be temperature checked? ????

Clear consistent messaging on what is and what protocols are in place to follow as well as what the city is implemented to keep everyone safe. I did not see playgrounds mentioned in the survey but would be great to have those open up by June.

hand sanitizer - more cleaning of high touch surfaces

Note...I answered "I Do Not Participate" to everything listed because the only program I attend is Water Exercise at Green Hills pool, and that wasn't listed. Is the reason for that possibly because Green Hills will have to decide when to re-open their pool before Parks & Rec can offer classes again?

Everyone must wear masks. Limit the number of people in the pool or facility so that social distancing can be maintained. Regular increased sanitation of the facilities.

Not sure. All depends on how prevalent this scourge still is. My biggest hope right now is that the aquatic center opens for the summer. It's going to be a hell of a long summer for my kids and myself if the pool is closed.

The limit of the people, social distancing, disinfecting during the day also.

Cleaning and distancing.

Depending on how many people, hold most classes in gym. Have staff or volunteer put out/away equipment. Use limited equipment. Delineate each person's space in some way so we don't have to try & figure out what is safe distance. E.g., in step class, space out steps at least 12 ft apart. Do the same with BOSUs, big balls, & trampolines. Use resistance tubes instead of weights. Encourage us to bring our own tubes & mandate own mats. Great time to utilize lockers in hallway. I'm aware of only 2 others who use them; Toastmasters rep & janitor. I've been told combos are lost so locks will have to be cut (not mine please-is labeled). Regular group fitness folks could store change of shoes, equipment, etc. Hopefully reduces number of people who need to use locker room; often don't need to change clothes, just remove layers. For boxing boot camp stay on own bag so only 6 people. Hold some classes outside (Bandshell)-yoga & pilates. I won't participate if masks are required. Thanks, Linda Olson

Same health rules as before will suffice.

Respect for space needs for other users, 6'. Be mindful there are other people at the facility too. Be kind, be courteous.

Limit # at a time Stage age groups for water walking

Availability of hand sanitizer, reduced participation for keeping social distance.

Restricting number of participants so social distancing can be reinforced -- and instructors/lifeguards reinforce!! The skate park was a particular disaster on this point before you closed it. Spend money on additional cleaning and have hand sanitizer available at facilities.

Require everyone to wear masks and stay 6 feet+ apart.

Distancing if needed. Perhaps a capacity for the pool.

Hand washing and sanitizer available.

Sanitize chairs are pool

Half capacity for the classes, and strict check-in for the fitness classes.

Nothing. Lets get back to business..if people want to stay home, ok. Open the pool, please!!!

I know every one wants to be out and I think this should be limited to only a few participants at a time. staff should mask and glove if within 6 feet of someone.

Please open the skatepark ASAP. This is not a playground. People do not touch the equipment like a regular playground. It is no different than using a bike path, except there are obstacles. Just like the bike paths and sidewalks, you can recommend people maintain their 6' distance and not gather in large groups. This skatepark is my main form of exercise and it is largely illegal to skateboard anywhere else that has obstacles. Please consider. I am a 35 year old working professional geologist with a master's degree in science, and to be honest, closing the skatepark doesn't make sense if bike paths and sidewalks, and even restaurants are allowed to be open.

There would need to be a significant drop in positive cases for me to begin using facilities again - May 15 is a good target date - June is even better.

I said no to pool now only because of the number of positive cases - hoping by June it is better - but generally I don't use the pool until end of June or first part of July to begin with.

Social distances, Please open swimming pools and ice arena . We are dying without our fitness activities. ☹

The covid 19 is unable to be tviral under Ultra violet radiation and high temperatures ( swimming pool) or under temperatures like tfreezing point and less, the protein of the virus core fractures and virus unable to express virology. ☹

Please open those facilities, we need to continue our lives and also noncompromised population will be able to develop community immunity , which as a result eventually benefits compromised people. ☹

Respectfully, Milla Baskayeva Johnson.

Strictly enforced social distancing

My family and I are not planning to go back to the gym or participate in the soccer league anything soon (that is, not until the number of covid-19 cases reaches almost zero), but if the City decides to reopen some facilities and run programs, I suggest that social distancing and other measures (wearing face coverings when appropriate and providing hand sanitizer) be implemented and enforced closely.

Hand sanitizer at all entrances, keep distance between participants, perhaps face masks, limited numbers in classes

i just golf at homewood and you charged the price of a full season for the season pass there should be a refund of a portion of this money since we cant golf the entire season as usual!!

If mask wearing is still required do not open.

Available sanitizer if possible.

6-10 feet distancing, use of masks and hand sanitizer at indoor facilities.

Unsure how to address Furman...perhaps limited entries and time restrictions (45-60 minute time slots during peak hours to stagger guests). This might be better facilitated by signing up for time slots or pre-purchasing daily passes for a specific time slot.

Limited class sizes for swim lessons and spacing of children. Perhaps having parents participate in preschool swim lessons to avoid direct contact with instructor and child.

Small enough classes where people could be safely spaced apart.

Sanitizing room between classes--is that feasible?

Is there research to suggest how effective it would be to wear masks during exercise class?

For those exercisers who don't feel comfortable to returning right away, could online classes be an option?

I think it's important to open AND protect staff. Prioritizing activities that can be safely executed with minimal risk (swimming, treadmills apart, tennis, and similar) and waiting with activities that require a lot of close physical contact. Probably best for all the staff to wear masks, and have some signage to communicate whatever rules :))

Adult softball would be ok. But basketball, football, etc seem too close contact.

Physical distancing where possible, extra cleaning, masks if feasible for the activity. If testing becomes widely available, perhaps require a certificate of clean health?

possibly reduce the students (gym classes etc) and add different class options - masks and hand sanitizer available

Temperatures being taken daily for workers & those of us going, hand washing stations and sanitizers set up, wiping things down after each class, having equipment set up further apart, making sure people have been tested & those with any symptoms stay home & have them contact traced if needed. have smaller class sizes so people can be spaced out.

Offer online services for fee...preschool, pre-planned lessons that parents can do at home for soccer, tball, sport skill building. Offer new stuff like more arts, self guided park tours, online day camp for kids and provide. "kit" to do all activities. Break for independent activity times like... Find 3 kinds of leaves in your neighborhood and then reconvene for more synchronous activities.

I sent detailed swimming ideas to Jill Burt. Thanks so much for doing this survey!

Limit numbers of participants. Perhaps have registration for specific time frames. Check temps at entrance and ask entrants about symptoms

Smaller classes, clean room in between. Weight room attendant to be sure people clean and possibly attendant clean every hour all common surfaces.

None we know what to do

Limit group sizes, face masks, distancing where possible, and oodles of hand sanitizer.

There is no perfect way to open, and we'll all do our best to be patient and gracious. Our overall concern is the lack of information regarding June. It may seem safe--it may not. July feels more comfortable, though.

If things did open in June, we likely wouldn't attend until late June, when the overall case load of Story County is clearer (hopefully).

For safety measures, we would like to see decreased capacity at the aquatic center (perhaps even operating on some set rotational basis, so the aquatic center isn't overrun in the first few hours by the same people?), regular sanitizing of bathrooms/lockers/communal areas, and possibly some areas closed for the summer (snack bar and eating areas). Other concerns and mitigations (communal lawn chairs removed, limited number of inflatable tubes, temperature scans?) come to mind as well. Good luck!

Outdoors as much as possible, as it seems the virus can't spread in the sunlight and outdoor air

Mandatory mask use for all.

