



SIB *islander*

CITY OF SUNNY ISLES BEACH

Follow us @CityofSIB |     YouTube

APRIL 2020

COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) EDITION

A MESSAGE FROM THE Mayor

“ It is during the most trying of times when the strength of our community is tested. I want to thank our residents who are staying home and putting our community first, our local businesses for adhering to City, Miami-Dade County and State of Florida orders, and our City staff for responding to the emergency quickly and efficiently. ”



George "Bud" Scholl
Mayor

From the early stages of this emergency, our City has been dialed in responding to the day-to-day challenges, changes and needs of the situation. Consistency is key, especially as news is moving so rapidly, which is why we made the conscious decision to keep our messaging and orders uniform with the County and State to minimize confusion.

As a municipality, we adhere to all ordinances signed by the governmental bodies that supersede us, Miami-Dade County and the State of Florida. In some cases, where the state allows, we implement stronger directives, as evidenced by our curfew. At the end of March, we ordered residents to remain at home unless they are engaging in essential activities, going one step further than the County's "Safer at Home" order. And we are now under a statewide stay-at-home order.

However, there are also cases where we are unable to override County or State orders. One issue I have received numerous questions about is ongoing construction within our City. We have not ordered this activity to cease because we are not empowered to do so at this time. It is my personal opinion, and the City's desire, to curtail construction activities in Sunny Isles Beach, but our City Attorney, along with additional local municipal attorneys, have indicated that the City could expose itself to material legal ramifications for overriding a State's order.

This being said, we issued Emergency Order 03-20, which permits only essential construction activity in multi-family residential buildings. On the same day, we also issued Emergency Order 04-20

requiring contractors of construction sites to strictly adhere to Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and City guidelines including, but not limited to, increased sanitization efforts, the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), and 10 or fewer persons per work area. Miami-Dade County Police is also visiting construction sites to ensure they are compliant with the guidelines.

To those of you who are disregarding our emergency orders, still congregating on the streets and not adhering to social distancing guidelines, it is time to step up and take responsibility for yourself. Act as though you have the virus and that everyone around you has it as well.

To those who believe we are not providing enough enforcement, these new emergency orders cover every square foot of our city. Our police and other enforcement professionals cannot be everywhere all the time. That is why every one of us has to take personal responsibility for our own actions and respect the new orders that are in place.

To those who believe we are implementing too many regulations, I want you to know that as community leaders, it is our job to protect our community from all threats, whether they be other humans, natural disasters or infectious diseases. I know some disagree with our orders and I understand your frustrations. But it is important you understand that every order is meant to keep our city, our region and our country safe. I cannot tell you when this will all be in our rearview mirror, but what I can tell you is that we will always champion your safety in Sunny Isles Beach.

Coronavirus Resources for Seniors: Protecting those most vulnerable

Sunny Isles Beach Commissioner Alex Lama

The past couple of weeks have been a true test for our country and our community. We are in an unprecedented time and it is imperative that we come together to stop the spread of the coronavirus. It is widely known that older individuals are more at risk for serious illness and complications should they contract the virus, and in Sunny Isles Beach, we have a significant elderly population.

If you are experiencing symptoms, be sure to contact your health care provider first to see if you should be tested. You can find a list of testing locations in Miami-Dade County on the next page. Even if you are not experiencing symptoms of coronavirus, you may still be a carrier of the virus and unknowingly infect many people who could become extremely ill. It is especially important that seniors stay home whenever possible.

Some stores around our area are offering senior shopping hours allowing seniors to shop ahead of crowds. In Sunny Isles Beach, Publix has designated senior shopping hours for those 65 and older on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from 7 – 8 a.m., and Milam's is open from 8 – 9 a.m. on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays for those 65 and older to shop early.

