

From: [Kimberly Lile Dowty](#)
To: [Kimberly Lile Dowty](#)
Subject: FW: Agency Update on COVID-19 and ReOpening Texas Plans
Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 1:27:40 PM

From: Mike Eastland
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 12:13 PM
To: AGENCY <AGENCY@nctcog.org>
Subject: FW: Agency Update on COVID-19 and ReOpening Texas Plans

Folks,

Governor Greg Abbott has begun the process of reopening certain businesses across the state and within our region. We are going to continue working remotely, except in limited circumstances, through May. We are looking at June 1, 2020, as the earliest date a phased reopening of the office would begin to occur. In the meantime, the agency will continue to monitor COVID-19 announcements and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Governor's Office, local officials, and other health agencies. As you know, the situation is dynamic and continues to evolve. The personal and professional safety and well-being of every employee is of utmost importance. Thus, our return to the office is complicated and requires a strategic and phased approach.

An agency committee, comprised of departmental representatives, has been formed to create recommendations on policies and procedures that best ensure a safe return. This committee is working closely with Human Resources and the Facilities team to be sure that their recommendations are comprehensive and contain the necessary provisions to safely conduct a multi-phased reopening. The recommendations will be reviewed by the directors before I finally begin our reopening process.

Once a reopening date has been set, many employees will likely continue to work from home. During the initial phases of reopening, there will be a focus on social distancing, personal protective equipment, enhanced sanitation, and limited access to most common areas. This is a large and complex effort that requires significant planning and logistical considerations.

As more information becomes available, it will be shared with you. For now, unless you have specific direction from your supervisor or director, continue to work as you have for the last several weeks. Please stay in contact with your department for specific direction, as these phases continue to unfold. I have been pleased with the reports from your directors on your productivity and good work as we continue serving our region during this trying time of unknowns. I assure you, your hard work has not gone unnoticed.

Please remain patient, focused, and flexible as we work through this together.

Take care and my best,

Mike