Social distancing seems like it will be the new normal for now along with increased cleaning of high traffic areas and restrooms. I would say there should probably be capacity limits at buildings and indoor facilities. I feel like the outdoor facilities are different and require less restrictions, but still increases sanitation.

I believe that only a limited number of adult swimmers should be admitted at one time, given a set amount of time to swim (45 minutes, perhaps), allowed to swim 6 feet apart, and then asked to leave so others can enter the pool.

Each and every person should decide on their own if they feel it is safe to return. If not, they should stay home.

Just use our heads and don't be STUPID!!

Limit number in pools and centers

Temperature - Questions about illness, sick friends and relatives, travel

Please do not begin programs until the covid curve has flattened for at least 14 days. The curve is still going up so I don't feel it is realistic to have summer programs. If it has then:

- Keep a safe 6 ft distance.
- Take participants temperature and do not allow participation if their fever is over 100.
- Do not allow participation if the person appears to be sick.
- All equipment should be sanitized after each use.
- Restrooms and lockers need to be cleaned regularly throughout the day and well supplied with soap/Purell, towels.
- Turn off water fountains. Either provides disposable cups and water or have participants bring their own water.

Limits on number of people in an area, for example at Furman Aquatic Center. Possibly lower max capacity limits for places like Furman Aquatic Center. Good cleaning practices such as regular wipe downs for any activity that uses shared equipment.

I didn't see a question about playgrounds. Please open the playgrounds right away. I will be happy to bring Lysol to clean baby swings and slides for my 18 month old grandchild. She lives with me and it is very sad that she cannot use the equipment. She learned to go down slide by herself a week before playgrounds closed. It is so hard for her to understand. I will bring the Lysol and wipes!!! Thank you for trying to keep everyone safe. Ames is a great place to live.

Sanitizers available everywhere & encouragement of liberal use of them by individuals

Keep cleaning wipes on hand

Strict sanitizing of weight room and cardio room equipment after using. Steps to sanitize all surfaces frequent. Temperature checks upon entry. Relevant health questions. Initially it would be good to have users wear masks.

Extra cleaning of restroom facilities. Extra cleaning of pool and shower facilities.

I don't think opening is an option till there is a vaccine to know people are safe. This virus is too dangerous to take a chance that is not necessary.
I think you're going to have to limit the number of people; whether at the pool or in the fitness classes at the gym. Honestly, at this point I will probably skip water walking for the summer because it's always so packed I wouldn't feel safe. As for gym fitness classes, I think you need fewer participants so people can spread out more. Maybe that means more classes with fewer or just limit enrollment?
Masks if possible, social distancing guidelines met.
Plenty of soap and paper towels in the bathrooms and sanitizer in the city gym.
Disinfectants readily available for wt & cardio rooms. Determine a maximum number to use equipment in both.
A little better notification of availability/restrictions. I didn't know the Homewood clubhouse was closed until I drove into the parking lot.
Masks and small groups
Temperatures of participants taken
Maintain social distancing poolside! Space the chairs and loungers farther apart than usual, and keep a sharp lookout for kids, and/or adults who crowd together, run, or roughhouse!
Limited capacity
Post signs: use hand sanitizer (have available), individual wipe down equip. before & after use, maintain 6' distance, encourage not participating if not feeling well or have cough, temp. wear face mask. Tell people to leave if not following rules.
Just try to encourage people to stay home if they are not feeling well. Try to social distance if possible. Additional hand sanitizer stations.
Ability to respecting people's desire to social distance if they wish.
none
If indoor pools are able to open have it available to those in swim lessons, a class, and use for the swim team with guidelines.
Lots of cleaning procedures in place not only for staff, but having things readily available for participants as well
I feel that social distancing would be helpful and having everyone wear face masks and wash their hands before and after exercising.
Hand washing, extra cleaning of facilities
My opinion on the pool opening and use may change depending on the course of the next few weeks and how things improve/get worse. I think limiting capacity and increased sanitation would be good protocols to put in place when reopening
I participate in fitness classes! cardio dance. I would suggest they be held in gym so there is more room. Then I think I'd feel pretty comfortable. The exercise room would be too small. Thanks Nancy for the videos!! Janet
Pertaining to group fitness classes: make sure there are lots of sanitizing wipes, plenty of hand sanitizer and multiple boxes of tissues available.
limit number of participants at a time - maybe wear a mask? - constant wiping down of equipment - temperature check first
I'm interested in the pool being open, but I don't know how to keep people safe. I don't think anyone would swim with a mask on. Capacity would have to be limited so people could spread out more.

Making sure the pool area is clean and sanitized.
Required masks
There are no ways to distance during any of these activities.
Whatever is recommended by medical/scientific experts
Just keep it clean and sanitized
Continue to disinfect surfaces/high touch area where appropriate Social distancing where it makes sense. Keep restrooms open but clean more often.
Make Brookside wading pool free, it won't make things safer, but the revenue can't be worth much and it'd be a nice gesture to the community.
Limited class sizes, strict infection control protocol
masks - lessons limit to 6 - open longer on hot days
I take several yoga classes. I will not feel comfortable of awhile-going into a small room. If it was in the gym and we spread out I would feel more comfortable. I really miss it and will come back when I deem safe. Thank you for what you do. Cathy K
Needs to be thoroughly cleaned and sanitary before and after use of equipment. Have available hand cleaners. Have paper towels in the bathrooms. The air dryers are unsanitary â€¦ blow viruses around. Use social spacing.
This will all depend on the current situation. With the constant change, it's hard to know what will work best.
Limit the number of participants to allow for proper distancing. For example, open swim is probably not an option. Kids simply will not socially distance in the pool or on the pool deck/ Lap swimmers would agree to spread themselves out over the time allotted, which could be considerable if there is no open swim. My bad back is screaming to be back in the pool and I would be willing to come at any assigned time in order to be back in the pool.
masks required. at least 6 ft social distancing that is regulated and enforced. thorough cleaning and sanitization of all equipment after every use.
I am a golfer only. The Homewood restrictions for the most part seem reasonable. My only comment is that it is a shame that those too old to walk the course cannot rent a cart.
Distancing and that would be easy for adults at furman
Easy social distancing. Limiting number of participants.
All the protocols, and then some.
I only use water walking. It seems the life guards would be okay. Maybe since it is so popular and social distancing would be an issue, A-L could use the pool from 11-12 and M-Z 12-1. I don't know how you could protect the people who scan our passes and take money. Maybe what the grocery stores are doing, have a plexiglass shield.
Water walking can get very crowded. Limit # and only allow people to go one direction.
You really should have included a maybe option. My daughter loves swimming. I would love for her to be able to do swim lessons and free swim at Municipal or Furman again but only if there are CDC recommended guidelines for it and I felt comfortable with them. Safety almost dictates the need for young swimmers to be in close proximity of an instructor. If recommended guidelines at that point are 6' and a mask I will not take her to either pool. I can't think of how it will work to let kids (and even adults) jump in a pool but keep away from each other. Reduced capacity, parent/guardian direct supervision, lifeguards actually asking people to leave for non-compliance? I just don't know right answer.

I can speak particularly for pools. 1/2 capacity. for all programs and open swims. Offer more , shorter classes. instead of 45 minute swim lessons, cut down to 30 minutes and such across the board.

I am clueless. I wouldn't want to say I am terrified, but I may be socially isolating for a very long time. Not at all certain what you or anyone can do other than incorporate a very strict testing regimen to ever make me feel comfortable or feel secure in even small groups again. I wish you good luck and stay safe. Carol Gayer

I don't know if I would return in June things changing so fast. Small class sizes, so not close together. Masks maybe? Wiping down equipment better.

