# Public Comment Form

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**Subject**: Beach Closure

**Comments**: I completely understand most measures, but consideration should be given to homeowners to walk/fish/exercise on the beach.
Public Comment Form

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**Subject**
Coronavirus at beaches?

**Comments** (?)
500 character maximum
In today's Los Angeles Times Kim Prather, an atmospheric chemist at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, has speculated ocean waves could release coronavirus pathogen particulates. She further speculates the pathogen could enter the ocean from sewage spills and outfalls, and then reenter the atmosphere. Has this been considered as a possibility or just nonsense?

"Coronavirus at beaches? Surfers, swimmers should stay away, scientist says"

By Rosanna Xia, Los Angeles Times 2 hrs ago
First Name*  
Dasa

Last Name*  
Polivka

Email*  

Phone*  

Street Address*  

City*  
Galveston

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TX

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77554

Subject*  
Galveston Beaches

Comments* (?):  
500 character maximum

I would like to see the beaches open with limitations for individuals or pairs for fishing or walking. I live across the street off the seawall, we fish for food and regularly take our dog to the beach. Thank you
Public Comment Form

First Name *  
Stan

Last Name *  
Obloy

Email *  

Phone *  

Street Address *  

City *  
Galveston

State *  
TX

ZIP *  
77550

Subject *  
Coronavirus Discussions

Comments * (?)  
500 character maximum

No matter whether Galvestonians were born here or arrived by choice, enjoyment of the ocean and its beaches is a reason we share in common for remaining. Denying all beach access in this time of fear seems an extreme measure for those of us living here day in and day out. Let me suggest an alternative. Close the beaches all day except, for example, between 6 am and 8 am and between 6 pm and 8 pm. Thanks, Stan Obloy
Public Comment Form

First Name *
Christine

Last Name *
GATLIN

Email *

Phone *

Street Address *

City *
Galveston

State *
TX

ZIP *
77550

Subject *
STR Ordinance

Comments * (?)
500 character maximum

Council,
Please consider rephrasing the language of the Short Term Rental ordinance. The ordinance needs to be modified to exempt long- term residences where rent is paid on a weekly basis.
I have heard that some individuals with this weekly rental payment arrangement have been asked to leave, due to the STR ordinance.

Thank you for your consideration.
Public Comment Form

First Name *  
Dilipsinh

Last Name *  
Zaila

Email *  

Phone *  

Street Address *  

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Galveston

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TX

ZIP *  
77551

Subject *
Hotel and Utility bill

Comments * (?)  
500 character maximum
As a hotelier my concern is about how long we would be keeping the hotels closed. If possible, could we get a notice for a full month if that is the case rather than per week so that we can inform individuals who have made their reservations beforehand rather than have them come in at the last moment.

I am also wondering if the city would be providing any financial support or utility bill relaxation owing to virtually no business since the last 3 weeks?

Thank you for your time
First Name *  
Auston

Last Name *  
Billrey

Email * 

Phone *

Street Address * 

City *  
Galveston

State *  
TX

ZIP *  
77554

Subject * 
Beach Access

Comments * (?)  
500 character maximum
I suggest we continue to have the beaches closed. As soon as they’re open again the city is going to be back to square one and the virus will have more opportunity to spread. The idea of open only to residents is a great thought, but would be absolutely impossible to enforce or control. People need to remain indoors, the virus quits moving when WE quit moving.
Public Comment Form

First Name*  
Carey  

Last Name*  
Graham  

Email*  
[BLANK]  

Phone*  
[BLANK]  

Street Address*  
[BLANK]  

City*  
GALVESTON  

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Texas  

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77554  

Subject*  
Closure of beaches  

Comments* (7)  
500 character maximum  
Very disappointed in hearing that our beaches continue to be closed throughout the month. Council members, please consider opening the beaches up to residents for a certain period of time (7 a.m. until 10 a.m.) and/or 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.).

As a resident, I know my health is more in danger when I go to restock my supplies at the store than when I take a 30 minute stroll on the beach.

Thanks for your consideration.
First Name *
Susan

Last Name *
Hohrbaum

Email *

Phone *

Street Address *

City *
Galveston

State *
Tx

ZIP *
77554

Subject *
Beach access

Comments * (?)
500 character maximum
Please consider early morning hours for residents on the beach to allow time for exercise. No tourists are on the beach before 9 am. It is so easy to safe distance on a beach that is basically empty during early morning hours and especially on weekdays. At least, try it. It can always be reversed if it becomes unsafe.
Thank you.
Public Comment Form

First Name
Dwayne

Last Name
Milburn

Email

Phone

Street Address

City
Galveston

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ZIP
77551

Subject
COVID-19

Comments
There's a known drug dealer in the 55th Ave L area who's contracted the Corona Virus, and is now hospitalized. But there's known addicts who purchase daily his drugs. These addicts that are working at Leon's BBQ are not only putting their selves at risk but are now putting the community in danger. This needs to be addressed and stopped. My question is... does this whole area need quarantining?
First Name*  
Jennifer