City staff has also identified some at-risk residents, providing them with basic supplies such as bread, milk, vegetables, canned goods and paper products. Staff are also calling older residents for a chat to help reduce the ill effects of social isolation. If you know anyone who is in need of any of these services, please call 305.792.1759. If you are a senior citizen and you are having problems getting meals, you can also call Miami-Dade County's 311 Call Center to be patched with the Emergency Operations Center to get the meals or other services you may need.

Though some may not be concerned about contracting coronavirus, we must protect those most vulnerable. Please continue to stay home, social distance, and wash your hands. Let's keep Sunny Isles Beach safe.

**Please contact me with questions at
305.792.1752 or alama@sibfl.net.**



Combating Coronavirus: We are here for you

Sunny Isles Beach Police Chief Dwight Snyder

As you should be aware by now, the City of Sunny Isles Beach implemented a remain at home order and a nightly curfew from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. until further notice. These decisions were not made lightly, and are ultimately in place to preserve the health and safety of our community. We have received many questions about what these orders mean. First, these measures were put into place to discourage the congregation of individuals outside on the streets and sidewalks except for engaging in essential activities. And, as many of our neighboring cities issued such orders first, we are protecting our city from an influx of individuals flooding in to escape their cities' restrictions. Essential activities include traveling to or from work, going to the doctor or pharmacy, getting gas or food, getting groceries, and walking your animal near your house or residential building.

There have been reports and I have seen pictures of a high volume of people congregating on the North Bay Road Pedestrian Bridge and in other locations around the city, and they are not following proper Centers for Disease Control (CDC) social distancing guidelines. This is simply unacceptable. We understand that everyone wants to be outdoors and socializing with friends, but now is not the time. Unless it is essential, please do not endanger

our community for such desires. If you must go out, remember to stay six feet apart from other individuals. Anyone who is found in a group of 10 people or larger or not interacting six feet apart, will be stopped and ordered to keep an adequate social distance.

There is much uncertainty about how long the curfew and remain at home order will last, and to be frank, I do not know when we will be getting back to the status quo. But what I do know is that the Sunny Isles Beach Police Department is, as always, putting your safety and welfare first. Now help us help you. We are working around the clock to protect our community; we need you to do your part to keep our community safe and prevent the spread of coronavirus. On behalf of the entire Police Department, we are here for you.

**Stay Safe, Stay Healthy, and please Stay Home for
the benefit of us all!**



Update on City Services

City Manager Christopher J. Russo

During particularly difficult times, I am often impressed with how our City staff rises to the challenge. Though all activities have been canceled and parks have been closed, our main City services are still operational, just slightly altered.

We have reduced the number of staff in the office by 50% to promote social distancing and adhere to Miami-Dade County and our own emergency orders. Many of our services have switched to appointment only, including all Building, Code Compliance, and Planning and Zoning services, our SIBshuttle service, and summer camp program registration. Our Building Department is still conducting inspections, and we are working on finding solutions to begin virtual inspections. We have already started to conduct mechanical inspections virtually.

This all being said, as information is changing on a daily basis, our City will respond accordingly. We will inform you should there be any changes to our current operations at sibfl.net/coronavirus, through our email notifications, and on our social media pages. I encourage you all to subscribe to our City communications to receive the latest updates.

Remember to stay home and follow all guidelines to protect yourself and others. Let's work together to stop the spread of coronavirus.

Support Local Businesses

While our Sunny Isles Beach restaurants and food establishments must remain closed for dine-in service due to COVID-19, many delivery and take-out options are available for customers. Help us support our local businesses during these difficult times. To see a list of restaurants open for take-out and delivery, visit sibfl.net/supportlocal.