Be sure we have past the peak of the virus infections and are definitely approaching zero infections.

Require masks as much as possible. Require smaller groups and social distancing as much as possible. I just don't think anything should reopen until COVID-19 cases and deaths cease.

Limit group size

Additional cleaning of facilities

Take temperatures before people can enter. Have people use antibacterial. Limit the number of people.

Small swim lessons classes. Limited capacity for the pool, maybe consider needing to reserve time at the pool to keep numbers manageable. Space apart seating in the pool areas.

Pool only open if the Rate of infection is down.

Handwashing stations. Temp checks

Staff wear gloves and masks. Clean ! Wipe areas down. Clean playgrounds ! Daily cleaning I think June 1 is early

Follow the suggested protocol

Smaller class sizes and enough distance to maintain the CDC recommended precautions. All equipment would have to be cleaned and disinfected plus enough time between classes to be effective.¶

Cough and a sneeze are not as innocent as we once thought. Masks and exercise don't go together.

Open the shelters in the parks.

Maybe taking participants temperature before entering facility

I take water aerobics at Green Hills. I will participate as soon as they let us, but I'm afraid that will be later than sooner.

Spaced seating (leaving a certain number of seats and a row between people) in the auditorium, Increased cleaning & disinfecting of pools and recreation facilities, smaller classes so people can be spaced out better.

Require masks from adults and older children. And require hand washing or germx before and after activities.

Have smaller class sizes

Extra chlorine?!

No suggestions at this time

I don't know, really. My first thought would be that by then everyone should be going on as normal. It's really not great for the immune system to be killing all the germs that we would naturally be exposed to.

6 ft apart minimum space. Hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes available

Staff can wear face masks since they aren't participating in the activities. The customers can be spaced further her apart in gyms and classes, and swimmers can swim in opposite directions in lanes or have wider lanes with NO lane sharing. Those are my suggestions. Oh, and have the lounge chairs further apart as well!

Do not attend if not feeling well.
Smaller groups, assurance that facilities are being cleaned and sanitized, providing hand soap and/or sanitizer, requirement for face masks.
A disinfecting process. do not open too soon
Disinfectants for participants to use in gyms and indoor spaces. Mandatory showers at pools. Questionnaires about recent health before using facilities.
I would participate in a small group outside activity knowing that we all could maintain cleanliness. I am not sure at this time what would make me comfortable with the pools, indoor or outdoor
At the pool, instead of passing off lifeguard tubes at every spot to the next person, instead, at the beginning of each shift, give every lifeguard their own tube to use for the whole shift, and wipe it down at the end of the shift. That way 25-50 people won't touch the same tube in one day. Can you add chlorine to kill the virus? If it doesn't, then don't open because everyone that goes in the water will get it :( Not related to coronavirus, but PLEASE clean the stairs that lead to the top of the tube slide (specifically), but also the top of the red slide and family slide more often, like once a week, because those stairs (specifically the tube slide stairs) are germ and gross. Make sure there are hand sanitizer and wipes available in every bathroom, all day and night Wipe the tubes for the lazy river or spray them down after people use them Screen everyone for temperature? If it's not affected by standing in the sun
Everyone wash hands and we'll be fine ;)
Limitation on numbers, masks on all staff and participants until testing shows negligible infection risk, stringent cleaning routines.
Limit admission. Hand sanitizer. Social distancing
Social distancing, cleaning extensively and often, staff in gloves and masks, extensive testing and contact tracing
You should turn on water fountains now and clean the public restrooms if you can find someone to do it That might be impossible with state and federal unemployment compensation exceeding working wages. You should consult the suggestions of the Iowa Department of Public Health or one of its officers on the the various activities.
Please don't cancel the Ames Municipal Band concerts. Please work with Dr. Golemo and others to create a safe alternative to Thursday night music events. Music helps heal the soul. Music and mental healing are important right now.
Whatever procedures deemed valuable by health departments and all participants need to adhere to those
Clean equipment after before and after use. Keep distance . Wash hands before and after.
Chairs at the pool distanced as needed. Concessions open but nothing but rewrapped stuff
Hand sanitizer available in multiple places. Urge social distancing whenever possible.
Lets have aqua,lap, water walking.
Limit how many can swim at a time.
just do water aerobics so don't know how to handle that unless it would be small enough classes to keep the distance that is required other than that, I guess I have no suggestions.



Wearing masks where appropriate. Frequent cleaning of high use areas.
It would be ideal if social distancing could still be implemented as much as possible. Maybe masks be in use depending on what facility is used.
Mask for all !.
Wait until Story County infection rate decreases or remains at zero for 14 days straight. Everyone required to wear masks if in an indoor facility. At least 6 ft distance between participants. Disinfect equipment after every use. Our family will follow data and science-based recommendations, such as those by the CDC (not those by politicians or businesses) for when it is safe to participate in public activities.
I would not feel comfortable using public bathrooms or drinking fountains
I feel outdoor activities are safer and therefore will not be worried about the protocols implemented to move forward.
Social distancing
I am a regular participant in the one-one reformer sessions with Kathy Vince and very much look forward to resuming them when they are safe. I trust Kathy will continue to regularly disinfect the equipment and anticipate her wearing a face mask.  My concern is that the room is quite small and the ventilation may not be adequate. A bigger concern is that when other groups are allowed to use that room it is often not adequately cleaned. Under the current circumstances. I strongly urge that outside groups, e.g. the church group, those using the auditorium and wanting dressing room space, et al NOT be allowed to use the reformer room unless CITY staff can guarantee that it is adequately cleaned prior to the regularly scheduled reformer sessions.  I certainly want and need together back to the regular reformer sessions but would choose not to do so if the room is not properly cleaned. Betsy West
Whatever has been deemed appropriate as far as cleaning and density limits
Smaller groups with space between individuals
Cleanliness. Social distance, however that's defined. Checking health of participants. Able to verify good health of staff
Limit class sizes. More time between class sessions for disinfecting.
Smaller class sizes, limiting the number of people in the changing room or closing the changing rooms, hand sanitizer, no handheld shared equipment. Floor marking for spacing.
I really don't know. It may be a very long time until I use my usual facilities again.
Lessen the amount of people who can be in the space.
The appropriate social distance at public parks/dog parks, exercise classes and open equipment areas. I am not sure what protocol you would use for the pool/aquatic areas, maybe stagger the adult use time so it is more spread out and limit participation in open use times if at all.
Easy access to hand sanitizers , etc
safe distance and or face masks
I am fine to open as you normally would
Thanks

Anything that kids touch need to be disinfected daily. Play pal toys, play equipment at parks, etc. I feel like children will pass this faster than adults so extra precautions need to be taken.

Smaller classes, availability of hand sanitizers, sanitation of equipment between classes.

Taking temps before entering. Limit attendance.

Mandatory face/nose masks, 6-ft individual distancing, find some way to make lockerrooms/bathrooms safe

I take water aerobics at Green Hills and will participate in that whenever it reopens. Classes need to be smaller so the pool is not crowded. It would be good to take temperatures as we enter.

Extra cleaning and limited numbers. I am not sure I will be comfortable bringing my kids to large gatherings until there is more widespread testing/contact tracing.

It is too early! We must continue to self-isolate as much as possible. This is the only way we have to fight this virus! Opening up too early will lead to more spread and more deaths. This is especially worrisome for older people and those with medical conditions.

Move class to gym for distance between participants.

Don't open the pool if it isn't safe.

