



Mayor Alex B. Morse

Sean Gonsalves, Director

City of Holyoke

Board of Health

MEMORANDUM

TO: Holyoke Residents; Holyoke Businesses

FROM: Sean Gonsalves, RS
Director of Health

DATE: October 26, 2020

RE: **Holyoke Returning to Phase 3, Step 1**

Effective today, October 26, 2020, The City of Holyoke will return to Phase 3, Step 1. This change was required by the State of Massachusetts *COVID-19 Order No. 51*, which states:

“A municipality that qualifies as a Lower Risk Community, either on October 5, 2020 or subsequently, shall cease to qualify as a Lower Risk Community if at any time in a weekly report published by DPH the municipality has had an average daily incidence rate of more than 8 cases per 100,000 residents as recorded in each of the 3 most recent 14-day measurement periods.”

Holyoke has had an average daily incidence rate of more than 8 cases per 100,000 residents in each of the last 3 reporting periods (10/7, 10/14, 10/21). Each of these weeks has been represented by a “Red” designation on the DPH weekly metrics reporting. Three consecutive weeks with an average daily incidence rate of less than 8 cases per 100,000 residents will allow Holyoke to resume designation as a Lower Risk Community.

The following types of businesses are prohibited from operating during step 1 of phase III: indoor theaters and performance venues, roller skating rinks, trampoline parks, obstacle courses, laser tag and escape rooms.

The following types of businesses must reduce capacity to 40% (currently 50%) when operating during step 1 of phase III: driving/flight schools, gyms, libraries, museums, arcades, and lower-contact indoor and outdoor recreation businesses.

During step 1, outdoor gatherings at event venues and in public settings are limited to 50 people.

During step 1, outdoor theater and performance venues may operate at 25% capacity but no more than 50 people.

A chart outlining the differences between Step 1 and Step 2 will accompany this document.

If you have any questions please contact me at Gonsalvess@Holyoke.org or at (413) 322-5595. Thank you.