Testing Sites in Miami-Dade County

Marlins Park

Who can get tested:
individuals, 18+, with
COVID-19 symptoms
305.499.8767

MDC Youth Fairgrounds

Who can get tested:
individuals, 18+, with
COVID-19 symptoms
305.499.8767

Hard Rock Stadium

Who can get tested:
individuals, 65+, with
COVID-19 symptoms;
first responders & medical
staff with valid agency ID

Amelia Earhart Park

Who can get tested:
individuals, 65+, with
COVID-19 symptoms
305-COVID19

South Dade Govt Center

Who can get tested:
individuals, 18+, with
COVID-19 symptoms
305.499.8767

For complete list of testing sites and details, visit:
miamidade.gov/global/initiatives/coronavirus/testing-locations.page

Note: This is not a full list of COVID-19 testing locations. Check with your health care provider or the Miami-Dade County Department of Health for a more comprehensive list of testing sites. You can also call the Department of Health 24/7 COVID-19 Call Center at 1.866.779.6121.

Cover & Clean

Miami-Dade County issued Emergency Order 20-20, ordering persons working in or visiting grocery stores, restaurants, pharmacies, construction sites, public transit vehicles, vehicles for hire, and locations where social distancing measures are not possible to wear facial coverings as defined by the CDC.

Read the CDC Guidelines on how to protect yourself and others at cdc.gov/coronavirus.

- Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds with soap and water
- Clean frequently touched surfaces
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing

Closures, Cancellations & Restrictions

(Until further notice)

CLOSURES

- Beach
- All City parks, including the office at Pelican Community Park
- NSE/SIB K-8 School (closed until May 1)
- Non-essential retail, private educational facilities, casinos, and other recreational and entertainment activities
- On-premise service for restaurants, bars, and lounges
- All common-use amenities at commercial and non-commercial locations
- Marinas and boat launches, docking, fueling, marine supply, and other marina services
- Sunny Isles Beach Branch Library
- Ellen Wynne Parking Lot and Pier Park Parking Lot
- Sunny Isles Beach Visitor Center

CANCELLATIONS

- City programs
- City in-person meetings
- City events

RESTRICTIONS

- All City parking garages and surface lots are open only to residents
- SIBshuttle service is appointment only
- Building, Code Compliance & Licensing, and Planning & Zoning Departments services are by appointment only
- Hotels, motels, and short-term vacation rentals shall not accept any reservations, regardless of when they were made, or extend existing reservations, except for essential lodgers
- Only essential construction is permitted in multi-family residential buildings & certain other restrictions are placed on active construction sites

For complete closure and restriction details, and to make an appointment, visit sibfl.net/coronavirus.



SIBAlert

Sign up for alerts and City updates on COVID-19 delivered straight to your phone or inbox at:

SIBALERT.NET

FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS

Be responsible and do your part to protect all of us from the spread of COVID-19 in our community by following these simple practices:



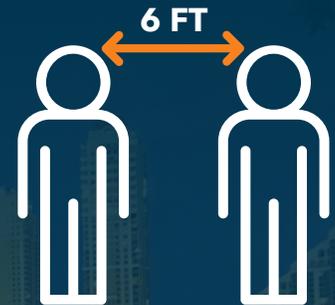
STAY HOME

Avoid any unnecessary trips into public places.



NO CONGREGATING IN ANY AREA

Limit social contact.
Be mindful of distance.



SOCIAL DISTANCING

If you must go out in public, keep a safe 6 feet distance from others.

COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) RESOURCES

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC):
cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV

Florida Department of Health (FDOH)
24-hour hotline for questions concerning the Coronavirus:
1.866.779.6121.

Miami-Dade County Office of Emergency Management:
miamidade.gov/global/initiatives/coronavirus/home.page

Individuals in Miami-Dade County who believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should call the FDOH at 305.470.5660.

City information and updates: sibfl.net/coronavirus

Sign up for SIBAlert emergency notifications:
sibalert.net

Subscribe to eSIBi email notifications:
sibfl.net/notifyme

Follow us on social media: @CityofSIB  

For additional information,
please email info@sibfl.net or call 305.792.1759.



**PUBLISHED BY THE CITY OF SUNNY ISLES BEACH
CULTURAL & COMMUNITY SERVICES**

18115 North Bay Road, Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160
305.792.1706 | sibfl.net