Masks required of all participants. VERY limited class sizes. For instance, swimming lessons up to 4 children per class, and be sure instructors are being mindful of distancing. Also, keep locker areas and showers closed. Bathrooms only (toilet and sink).

June may be too soon for the community and getting staff to work at city facilities. I say wait for official numbers to come back for Covid cases and reassess for a possible July opening for facilities and programs.

I would like to use the outdoor pool to water walk and have power aquatics classes. I don't think it would work to wear face masks but if we have social distance I think it would be safe. Would the chlorine in the pool kill the virus?

All equipment, surfaces, the carpet in the Cardio room must be thoroughly sanitized after each use. The wipes supplied do not do a good job. They are hardly wet. Facemasks are a must. Personally, I cannot return until there is zero chance that I would contract COVID 19.

Distancing, strong disinfecting protocols, reopen at limited capacity, remove/disable items such as public drinking fountains, do not reopen activities such as basketball that involve a large number of persons touching the same object that cannot be disinfected as opposed to a piece of exercise equipment that can be disinfected between uses.

Masks - Distance

Mainly it is the Aquatic Center that we use we would love to go this summer if things are under control. Obviously, we would expect things to be cleaned regularly, but masks aren't an option at the pool, so we will just have to wait and see.

Employees having contact with the public should wear masks. Limited # of people in weight room etc Insist all equipment is wiped down by participants after use

Clear and frequent signage of participant protocol for social distancing and sanitizing surfaces between use, as well as easy access to hand washing stations/sanitizer and changes in arrangement of any seating areas to prevent close gatherings of people. Use of only larger spaces with adequate social distancing. For park shelters, spacing reservations by several days, providing guidance on use of table coverings that can be wiped/sanitized, and spreading out seating when possible.

Do not open until Iowa has had decreasing numbers of Covid cases for 14 consecutive days, per the CDC's guidelines. Once that criteria is met, encourage mask use wherever possible, clean facilities thoroughly at more frequent intervals, and decrease numbers allowed in facilities at a time if possible.

What the instructors had us do right before Ames parks and Rec closed due to the virus: wipe down all equipment after use.

Mask usage by staff and participants

For the pool perhaps allow families in by first initial last name during a certain time period and I think the lap swimmers are ok, no lane sharing? Pool walkers can keep social distance and the kid pool again maybe first initial last name during a certain time frame?

I have a shelter rented in August for a family reunion. Hopefully things will have improved before then for the Corona19 virus. I don't know what you could do to keep things sanitary as we will be outdoors. Fresh air, plenty of sunshine and the good Lord willing.

Masks required and maintain social distancing

want to make sure that only healthy people are coming in.

Thorough cleaning, gloves when appropriate

Limit the class sizes. Require masks at appropriate events. Couldn't do when exercising, class size would have to be smaller. Wouldn't go to the pool at all

Limit the number of participants at any one time. It would also be a good idea to limit the amount of time you could spend at a facility (for example 2 hours at the swimming pools)

Mandatory social distancing of at least 6 ft enforced. Mandatory masks for everyone. Hand washing or sanitizing stations. Frequent cleaning procedures, several times a day

I really think these facilities should remain closed till a good, reliable vaccine comes out. You can't social distance at these places. In hot weather you won't put mask, gloves and goggles on. You can't wear mask in a pool.

Cleaning of surfaces regularly. Staff wearing masks and social distancing from visitors.

None. This is way overblown.

Hand sanitizing stations. Cleaning of surfaces. Masked and gloved employees at entrances. Distancing protocols.

Sanitizer available, clean facilities

Plenty of hand sanitizer and disinfecting wipes

Setting a maximum occupancy for pool environments

Perhaps limit the number of people in the weight room, ask that they wipe down weights and treadmill when finished.

Specifically for Furman Aquatic Center, I think it would be useful to alter the schedule in order to allow user groups, especially those at risk, to be separated. For example: 10:00a-12:00p Adult Lap Swim and Water Walking. 12:30-2:30p Tot Time. 3:00-8:00p Open Swim.

For other facilities, I think it's best to be smart. No rental equipment, limited public facilities such as water coolers and bathrooms, and face to face interaction reduced to a minimum. With that, I think it would be best to have pass sales reserved for over the phone. Especially at Furman, pass sales create long lines, prolonged interaction, and immediate exchange of materials.

My last suggestion: ask your employees their thoughts. Not the full time salaried staff members, but the part-time seasonal staff who will be running the facility. Hear what suggestions they have and learn what they feel comfortable with. They are the ones on the front line, their voice should be heard in the process.

Marked places to stand for the aerobic workouts in the gymnasium.

None. Open the Golf Course!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Hand sanitizer and safety guidance.

Recommended procedures and ok by physician

Wearing masks. 6 foot distances. Clean knobs and handles etc.

Limit class sizes; masks worn; ramped up cleaning of facilities, particularly door knobs, handles, buttons, anything people touch with there hands

Firstly, follow the data. Just because someone says you can open does not mean it is necessarily safe. If the trends are still spiking, it's not safe.

Secondly, I don't believe we are all ready for what a new "normal" is going to look like. Everyone is in a hurry to get back to the way things were. I personally don't believe we will get back to that, at least not for a long time (years). The projections I've heard indicate that there likely will be more surges in the months and seasons to come. Until a vaccine is widely distributed, I believe we will have some form of social distancing/preventative methods in place to keep people safe.

Bottom line, I know things need to open eventually. Just don't push it. Use the data around you, and make the choices that keep the most people safe, not whatever political pressure is being applied.

I do not have answer for this I support providing jobs, but also know that making money takes priority over taking care of oneself I believe that is half the battle in the situation we are in now As of this moment, seeing how politicized and polarized a virus can get, the information is overwhelming at best to attempt to make sound decisions we will opt out of larger group settings until it is absolutely necessary (school, work).

I am sorry I cannot complete this survey. Like you, my husband and I are taking this day by day. At 75 and 78 we feel we need to exercise extra caution. We will be heartbroken if Furman Pool is closed all summer; but perhaps it is like the closing of the pools in the early 50s during the polio epidemic. Perhaps, it simply must be closed.

Require masks when possible and continue social distancing. The group classes are usually on the smaller side but it can still feel crowded in the rooms where the classes are held.

I will not participate until there is a vaccine for this virus or I can confirm immunity

Can we take temperatures of participants?

I answered yes to most, however it really depends on the state of things at that time. I will still use social distancing measures and wear a mask when possible.

Limited # of people in a space or program. Sign up times to use the weight room or fitness machines, wiping down between users. The users should do it but they don't always, more space between fitness machines.

I want things safe and under control before returning to normal. The past two days, 740 and 757 new cases were announced. Covid is increasing faster than the testing. I think it's too early to think that things will be safe in June.

Frequent cleaning; cleaning of shared equipment after every use. Required social distancing.

People should stay their distance and wear masks when interacting directly with others. Maybe the pool could limit the number of ppl per day?

Anyone showing any health symptoms should self-exclude themselves.

It depends on what time you open in June. If it is late June I would consider going to Ames Parks & Rec activities. I am not ready to be in the general public before then. If we have declining numbers for several weeks in a row then I may be more comfortable.

Whatever is recommended by CDC .

14 days with no new cases, everyone in masks, bathroom sanitizer between uses, social distancing

Employee Safety, distances, Sanitizing stations, social distancing' reduced Class sizes

Masks and gloves, no more than 10 people in a space and they should be 6 feet apart. I don't think anything should be open no matter what the governor claims. There isn't enough testing to know who has COVID and who may have had it.

