



June 4, 2020

TO: Boards of County Commissioners  
County Health Directors

FROM: Diane Eve  
Regional Director  
Rocky Mountain National Association of Theatre Owners (RMNATO)

Re: Colorado Movie Theaters

On behalf of the Rocky Mountain National Association of Theatre Owners (RMNATO), representing 105 movie theaters in Colorado, we are urging you to please take action to ensure the survival of our industry and save the jobs of over 3,030 Coloradans.

RMNATO has outlined recommended social distancing and sanitation practices which have been incorporated into variances issued to certain county governments allowing for the re-opening of movie theaters in a safe and responsible manner (see enclosed Prowers County Public Health Order following this cover letter). We are urging all local governments to act and not omit movie theaters from re-opening variance requests.

With the Governor's June 1, 2020 announcement regarding the Updated Safer at Home Executive Order draft guidance on houses of worship, personal recreation, and outdoor industries, we were deeply disappointed that movie theaters were not included. Again, since a handful of counties have already received variances allowing for re-openings, we had hoped the Executive Order would include them.

The Governor's Policy Office has suggested that we work directly with local governments and their health departments to include movie theaters in their local variance requests. We would submit that the practices and procedures outlined in the variances that have been granted ensure very detailed measures and protocols which provide protection to the public and employees. In addition we'd like to emphasize that the Governor's Executive Order related to the requirements outlined for "Places of Worship" under the draft guidance most closely relates to theater operations with regards to social distancing, masks, cleaning practices, symptom screening for staff, and movement of patrons, creating a "touchless" experience.

The summer movie season is one of the most significant periods of operation for movie theater owners who, like so many other industries and small businesses, were devastated by complete shutdown due to the pandemic and the attending cessation of revenues. The health and safety of patrons and employees remain the main priority for exhibitors, and we seek the opportunity to reopen our theaters safely and responsibly. Thank you for your consideration.

I am happy to answer any questions. Please contact me at 509.993.3583 or via email at [regional.director@rnmato.com](mailto:regional.director@rnmato.com).

Enclosure: Prowers County Public Health Order 1 2020



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## Prowers County Public Health Order 1 2020

### Variance to Governor Polis Executive Order 20 2044 and CDPHE Order 20-28

Prowers County Colorado will follow the above listed orders with the exception of the following approved variances:

In each confined indoor space, in order to achieve 6 ft social distancing, the limit is 50% of the posted occupancy code limit ensuring a minimum 28 square feet per person.

#### 1. Places of Worship

Places of worship are encouraged to continue online, streaming, or drive-up services as much as possible. Consider separate services for the most vulnerable (over the age of 65, those with chronic conditions). Encourage them to stay home and do personal visits, online contact if at all possible. If they choose, in person services can resume per the following:

- Limit capacity to 50 congregants or fewer. Social distancing of 6 feet must be maintained between families. This can be achieved by reserved seating and blocking seats in between families.
- Keep track of those in attendance at each service to assist in contact tracing should an outbreak occur. Information to be recorded includes the name of at least one in each family, date and time of service, first and last name, number in party, phone number and/or email. This should be done by one volunteer or employee and social distancing should be maintained as much as possible.
- Encourage face coverings and post signage encouraging face coverings, proper hygiene and social distancing. Post signage about the signs and symptoms of COVID-19. People must not enter if they have any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Implement touchless offering and communion options as much as possible.
- Congregating before or after services in waiting areas, entry, is not permitted. No meals are to be served.
- Perform cleaning of all high touch surfaces and bathrooms between services
- Staff/employees are to wear face coverings that cover nose and mouth, especially those singing or speaking during the service.
- Staff/employees must be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 and be excluded if any symptoms are present.

#### 2. Recreation and Golf Courses

- Golf courses, trails, parks and tennis courts that enable social distancing, may remain open.
- League/pick up sports are prohibited.
- Outdoor recreation and exercise classes may resume as long as 15 feet is maintained between participant family groups and no more than 20 participants. Face coverings should be encouraged.

- Golfers:
  - Must maintain social distancing
  - No shared clubs, balls. Remove flags and other high touch equipment
  - Licensed restaurants may be open as long as they can adhere to the restaurant guidance
  - Tee times must be reserved and touchless payments should occur.
  - Pro-shops may be open as long as general business guidelines can be followed.
  - Only one person per golf cart unless from the same household
  - Employees must be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 and excluded from work should they be symptomatic.
  - Employees with direct contact with golfers must wear face coverings over nose and mouth.
  - Perform frequent cleaning and sanitization of high touch surfaces and bathrooms.

### 3. Libraries

Libraries should provide online services and promote curbside pick-up and delivery options. Continued use of book drop off slots and self-checkout is encouraged. If a library chooses to open to patrons the following guidelines apply:

- Computer stations must be used by reservation only and be spaced 6 feet apart. Cleaning must occur between uses.
- Space reading and study areas 6 feet apart
- No more than 10 patrons can be in the library at any one time.
- Signs must be posted with the signs of COVID-19 and anyone with these symptoms is prohibited from entering.
- Hand sanitizer should be available at the entrance.
- If a story time is held, families must attend by reservation only, social distance, maximum 10 attendees. If 10 people attend the remainder of the library will be closed as 10 total patrons is the maximum allowed.
- A record of patrons, to include at least one member from a family group, should include: the date, first and last name, phone number and/or email
- High touch surfaces and bathrooms should be cleaned frequently.
- Employees with direct customer contact must wear a face covering over nose and mouth.
- Employees/staff/volunteers should be screened for symptoms of COVID-19. If any symptoms present they must not enter

### 4. Movie theaters

Movie theaters can continue curbside pick-up and carry out concession sales. They may choose to reopen with the following guidelines:

- Reservations should be encouraged.
- Social distancing of 6 feet should be maintained in line for ticket purchase and concessions. Mark this space on the floor.
- No congregating permitted in waiting areas, lobby
- Maximum 20 customers in auditorium with family groups separated by 3 seats on either side and only seating every other row. A customer is defined as a single household.

- Signage will be posted with signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and customers showing symptoms will be denied entry.
- Signage will be posted promoting social distancing and proper hygiene.
- All seating in theater wiped down and floors cleaned between showings.
- All employees with direct customer contact will wear face covering over nose and mouth.
- Install and maintain physical barriers at high-contact settings such as ticket sales and concessions.
- Employees will be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and will be excluded from work if symptoms present.
- Touchless payment should occur whenever possible.
- Bathrooms and high touch surfaces must be cleaned at least every 2 hours and maintain a cleaning log.

5. Bowling alley

Bowling alley (we have 1 in the county) may reopen with the following guidelines:

- a. Bowling will occur by reservation only and a maximum of 20 bowlers may be present at any one time.
- b. Parties will remain in their vehicle and be notified via phone or text when their lane is ready.
- c. Bowlers will be separated into family groups with at least 1 lanes of separation to maintain social distancing.
- d. People should be notified via phone or text when their lane is ready to prevent congregating in entry ways.
- e. Touchless payment should occur whenever possible.
- f. Hand sanitizer should be available upon entry.
- g. Seating, ball return, and scoring area will be sanitized between uses.
- h. Rental balls and shoes will be sanitized between uses.
- Signage must be posted with signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and those with symptoms must not enter.
- i. Signage promoting social distancing and proper hygiene must be posted.
- j. Employees with direct customer contact must wear a face covering over nose and mouth.
- Employees must be screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and be excluded from work if any symptoms are present.

This variance takes effect 05/29/2020 at 12:00am and remains in effect as long as the current state orders are active.



Meagan L Hillman PA-C, MBA

Director Prowers County Public Health and Environment