



July 6, 2020

## **RAVE ALERT: Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken Shares Phase 3 Reopening Plans & Community Updates**

Hi, this is Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken with news about phase 3 reopening plans as well as some important community updates.

I hope you all had a happy and safe holiday weekend. I, like many of you, have missed so many of the traditions we share as a community. With your continued cooperation I know we will get through this together and I very much look forward to celebrating with you all when it is safe to do so.

As a result of the continued decline in key public health data, such as new cases and hospitalizations, Phase 3 of Reopening Massachusetts began today, July 6. The following businesses are now eligible to reopen, subject to industry-specific rules concerning capacity and operations:

- Movie theaters and outdoor performance venues;
- Museums, cultural and historical sites;
- Fitness centers and health clubs;
- Certain indoor recreational activities with low potential for contact;
- Professional sports teams may hold games without spectators

For more information on reopening plans, including restrictions and mandatory safety protocols by industry, please visit [mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov).

The allowed gathering size has also increased. Indoor gatherings are now limited to eight people per 1,000 square feet and not more than 25 people in one enclosed space. Outdoor facilities can now operate at 25 percent occupancy with a maximum of 100 people.

In Phase 3, health care providers may continue to provide in-person procedures and services as allowed in Phase 2, with the addition of certain group treatment programs and day programs

including adult day health, day habilitation programs, and substance abuse services day treatment and outpatient services.

We are thrilled that businesses from every area of Gloucester are offering outdoor dining and shopping experiences throughout the City. Please continue to support our local businesses. By spending your dollars locally, you are helping support our neighbors and investing in our community's recovery.

Next week, the City will begin preparations for the paving of Rogers Street from Harbor Loop to Angle Street. Weather permitting, the project is set to begin on Monday, July 13 and end on Friday, July 17. At that time there will be no parking on Rogers Street between 7:00 AM and 4:00 PM. We recognize the inconvenience to neighbors and motorists and will take all steps necessary to minimize the disruption.

Cape Ann Seniors on the GO's summer schedule was recently announced - Tuesdays walking at Stacy Boulevard, Wednesday & Thursdays grocery shopping, and Friday visits to the Fisherman's Wharf & The Open Door Food Pantry. The program provides free transportation for food access and physical activity to seniors who live in Gloucester's McPherson Park, Sheedy Park, Curtis Clark, Lincoln Park and Poplar Park. Seniors looking to learn about the program schedule or to reserve a free seat can do so by calling the Cape Ann Transit Authority (CATA) at 978-283-7916. Riders are limited to two bags on the bus.

With your help we continue to make great progress in reducing the transmission of this virus and getting our local economy up and running again. As of Friday, 231 of the 257 confirmed cases in Gloucester had recovered from the coronavirus. Sadly, 26 Gloucester residents had also died from this awful virus. They are constantly in my thoughts and we continue to offer our love and support to their families and loved ones.

I am happy to share some very encouraging news. All last week there were NO active cases of COVID-19 in Gloucester. This is amazing news but we cannot let our guard down and we MUST remain vigilant to keep each other safe and limit a second surge. We could not have gotten to this point without your help and I know I can count on each and every one of you to stay the course. Please wear a mask or face covering when out in public, maintain a safe physical distance of 6 feet from others, wash and sanitize your hands and frequently touched surfaces often, and stay home if you're are sick.

Stay safe, and please be patient and kind with each other. Thank you.