Last Name*  
Erich

Email*  

Phone*  

Street Address*  

City*  
Galveston

State*  
Texas

ZIP*  
77554

Subject*  
Please consider an "exercise-only" exception to the beach restrictions

Comments* (?)  
500 character maximum
Our family uses the beach primarily for exercise. With the current restrictions on all access, we are unable to safely exercise with social distancing on the sidewalks and pathways around Pointe West. Also, there are not wide enough shoulders in FM-3005 so it is quite dangerous to bicycle on the narrow shoulders. Please allow access for us residents who are in motion... jogging, walking, running, bicycling and golf cart cruising (a mental exercise!). We promise no sitting!
Public Comment Form

First Name*  
Mary Ann

Last Name*  
McKinley

Email*  

Phone*  

Street Address*  

City*  
Galveston

State*  
TX

ZIP*  
77554

Subject*  
golf course closures

Comments* (?)  
500 character maximum

Why are the golf courses closed when it is a great place for us to get exercise and very easy to social distance? I played at Moody Gardens just before they closed and had no contact with anyone.
Public Comment Form

First Name *
Stephen

Last Name *
Hill

Email *

Phone *

Street Address *

City *
GALVESTON

State *
TX

ZIP *
77554

Subject *
Closing the Beach

Comments * (?)
500 character maximum
Thank you for the work you do!!

I want to walk on the beach and I don't want people having parties on the beach. I support the goal of keeping people 6 feet away from each other.

I heard there is an idea of allowing only residents and workers on the island, I am in favor of that motion, if it is a motion, or anything where we can walk on the beach and not spread Covid-19.

Godspeed,
Stephen R. Hill - resident of Galveston and pastor at Tiki Island Chapel
First Name*  Amy
Last Name*  Carr

Email*  
Phone*  

Street Address*  

City*  Galveston
State*  TX
ZIP*  77554

Subject*  Nonessential City Employees

Comments*  (?)  500 character maximum
I am a civilian employee for GPD. I would like to know why nonessential employees are made to return to work in the height of this pandemic are now considered essential. I am NOT an essential employee. I do records requests for the courts which are currently not operating. I stayed home for 2 weeks and now have to put myself in harms way. Please explain what the reasoning is for this decision.
First Name *
Bob

Last Name *
Adams

Email *

Phone *

Street Address *

City *
GALVESTON

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TX

ZIP *
77554

Subject *
Beaches

Comments * (750 character maximum)
Thank you for all your hard work. I understand that the beach closure was to limit visitors to the island and could not exclude residents. My neighborhood has no sidewalks and there are drainage ditches on the sides of the road so the beach is the only safe place to walk. Would you consider opening the beaches for an hour or two in the morning? That would allow anyone that is on the island some exercise time but discourage day trippers who would spend more time driving than at the beach. Thanks
First Name*  Patty

Last Name*  Hildenbrand

Email*  

Phone*  

Street Address*  

City*  Galveston  

State*  Tx  

ZIP*  77554

Subject*  
Open West End beaches early for walks

Comments*  
500 character maximum

My community on the West End needs some place to exercise. How about opening the beaches from 7am to 9am only for exercise while still banning congregating (chairs, blankets, etc.) on the beach? If you close the beaches at 9am, people won’t drive down for the day. We want to cooperate fully with the social distancing but still stay fit and get a little time out of the house. Please consider some form of limited access to the beach.
First Name*  
Kristen

Last Name*  
Vale

Email*  

Phone*  

Street Address*  

City*  
Webster  

State*  
TX  

ZIP*  
77598

Subject*  
Keep beaches closed

Comments* (?)  
500 character maximum

I'm for keeping beaches closed and disagree with closing the causeway so Galvestonians can use the beach. Mayor Yarbrough stated in the April 3 meeting that not many residents use the beach. With that, a lot of resources would go into keeping the island closed to non-essential people, while putting checkpoint staff at risk of exposure. The Stay at Home order is to keep people safe. Opening beaches would allow residents to come back into close contact too soon. We're in this together.
First Name * 
Mary

Last Name * 
Powers

Email* 
[masked]

Phone* 
[masked]

Street Address* 
[masked]

City* 
Galveston

State* 
Texas

ZIP* 
77551

Subject* 
Beaches

Comments* (?) 
I like to walk on the beach before dawn. Can arrangements be made to allow locals to do that?
Public Comment Form

First Name *
Nna

Last Name *
Dillenbeck

Email *

Phone *

Street Address *

City *
Galveston

State *
Tx

ZIP *
77554

Subject *
Jamaica Beach

Comments *(?)
I have to ask why this beach is allowed to be open at this critical time even to local friends and family. We are all working hard. This is a terrible idea.
Public Comment Form

