



# City of Tucker

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## **TUCKER'S EMERGENCY DECLARATION (3/31): WHAT IT MEANS**

On Tuesday March 31, Mayor Frank Auman, through collaboration with the City Council and public health leaders, updated the City's emergency ordinance related to the coronavirus outbreak. These updates aim to clarify and strengthen the measures already in place. Still have questions? Read below to see what Tucker is doing and what it means to you.

### **Q: What's different in this declaration from the amended ordinance adopted on March 23?**

**A:** The biggest difference involves specificity when it comes to temporary closure of certain businesses which require customer contact. Hair salons, nail salons and massage establishments are closed for the time being. In-person dining at restaurants is also temporarily suspended by this declaration. There is also a provision suspending late fees and penalties for those businesses delinquent in securing their business license. Other measures in the order simply serve to clarify or specify rules already in place.

### **Q: What were the previous steps taken by the City?**

**A:** On March 21, Mayor Auman imposed a 9 p.m.-6 a.m. curfew in the City. This means that customer-facing businesses must be closed, and streets and rights-of-way should be clear during those hours. The order also gave businesses guidance that they must comply with CDC guidelines about crowd sizes and social distancing. Finally, it banned large gatherings among residents, again in keeping with CDC guidelines.

### **Q: How is Tucker's latest measure different from surrounding counties and municipalities?**

**A:** Simply put, Tucker's emergency ordinance has been written so that it can – and will – be enforced. The DeKalb County Police Department's Tucker Precinct, along with City of Tucker Code Enforcement, will work in tandem to ensure that businesses and individuals are complying with the rules. This is not to be punitive, but to encourage public safety and containment during this pandemic.

### **Q: So, this is not a "shelter-in-place" order?**

**A:** No, but the City encourages all residents to stay home as much as possible and to practice social distancing at all times.

### **Q: How does this impact bars and restaurants?**

**A:** Governor Kemp had already ordered that all bars and night clubs (what Tucker's Code refers to as "late-night establishments") be shut down. As for restaurants, no in-person dining will be allowed. The City of Tucker greatly encourages residents to support their local restaurants as much as possible during this time by ordering carryout or delivery. Every little bit helps our restaurants to make it through this very difficult time.

### **Q: What about outdoor activity?**

**A:** Getting outdoors is a great way to stay engaged and entertained during this time. To help with that, all City of Tucker parks remain open. Walking, jogging and cycling are all encouraged so long as participants are practicing social distancing.

### **Q: How long will these emergency regulations last?**

**A:** The Mayor can lift or extend the regulations at any time but, as they are written, the regulations are in place for 30 days from the time they were signed by the Mayor.