

Rehoboth Beach-Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce

"The Nation's Summer Capital"

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Membership Comments on Membership Pandemic Reopening – April 17, 2020

With the current uncertainty of when local businesses can begin to reopen, contact was made with The Rehoboth Beach – Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce Members to ask for their thoughts on reopening as it relates to their specific business.

The following is a summary of discussions held with representatives from each of the six membership business categories: accommodations; dining/eateries; retail; services; real estate; and attractions.

There was unified agreement within all categories of business that when the area is ready to be reopened as a Destination, every effort should be made for it to be done in concert with neighboring beaches and States. All business categories also strongly agreed that a timeline on all decisions needed to be established.

COMMENTS BY BUSINESS CATEGORY

Accommodations: Representatives stated that they may be able to open with a high percent of occupancy due to the fact that there is opportunity for guests to separate into private quarters. It was also noted that individual hotels might best determine how many reservations they could accept considering a possible employee shortage.

Dining/Eateries: If a slow opening is mandated, a percentage of total dining capacity with non-gathering areas could be workable. Facilities with self-serve counters (coffee/soda/etc.) could be considered utilizing a possible serving attendant.

Retail: If a slow opening is mandated, a business could open with a capacity limit based on a percentage of square footage Fire Marshal Capacity and/or appointment etc.

Services: Some services, such as Hair Dressers, Nail Salons, etc., could begin an earlier dated opening by appointment only.

Real Estate: Individual property sales could offer appointment-only opportunities and limit open house events.

Attractions: A percent formula would be workable for some, i.e. ecological tours, art classes, etc.

Additional Comments Included: Considering potential soft openings for the beach areas such as in-State residents only, and how that might impact short-term vacation rentals.

The Rehoboth Beach – Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce continues to stay in touch with its Members and is happy to share the information we receive. For additional information, please feel free to contact Carol Everhart, President/CEO at (302) 542-7547 or carol@beach-fun.com.