



Detroit Health Department

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Denise Fair, MBA, MPH, FACHE

Chief Public Health Officer

Chief Public Health Officer's Public Health Order

In the midst of a public health crisis that poses an imminent danger to public health, I, Denise Fair, Chief Public Health Officer of the Detroit Health Department, make the following **Findings** and order the following immediate **Actions** to protect the public health, safety, and well-being of residents of the City of Detroit and to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the region, pursuant to Sections 2451 and 2453 of the Public Health Code, Public Act 368 of 1978, being MCL §§333.2451 and 333.2453:

Findings:

1. The novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, that causes COVID-19 is highly contagious and may cause serious illness up to and including death. COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can cause serious illness or death. According to the CDC, the virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person: between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) AND from droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
2. At present, there is no known treatment for the disease or vaccine to prevent it. The best method to avoid transmission is to avoid close contact with other people.
3. Although the water in a properly maintained swimming pool with adequate chemical disinfection does not pose a significant risk of transmitting COVID-19, the communal bathing that takes place at public swimming pools involves gatherings of large numbers of people in close contact with each other.
4. As such, Detroiters using public swimming pools will be at great risk of becoming ill with COVID-19, and there is no effective means of reducing or controlling that risk at public swimming pools.
5. Closing public swimming pools is a logical way to avoid, correct and remove some of the danger posed by the risk of contagion discussed above.

In light of these Findings, I order that the City take the following Actions effective **May 28, 2020 at 7PM EST**:

Actions:

1. All public swimming pools as defined in the Michigan Public Health Code, Act 368 of 1978, at §333.12521(d), located in the City of Detroit, shall be closed and shall remain closed to the public until the Chief Public Health Officer of the Detroit Health Department determines that the threat to public health presented by the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, is no longer a dangerous epidemic.
2. Except as provided in paragraph 3, below, the term "public swimming pool" as used in this order and as defined in the Public Health Code covers any artificial body of water belonging to or available to people equally and at large and used collectively by a number of individuals primarily

for the purpose of swimming, wading, recreation or instruction. This includes all pools that are connected to or used by more than four units of housing, whether those units might be houses, condominiums, apartments, mobile homes, hotel rooms or motel rooms. This order applies to all pools as defined in MCL 333.12521 including, but not limited to: Swimming pools, hot tubs, spa pools and water parks.

3. Therapy pools or engineered water devices utilized under the direction of a healthcare professional for the purpose of providing therapy or care to patients shall remain open for the limited purpose of allowing necessary medical services notwithstanding any else in this order.
4. Owners and operators of public swimming pools shall post a copy of this order outside the entrance(s) to each public swimming pool; the posting must be visible to all employees and persons who come to or visit the public swimming pool.
5. Prior to re-opening a public swimming pool, after the Chief Public Health Officer has rescinded this order, the owner must contact the Detroit Health Department to schedule an opening inspection as required by Rule R325.2118a.



May 28, 2020

Denise Fair, MBA, MPH, FACHE
Chief Public Health Officer
Detroit Health Department

Date