



## Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Frequently asked Questions

- **Question** - What does it mean that the City of Dothan issued a State of Emergency?

**Answer** - By declaring a State of Emergency, this allows City Administration to move much more quickly in terms of purchasing necessary supplies to ensure the timely operation of important City Government functions such as Public Works operations, General Services operations, etc. ALSO, by declaring a State of Emergency now, this is the first step for the City to be eligible to receive Federal Emergency funding, if and when funds become available.

- **Question** - Will the City of Dothan close in-facility dining and other in-person activities?

**Answer** - Dr. Scott Harris, the State Health Officer of the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) and Governor Kay Ivey can mandate that restaurants, bars, gyms, and other facilities be closed to in-person operations. *At this point in time, no plans have been made to close operations of restaurants or other in-person establishments in Dothan.* Beyond the Governor and Dr. Harris, business owners may make their own determinations in terms of closing their operations to in-person activities.

- **Question** - Are there plans to issue a curfew in Dothan?

**Answer** - Currently, no plans exist to issue an overall curfew for Dothan residents. Ordinances do exist (City Ordinances - 62.66 to 62.69) that specify normal curfew hours for minors, age 17 and younger. The Ordinance, in part, reads – *“It is unlawful for any minor 17 years of age or younger to loiter, wander, stroll or play in or upon the public streets, highways, roads, alleys, parks, playgrounds or other public grounds, public places, public buildings, places of amusement, eating places, vacant lots or any place unsupervised by an adult having the lawful authority to be at such places, between the hours of 10:00 p.m. on any day and 6:00 a.m. of the following day; provided, however, that on Fridays and Saturdays the effective hours are between 12:00 midnight and 6:00 a.m. of the following day”.* There are several exceptions to this rule that are specified in the Ordinance.

- **Question** - Are there Coronavirus (COVID-19) tests available in Dothan?

**Answer** - Yes. Both Flowers Hospital and Southeast Health have Coronavirus (COVID-19) test kits. As of March 17, 2020, each facility had several hundred test kits available. Additional kits have been ordered. Until additional test kits arrive, only those citizens that exhibit symptoms that would make them eligible for hospital admission will be administered tests. These include flu-like symptoms and fever, among others. If you suspect that you may have these symptoms, call your healthcare provider for more information about getting tested.

- **Question** - Since local children are out of school, are feeding programs available for school-aged children to receive meals?

**Answer** - Yes. School-aged children can receive meals through six Dothan City School locations as well as six locations/mobile opportunities through the Dothan Department of Leisure Services. These **Dothan City Schools Child Nutrition Program (CNP) locations**, open from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., include – Beverlye Intermediate School, DCS Head Start, Jerry Lee Faine Elementary School, Kelly Springs Elementary School, Morris Slingluff Elementary School, and Selma Street Elementary School. **Department of Leisure Services** meals and snacks are available from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the following locations – Doug Tew Recreation Center, Wiregrass Recreation Center, Andrew Belle Center,

Walton Park, Westgate Park, and a Mobile Distribution Vehicle for those unable to travel to one of the other listed locations.

- **Question** – Are any local stores open to senior citizens only during any hours of operation?

**Answer** – Yes. Dollar General has dedicated the first hour of each shopping day, 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m., to seniors. Also, Target has set aside Wednesdays, from 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m., for senior-only shopping.