Limiting size of groups, social distancing 6ft, require masks, provide or sell disposable masks, provide and require hand sanitizing before and after workouts, provide machine wipe down material and limit time of workouts. There would have to be some kind of a sign up sheet for times.

Six foot distances - Limited numbers in area

Regular cleaning of park restrooms and plenty of soap and water for hand washing

A limit on numbers. Social distancing. Take temperatures.

Social distancing

Small class sizes

Limited capacity to allow spacing.

Limiting class size

I am only able to water walk at Furman. I am reasonably sure the water chemistry can be maintained and wouldn't be a threat. The sun would keep outside benches, pool deck "sanitized." But I can't imagine how the locker rooms could be maintained given the low light, high humidity and roughness of floor surface. Being at high risk, I think it would be unlikely that I would feel "safe" in the locker room.

In general, masks would be of no use not only because of splashing water, but they make it very hard to breathe when not exercising, let alone when exercising. Disinfectants could cause allergic reactions or skin sensitivities.

Just my thoughts off the top of my head.

I would hope people will obey rules and regulations and if they choose to not comply they would be refused entrance. It will be nearly impossible to keep the 6 feet distancing in a pool which is a concern to me. I am leery yet of things opening too soon and water walking is my only participation so I cannot guarantee I would start right away in June

try to stay 6 feet apart

Making and social distancing, thorough ongoing cleaning between patrons.

Capping the number of guests at the Furman Aquatic Center so guests can more easily maintain appropriate social distance, perhaps by creating an online reservation system so people can know in advance if there will be space for their family at the pool.

If you aren't going to have restrooms available for golfers at Homewood, that may deter some from going. Also, if no beverages available for purchase, you should consider allowing golfers to bring their own water or gatorade.

The CDC data shows the COVID-19 deaths and confirmed cases are LESS than the seasonal flu. Please reopen so we can freely exercise and bolster our immune systems.

Given cases are still increasing, on some days, I would not participate in activities where there is a strong possibility of a large number of people.

Intense disinfecting the areas used.

Social distancing measures. Limiting the number of people who can enter the pool area by number.

Masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, frequent cleaning

Hand washing/sanitizing stations, Increased cleaning/sanitizing, adjusted hours, Special scheduling-rotating usage

If people are sick or showing symptoms, they should stay home. If they choose to come showing symptoms, they should be directed to leave. Otherwise, life can and should return to normal with no additional protocols. If the city were so inclined, I would support taking people's temperatures prior to entrance to a facility.

My suggestion is to just follow the state mandate. Do not do more than the suggested protocol.

Sanitizer near by, clean all machines after use. Everyone wear masks where applicable. Maintain physical distancing. If necessary, smaller classes.

People to be careful about their illness and stay home if symptoms. Cover coughs and sneezes with elbows. Have FUN!

health check in, mask, sanitizer and outdoor classes

It has been proven by US and European doctors and scientists that children DO NOT spread COVID-19. A simple Google search will produce these studies. Therefore, it is entirely safe to open the playgrounds without any restrictions. To continue to keep the playgrounds closed harms children's mental and physical health.

Keep social distancing as reasonably expected, make paths that people bike/walk/run through one way to minimize people coming in contact.

I would come to the pool in June if you were to limit number of people at pool. Have people sign up for times to swim? Limit times to 2 hrs. Sanitize well in between. Schedule something like 11-1. Clean. Swim: 2-4. Clean. Swim: 4-6. Clean. Swim 7-9.

Hand Sanitizer widely available. Surfaces sanitized regularly (every use in the gym with machines, individual weights, etc. and every day in classrooms) People bring their own equipment where possible (i.e. yoga mats)

Just plenty of space between participants, like yoga. No community mats...bring your own. May bring your own hand weights, bands, blocks if you have them. Everyone wipe down the equipment when class is over.

Require masks and physical distancing between non-family members.

I really missed yoga classes. We can have fewer participants and place the yoga mats 1-2 meters apart from each other. I look forward to the opening of the dog park!

I don't think I'll be in facilities or in programs when Covid hasn't run its course, definitely not in IA.  
I think if you reopen, facial-mask using should be mandatory and the amount of participant allowed should be capped.  
Thank you and stay safe.

Continuous cleaning of locker rooms/bathrooms with hand sanitizer available as well as hand soap

Limit the amount of people in the pool. maybe limit workout time to let a turn over happen every 30 to 40 minutes.

Masks and distancing, if the virus is still menacing.

Social distancing and masks

Sanitation of facilities and equipment

\*Giving people the option to cancel and receive a refund if programs continue but people do not feel comfortable participating/attending. \*At this point, even the items I marked "yes" (City Auditorium and Youth Summer Camps), I would be more likely to make a decision closer to the date.

regular, upgraded sanitation procedures.

Hand sanitizer; wipes, recommend mask, temperature checks,

At this point, it does not seem safe to open most of the above-mentioned facilities since it is almost impossible to enforce a 6 feet apart policy between people. If you do open, however, then wearing masks must be a necessity and limited number of groups to enable social distancing if possible.

Just reopen for crying out loud

Distancing regulations, cleaning protocols, capacity restrictions.

I believe the best policy is just to ask people to be aware of their health and to stay home if not feeling well. Hand washing places would be great too!

Limit number of participants. Attendance and temp check at all activities. Require disclosures within 2 hours of finding out you are sick; and notifying every participant who was in contact with that person immediately.

Everyone wear a mask. Everyone be at least 6 feet apart if not more. Just disinfect everything on a regular basis.

Following the guidelines of the CDC .

I can't help but think that breathing hard in a room where others are breathing hard would be a bad idea. It seems like wearing a mask would be super uncomfortable and maybe not even effective. Outdoor activities seem safer to me.

Masks until June Cleaning materials available and enough space

Furman Aquatic Center yes

1) Masking--no exceptions 2) Physical distancing--6 feet minimum 3) Temperature checks--no exceptions  
4) Questions regarding recent exposure or possible current symptoms can be tailored to the time frame.

masks and safe distancing

hand sanitizers and wipes . requirement to wipe down equipment after use.

Social distancing and supplies to disinfect equipment

I think you guys do an excellent job and I trust you to keep things as clean as you can (for a gym/workout area anyway). Thanks for all that you do!

I wish I could feel confident to come back to public amenities, but without wide ranging testing for COVID-19 and NO cases in Story County, our country is not safe and I am going to stay at home and workout at home, go for walks and bike. sorry.

CDC guidelines for sanitation.

