

## THE CITY OF LAKE JACKSON

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **COVID-19 CASES & OPENINGS UPDATES**

Over the weekend, including Friday's numbers, the positive cases of Covid-19 increased by 55 new cases to make a new total of 767 positive, confirmed cases in Brazoria County. Lake Jackson increased by one new case, a male 80-89, to a new total of 16 confirmed cases. We have three active cases in the city.

Sunday saw a large increase in cases county wide. Of the 40 cases reported on Sunday, 28 were at a nursing facility in Pearland and one was at a nursing facility in Clute. A statewide effort has begun to provide testing to all nursing homes.

There was another fatality reported which brings the total to 11 who have died of COVID-19 in the county. Six of the deaths are residents of the county (five in Pearland and one in Freeport). The remaining five deaths have occurred in the various prison units in the county.

Today, the Governor is supposed to address the possible further opening of the economy. Gyms can open today under some very strict guidelines established by the Governor. We await the Governor's announcement on what other businesses may be able to open and under what conditions.

Our City Council will discuss tonight a plan to open some of the uses of the Recreation Center. The Governor's guidelines put substantial restrictions on what we can and cannot do at the Rec Center. Some of these rules include all patrons must social distance by 6 feet from one another. All exercise equipment must be 6 feet apart and sanitized after each use. Patrons must wear gloves and masks, as does staff. Therefore, we are discussing a limited opening of the Rec Center in order to adhere to the Governor's orders. We will also set the possible opening date.

At this time, the Governor's rule of no more than 10 people at gatherings (with exceptions for weddings, funerals, and churches) has kept our Civic Center and Jasmine Hall closed. We hope to get further guidance from the Governor today on these facilities.

This pandemic is far from over. What everyone is trying to do is find that balance which allows businesses to operate and at the same time do what we can to keep people safe. Everyone can do their part by continuing to social distance, practice good hygiene and wear a face covering when you go out in public.

Again, we will provide an update once we hear from the Governor.