<p>More frequent cleaning and sanitizing restrooms and showers at pools.</p> <p>May have to limit numbers of people at a time in pools. Possibly have people limited to specific time slots as well. Say 1 to 2 hours maximum? Could be given specific color disposable wrist band with bar code on it to scan When entering. When time is up turn in upon exit for scanning out and disposal. Next group could then enter and repeat. Not sure if mask wearing while on pool decks could be required. Not sure how this would work?</p>
<p>I use Forker for warm water exercise. There's plenty of room to distance in the pool with our regular class enrollment.</p>
<p>increased options for hand sanitizer use.</p>
<p>Face masks and 6 feet apart.</p>
<p>Increased cleaning/sanitizer throughout the day</p>
<p>For the lap swim, especially initially at Municipal, close the locker room. Maybe only the one bathroom off the guard area open. Have participants enter &amp; leave directly after swimming. Also you could have disinfectants at the end of the lanes for swimmers to wipe the tiles on the edge after swimming, much like using a fitness machine. One person per lane or even every other lane. Maybe a sign up time would work for this.</p> <p>Thanks for sending the survey &amp; considering the safety of the public and employees.</p>
<p>distancing</p>
<p>Participation limits to preserve some resemblance of social spacing, although this is a goal but not realistic to expect totally. Regularly cleaned surfaces.</p>
<p>Limiting number of participants, lots of cleaning.</p>
<p>Wear face masks. Keep distance of 6 ft in classes where possible.</p>
<p>Cases in Iowa have to be in a decline or plateau before our family participates</p>
<p>Just following safe and best practices</p>
<p>normal business operations. it will be 80-100 degrees in summer, viruses can't live in those conditions</p>
<p>Wash hands. Cover cough or sneeze. Maintain social distancing. Small groups</p>
<p>A lot could change for better or worse by June. It's hard to know how to answer because of that. I based my answers on how things are now.</p>
<p>Hand sanitizer and a way to wipe off equipment</p>
<p>Wear masks</p>
<p>More frequent cleaning, smaller groups sizes, more time between scheduled activities to allow for a gap in time for people to leave an activity and others to come in</p>
<p>Hand sanitizer at entrance. Post about cleaning completed. Allow extra time between classes for cleaning and less people interaction. Limit class volume</p>
<p>Our family is uncertain if we'd participate in anything indoors. If it is outdoors, we're thinking about still participating in something like youth baseball. In that case, I'd recommend having each coach wipe down bats in between innings or kids or maybe things like temp checks before games or practices? No close in huddles, etc. Park shelters we were uncertain if we would use, depending on the size of a picnic, so maybe limiting the gathering size? We don't think we'd use the pool until maybe end of the summer when we might be closer to hitting the peak in Ames of Covid. So we'd definitely not be an early user or a consistent user of the FAC. We might go once or twice if things clear up, but we might not at all this year.</p>
<p>Groups of 10 or less. Outdoor activities 1st. Covid-19 numbers need to be consisting decreasing.</p>
<p>I love to walk the Lazy River. I don't know how we could social distance while walking.</p>



Everyone should wear a mask- it should be a requirement not a suggestion. Keeping safe distance from one another. Constant cleaning and sanitizing facilities.

It depends on what the numbers for the infection look like. 1. Take temperatures of all entering the building. 2. For Zumba in the gym, for a typical session, participants could stay 6 ft away. Not so easy upstairs. 3. I like the ideas of masks but don't think I could get enough oxygen.

Also, my participation in Zumba starting June 1 would be contingent on what the numbers look like. If the hospitalizations and death numbers are still rising, I would not participate. An R value of less than 1.1 is very important to me and sadly, I don't think Iowa is using that particular metric. Kudos for the fundraising you did for Food at First. Wonderful!

Hand sanitizer. Social distancing whenever's possible

Be sure there could be 6 feet between participants.

At the gym: three people in the aerobic room, alternate machines for 6 foot spacing; three people in the weight room, require masks and surgical gloves

I don't think there are any feasible measures that would make me feel safe using shared equipment in close quarters. I very much appreciate the Youtube workouts that you have made available and will rely on those and my own equipment to continue working out at home until the COVID-19 infections either drastically decrease or a vaccine becomes available.

Maintain social distancing. No shake hands. Wear a mask. Stay home if you don't feel well.

frequent cleaning of equipment and between each class in the fitness rooms (kettle bells, hand weights, etc) ▯ decrease class size if necessary to keep people at least 6 feet apart

Limit capacity for spacing, additional cleaning, staff that interface with the public wear masks.

Limited numbers and social distancing. Taking temperatures. Masks REQUIRED. Long sleeves and long pants required. Abundant hand sanitizer

Double the number of groups with half participants in each OR ensure the number of participants is commensurate to the space available so that proper distance is guaranteed

Require all participants to wear masks. Take temperatures at the door.

The classes in the upstairs room would have to have fewer people if I were to return. Spacing is going to be an issue.

hand sanitizer. cleaning equipment between fitness classes

Limit # of folks in the facility. Have time slots then, clear the pool and let the next bunch in. Like the 11 - 1 session, only shorter. Gives a greater number a chance to exercise and enjoy the outdoors.

People 6 feet apart, mask in locker rooms, lots of cleaning of toilets, periodically wipe down equipment, distance groups and only so many in a group, lots of sanitizers and cleaning bottles.

Story County has stayed Flat with Covid 19, very few cases a week or month, less than 50 cases overall so no Peak, and Ames High School has had a lot more than that at the High School in the Winter in the last two years with the Flu, one winter (January) in the last two years, a third of the students at the Ames High School were out sick, so everything just needs to be cleaner and disinfected more like Ames High so students maintain their health, more sanitizers and more cleaners and all Patrons should clean up after themselves

For the time being I think it's just madness to be opening up the pool and facilities when Iowa has yet to hit its Covid peak. My kids would love to use the pool but this is not a typical summer. I worry people will come to the pool if they see it's open regardless of their safety. Please don't open the pool. It will make it that much harder to keep kids from clustering. How can you social distance in a packed pool?

Availability of hand sanitizer. Depending on the activity, required use of protective gloves and face masks.  
Plenty of spacing. Limits on number of participants.

Clean facilities, hand sanitizers available, and physical distance between participants.

Clear social distancing protocols, including a cap on the maximum number of people allowed in a class/space, along with enforcement. Lots of messaging on social media around the need for everyone to be respectful of other people's space during this time. Clear, transparent communications around what is cleaned, what is not cleaned, how often things are cleaned, etc. Encouraging or requiring everyone to wear masks and to sanitize their hands before entering and after exiting public spaces, just like at grocery stores.

For both lap swimming and water polo, we want to return at any point when the pool is open (we responded yes above), but we're actually uncertain whether we would because we do not know how easily social distancing and other precautions can be implemented with these types of activities. Our suggestions for lap swim are to include scheduled lanes/hours for individuals, or limit the number of people who can participate at a given time--neither of which will likely be conducive to our schedules. We hope that there will be more creative solutions than what we are currently thinking! Thank you for trying to find safe and healthy solutions for us.

Limit the number of occupants in certain areas to ensure safe social distancing where applicable.

social distancing

Social distancing. Face masks when within 6 feet.

We would like to see the pools open but in a safe manner. It will likely look different than in the past and staff may need to get creative with solutions for how some people (not as many at a time as in the past) can be at the pool. Perhaps allowing patrons to schedule times for open swim or lap swim? Not have restrooms open or fewer open so less to clean? More frequent cleanings?

Please keep walkers out of the lap lanes at Furman  
-- they tend to walk AND chat and it would be good to maintain some social distance between them and the lap swimmers. For that reason, I will also probably avoid water walking in the lazy river

Safe distancing

Increased sanitizing bathrooms, tables, chairs. Increased water testing

Temperatures taken upon entry, limiting occupants. Shortened hours to allow for proper cleaning and/or allowing age groups usage at different times (ie. Pools)

I will feel safe with pool open as normal.

**DO NOT OPEN! PLEASE**

Unfortunately, I don't think it is safe to open until the end of June. Ames would have to review closer to that time. We need testing in place for EVERYONE prior to opening. Thank you.

At pools cleaning surfaces such as tables and railings at least 2x per hour same with restrooms and I suppose some how spraying the tubes used in the lazy river ☐

Probably masks for workers at the counters ☐

Denying entry to those sick or coughing ? Not sure how thatâs enforced? ☐

Having spray available for people to sanitize chairs before and after use? ☐

No clue it will be tricky I will be 6-9 months pregnant all summer and was definitely planning to water walk often

Wear masks, hand sanitizer ready available, outdoor yoga in the park would allow more social distancing. It would depend on if the numbers are dropping significantly.

Keep distancing as much as possible. Limit time and people at pools. Water walking could be in two shifts with a certain number of people per shift.

Frequent hand washing and big smiles!

I would only return if the CDC advises it is safe to return. Iâd want to know the chemical levels in the pool are in safe levels (strong enough to clean, but not so strong itâs unsafe to swim) and proper cleaning procedures in the locker rooms and outdoor seating areas are being met

Possibly limit the number of patrons at any one time.

Small classes with plenty of room to spread out. Provide disinfectant for participants to wipe down equipment after use. No group youth classes. (Generally they cannot be expected to reliably maintain distance from friends.)

Limit participants, masks for staff and increased sanitizing.

Adults wear masks and many hand sanitizers

People wear masks as much as possible.

- Limit the number of people at the pool at one time

-water walking 30 minutes only

- Ask the best know experts at the city Risk manager

- Find out exactly what the Department of Health Recommends.

Having a pool open is not about making money but about keeping our community healthy and it is know that kids/youth don't always follow rules so why would we put them at risk opening the pool.

Follow in light of other companies or the university as they begin to reopen to the public. I'm a student and have lived in Ames my whole life; this seems to be a common theme. Reach out to President Wintersteen and proceed from there.

Face masks, 6 foot spacing, suggested max participants

With regards to health and deadly viruses, I have no clue what the right thing is anymore. I'll trust whatever you tell me to do.

I think masks should be worn for any indoor activities

Most importantly for the weight room/ cardio room would be to make sure equipment is cleaned daily and all participants are strongly encouraged to wipe down equipment after they use it.

I workout early in the morning when there are usually only 5-8 people in there at one time and those regulars are very healthy and safety conscious as far as not coming if they aren't feeling well so not a concern. The main concern is the fact that a person can be sick before symptoms appear so taking each person's temperature at entrance before they can use facility is one guideline some have used.

I really feel that we can return to lap swim at both facilities without problems as long as water is checked as usual and participants practice social distancing in locker/ shower rooms. That has never been a problem previously because not everyone finishes at the same time and Furman is set up well with separate shower stalls. I really really hope we can get back to the pools!!

Thanks

#### Social Distancing

Social distance, masks, small numbers

Limit class size to help maintain some distance between participants. Have cleaning supplies readily available so equipment can be cleaned thoroughly after each use.

Wearing masks (that's how I would feel comfortable doing water walking). Hand sanitizer stations. For preschool classes, hand sanitizer and temperature checks. (They wasn't an option, but I'd only have my son in his small group gymnastics class.) Sanitizing equipment between classes and providing easy access for others to sanitize before/after use.

No protocols necessary. Leave it up to the individual. Signs reminding people that if they are sick to go home is the only thing necessary in my opinion. By now people should have enough common sense to take care of anything more themselves.

I really like the on-line fitness classes and would prefer those. Also doing fitness classes outside where there is lots of space would be better than in the fitness room.

Hand Sanitizers, Masks, hand wash soaps and paper towels, toilet seat covers, disinfectant wipes

I'm speaking mostly for adult sport leagues. I think this is a really hard question because you can put all the protocols in place but I think the hard reality is that a large amount of people won't abide by them. I feel like if we open back up, a lot of people will think it can go back to normal right away and we are a long ways away from normal. I want to play as bad as everyone else but we also have to be smart about it.

□

Softball is hard because everyone is touching the same bat and balls, scorecards, etc. Would probably have to have each team keep their own book and not rotate between teams or provide a scorekeeper. Social distancing would be hard to do in dugouts.

Half capacity or distancing requirements where possible.

I think if you open up the pool - and I put yes, I think there need to be some restrictions. It is a tough call. I love the pool but more for laying out purposes and cooling off and I do like the lazy river. I trust your judgment that is all I can do at this point. Thanks for asking for people's thoughts. Ames is a great community.

Continue to follow the social distancing guidelines. Providing 6 ft. separation if possible.

Temps taken at pool before entry. Greatly limit the number of people in the pool, so you are still able to socially distance from others. I would especially like the water walking and tot time to be back in the summer, as well as the kids swimming lessons.

Extra cleanliness.

Minimize group size, sanitize everything in sight, keep people apart, just the usual stuff these days. I think Furman could work since it is outdoors and people can keep away from each other (water walking) if access is limited. Indoor events would be hard in the aerobics room.

Hand sanitizer available at all locations. Participants should sanitize any equipment before & after use. Facility should be cleaned after each class.

Whatever is reasonable.

Extra cleaning. Possibly limit class sizes and how many people can enter the pool/water walking area at a time.

Masks in auditorium. Thorough cleaning of all facilities, before/after and/or frequently including locker rooms/restrooms

Mask. Sanitizer. Distancing

Proper sanitizing and cleaning.

Social distancing and masks enforced. Limiting numbers in. Reservations to limit numbers.

I'd like to see group activities in small groups of less than 10, and when possible in large open spaces or outside. I'm particularly thinking of my small children. Their school and camp programs have been in larger groups, and I would hate for them to give it to an older staff membe, or bring it home to us. We would absolutely not participate in these programs should they open in June.

distancing; masks where possible; heightened cleaning protocols; ample provision of hand sanitizer for users; possible temperature monitoring; heightened protections for staff

Making sure people are not sick and maybe offering more classes in order to keep the class size small.

I use the adult lazy river walk from 11 to one and have never had problems that i think would compromise folks to covid.

Use limited equipment and wipe down own equipment after class.

Safe distancing reminders at Municipal Band concerts. I am looking forward to their summer concerts.

As long as there is no cure and no vaccine, one sick person is enough to contaminate all the facilities. I suggest to keep those facilities closed and emphasis on online activities. □

Anyway, all these activities are optional and people can wait until it is completely safe out there.

Sanitizer in bathroom areas, snack areas, and possibly antibacterial soap in the showers at the pools. Wipes for the lounge/beach chairs, snack area seating, in the pool areas for pool goers to clean chairs and daily cleaning by staff. Post daily testing results of chlorine checks in the pool or more often if testing is done; perhaps at beginning and end of day.

I was in a fitness class that was "suspended" in March. I am over 65 and family with underlying health condition, so I would be cautious. I would prefer if class was in a larger (not very small), that there was assurance surfaces were recently cleaned in room and that participants wore masks.

Just to be open

Limiting number of people in more crowded environments (furman aquatic), encourage social distancing where possible, increased cleaning/ disinfecting.

I would suggest requiring masks for all - staff and participants. However I have no idea how you can keep the pool safe for all if we still have the virus around.

social distance. Limit participants.

Limit the number of people. Still be aware of social distancing. Lots of cleaning.

Small groups, allowing for and enforcing 6-foot minimal distances, outdoor activities whenever possible, requiring masks if indoors.

Open the damn pool. No restrictions.

No specific recommendations.

I understand how hard this is for you! For each item that I answered "no" I wanted to say "it depends" on the current covid situation in June. Things change rapidly, but I CANNOT imagine that we will be in a better situation in June...it will likely be worse. But, who knows. Youth sports/programs/camps could potentially go on with social distancing measures, but it's so hard with kids. Chlorine is effective (to my understanding) but the problem is crowding. Maybe the pool with limited numbers allowed in and people practicing social distancing. That's probably not very cost effective, though.

Somehow the locker room at Furman would need to be sanitized very frequently or kept closed. I don't know how social distancing could be maintained for water walking. Perhaps permit only one direction and limit # allowed.

Wash hands before you come and don't come if feeling sick.



May 6, 2020

Dear Honorable Mayor Haila and City Council Members,

I would like to follow up on some items, I wasn't able to address at the last Council Meeting.

- I would caution you to when considering criteria to open the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market, NOT to compare us to the criteria of the Des Moines Downtown Farmers' Market, they function on a much different scale and with different rules.
- One of the main reasons the Des Moines Downtown FM is delaying is that they have vendors from 55 counties in Iowa, some traveling well over 100 miles to the Market. Having vendors that cross so many county lines will be a huge hurdle for them. Compared to our Ames Market that have vendors from 6 counties. The farthest vendor that travels to Ames is 47 miles, with the majority of vendors from Story county.
- The Des Moines Market has 9 blocks with many side streets and entries. The Ames Market will have less than 2 blocks with these restrictions in place.
- They have 20,000 visitors per day and no online Market to help them reduce the customers on the street.
- Polk county is still closed and not partially open as Story County is.
- Other Markets that are open that are similar size to us here in Ames: Davenport has had an outdoor Market open for approx. one and a half months, Sioux City has a Wednesday and Saturday Markets and they are opening May 6<sup>th</sup>, and they are allowing food trucks/stands. Clear Lake is opening on May 16<sup>th</sup>.
- We would like you to consider letting the Food Trucks participate in the Market. As we know the Governor has discouraged onsite consumption but has not ruled it out that they can be a part of the Market. It is up to every Market to decide on whether to allow them. The Food Trucks are allowed to offer curbside pickup and they would like to provide that service at our onsite Farmers Market. The Food Trucks will package their food to go, it is no different than buying a cinnamon roll that is wrapped and asking the customer to follow the, "no consumption within Market boundaries." The food trucks/food stands follow strict licensing rules and are allowed to be open to serve our community.
- We would also ask you to allow our Wine Vendors to serve samples. I have visited with the Alcohol and Beverage Division and they do not have any restrictions on letting Wineries giving samples within a Farmers' Market. Other locations yes, but again they feel it is safe at a Farmers' Market and gave us permission.

- I would like to reiterate that one of the reasons for having an outdoor Market along with our online market is that it allows all of our customers the opportunity to participate in local food. While we live in a very tech savvy environment there is still a large part of the population that cannot order online or would rather not.
- I have received calls asking when we will open on the street, I feel there is a need for it. Now is not the time to restrict fresh food and products from the community.
- Open Air Farmers' Markets are far safer than redirecting our customers to enclosed-space grocery stores.
- If you mandate masks, can you provide someone help us police that order? While we can try to enforce this mandate, it will be difficult as we do not have the staff.
- We will as a Market take every precaution, we can to help keep our vendors and customers safe. In the end we cannot control what others will do, however we should not assume our customers will not take the precautions that are put in place either.

I have attached the guidelines that will be put in place at the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market, they all follow the recommendations the State of Iowa have set and we have gone beyond those with some of our own guidelines. The Ames Main Street Farmers' Market will be happy to consider any guidelines you would propose. We truly believe that local fresh food is very important more than ever in this time of uncertainty and that our community should have access to what our Market has to offer.

#### COVID -19 GUIDELINES

- Post signage at the entrances prohibiting anyone who has had a fever in the last three days, been ill, or is visibly showing signs of illness (i.e., coughing and sneezing) from entering the Market.
- Vendors will be spaced 6 to 10 feet apart.
- Provide hand washing stations at the Market.
- No food sampling.
- Vendors will wear masks and gloves.
- All Baked good will be wrapped before brought to the Market.
- Only Vendors will be allowed to handle everything that is sold at the Market. Customers will not be allowed to handle the products brought to the market for sale.
- Only clean plastic bags will be used to put the products that are sold at the Market, no reusable bags will be used.
- Encourage the vendors to have only one person that handles the money and tokens in their booth.
- No Music or Special Activities at the Market
- No tables and chairs will be set up at the Market
- No Consumption of Food Within the Market Signage place throughout the Market.
- Streets will be marked for Social Distancing in front of Vendors.
- Online Market is set up to help alleviate the crowd on the street.



I have also sent along 2 letters from Market vendors for your consideration.

I thank you for you time and consideration on all of these points. We realize this is not an easy decision.

We are in this together and we all want what is best for our community!

Sincerely,

Lojean Petersen

Ames Main Street Farmers' Market Manager

Ames, IA | [www.travelingpigfoodtruck.com](http://www.travelingpigfoodtruck.com) | [info@travelingpigfoodtruck.com](mailto:info@travelingpigfoodtruck.com)

May 05, 2020

Mayor Haila & Members of the Ames City Council,

It is my belief that mobile food vendors are an integral part of the Downtown Ames Farmers Market, and should be treated with the same regard as all other vendors. As equal members of the vendor community, mobile food providers should be allowed the opportunity to participate in the market while being held to the same regulations as all vendors and facing the same consequences in event of failure.

Throughout the disaster declaration made by Governor Reynolds, mobile food vendors have been allowed and encouraged to remain in operation. By remaining open during this time, we provided stress free meals for families while allowing them to support local small business; something many of our customers commented daily of how much they greatly appreciated the chance to feel a bit of normalcy during a time that is anything but normal. To ensure an even safer customer experience, we implemented the following policies & procedures:

- Protective Equipment: Staff wear gloves & protective face coverings at all times
- Wrapped food: All food is individually wrapped & bagged 'To Go' style
- Online Ordering: Customers can order & pay online for scheduled touch free pickup
- No-Touch Payment: Customers can pay touch free with NFC card or Apple/Google Pay
- Text Messaging: Customers can provide a mobile # for confirmation of their completed order.
- Spacing: Signage that clearly asks customers not to congregate at the order or pickup windows

If licensed & insured mobile food vendors who practice safety far above industry standards are withheld from the market, while other vendors that provide similar products are allowed, a crushing message is delivered to the community that mobile food vendors are not safe. Consider a scenario where Vendor A sells baked goods, and Vendor B sells sandwiches. Both vendors wear masks & gloves, both products are served wrapped in 'To-Go' fashion, and both products could be consumed on site or at home at customer discretion. If both vendors adhere to all regulations, on what grounds is Vendor B considered unfit for the market? Conversely, a universal set of clearly defined and enforceable regulations that apply to all vendors equally would show leadership and comprehension of community health & safety.

I respectfully urge you to allow all mobile food vendors willing to meet enhanced guidelines to participate throughout the duration of the market season. Decisions made now based on a sturdy foundation of information & inclusion will stand the test of time while remaining free from perception of bias or punitive nature toward any individual or vendor type. Together, we can model new safety standards as we provide the community an enjoyable & uplifting experience when they need it most.

Sincerely,

MIKE GORMAN

Mike Gorman; The Traveling Pig Food Truck

Dear Mayor Haila and City Council Members:

My sister and I are 14 and 16 years old. We have been running a smoothie stand at the Ames Main Street Farmers Market for the past 3 years. We depend on our business to earn money to save for our college education. We are writing this letter hoping that you'll consider letting us vend our smoothies at the Ames Main Street Farmers' Market. Governor Reynolds has allowed farmers markets to be opened now and we would like our business to be included with that. We would follow the necessary precautions to make it a safe environment for our customers. These precautions include: hand washing, wearing gloves, and masks.

As soon as the smoothie is made it will be handed to the customer with a lid on it and a wrapped straw. There will also be the market manager at the Market to ensure that the customers don't congregate around our smoothie booth. Please support ALL small businesses at the Market by letting my sister and me run our smoothie stand.

Sincerely,

Maddie and Macey Shnittjer

Sister Smooth Smoothies