First Name *
Bass

Last Name *
Mitchell

Email *

Phone *

Street Address *

City *
Galveston

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77550

Subject *
All Orders

Comments * (?)
500 character maximum

Please continue & keep effective all emergency Orders now in place at least until April 30, and indefinitely depending upon the status of the pandemic particularly on Galveston Island and neighboring communities.
First Name: Dawn
Last Name: Simonton
Email: [redacted]
Phone: [redacted]
Street Address: [redacted]
City: Houston
State: TX
ZIP: 77554
Subject: Allow limited pedestrian access to beaches
Comments: Please consider allowing limited or solitary pedestrian access to beaches. It's difficult to be solitary without access to nature and exercise in fresh air.
First Name*  Cheryl

Last Name*  Grafton

Email*  [Redacted]

Phone*  [Redacted]

Street Address*  [Redacted]

City*  Galveston

State*  TX

ZIP*  77559

Subject*  Causeway checkpoint

Comments*  I still think a causeway checkpoint is the way to go. Not everyone is going to state their intentions on social media nor can all media be monitored. Lots of people are still daytripping to the island. Jamaica Beach is still wide open. If a checkpoint is finally deemed necessary, by the time you get cooperation and manpower from the state to get a checkpoint set up, it will be too late. The damage will have already been done. Houston is just too close to the island.

Thank you
First Name*: Shawn
Last Name*: Rast

Email*: 
Phone*: 

Street Address*: 

City*: Galveston
State*: TX
ZIP*: 77550

Subject*
Open the beaches - and close the inbound lanes on the causeway to nonessential travel for nonresidents.

Comments* (?)
500 character maximum
It's essential that Galveston protect itself from tourists who don't care to protect themselves and others, but it's not essential that the people of Galveston can't enjoy their city.

Keep the beach facilities closed, but reopen the beaches for the people who live here.
First Name: Clairissa
Last Name: Hansen

Email: 
Phone: 

Street Address: 

City: Galveston
State: Texas
ZIP: 77550

Subject: Open beached

Comments: Please open the Galveston beaches! There is so much unused open space out there with windy, salty air that it is difficult to get infected with almost anything that spreads person to person. People rarely get close to each other on the beach. It's the perfect place to calm our minds in this anxious time.
First Name *  
Sandi

Last Name *  
Therrell

Email *  

Street Address *  

City *  
Galveston

State *  
TX

ZIP *  
77550

Subject *  
Please reopen beaches for locals

Comments * (7)  
500 character maximum

Please reopen beaches for locals to walk on and get exercise/fresh beach air and find a way to monitor incoming traffic on the causeway.
Public Comment Form

First Name *
Trent

Last Name *
Howison

Email *

Phone *

Street Address *

City *
Galveston

State *
TX

ZIP *
77554

Subject *
Leave the causeway open and open the beaches

Comments *
(?)
500 character maximum

It's not okay to take away someone's joy just because you are overly anxious. If you can't social distance on a beach stay locked in your house. Tourism is our economy in the island and we as residents shouldn't be selfish and pretend like we own the beach just because we live here.
First Name *  
Jason

Last Name *  
Gadsby

Email *  

Phone *  

Street Address *  

City *  
Galveston

State *  
Tx

ZIP *  
77554

Subject *  
Beach Closure

Comments * (?)  
500 character maximum

I think the city council should begin to look at revising the beach closure rules. I think if we can meet in the middle and allow people to walk or jog on the beach it would solve the current issue with the locals. Maybe create a rule that you can’t bring chairs, towels, etc to prevent the casual day tripper. Please at least discuss potential options. Thank you for serving our community.
Public Comment Form

First Name*  
Lee

Last Name*  
Wissmiller

Email*  
[Redacted]

Phone*  
[Redacted]

Street Address*  
[Redacted]

City*  
Galveston

State*  
Texas

ZIP*  
77554

Subject*  
Exposure limiting

Comments* (?)  
500 character maximum

Yesterday we had an incident where apparently a sick individual who was supposed to be quarantining broke that and went to a local supermarket on the island. They apparently got sick and EMS had to be called. Are there penalties for those under a quarantine who break it? Since this potentially exposes more people, what is being done to ensure such events do not occur again and are you tracking the possible exposures? Will people who break quarantine be held accountable for exposures they cause?
First Name *  
Warren

Last Name *  
Hoffman

Email *  
[Redacted]

Phone *  
[Redacted]

Street Address *  
[Redacted]

City *  
Galveston

State *  
Texas

ZIP *  
77554

Subject *  
Beach closure

Comments * (?)  
500 character maximum

Please consider opening the beaches for a short period in the early morning and in the evening so locals can exercise.
Public Comment Form

First Name*  
Lisa

Last Name*  
Freeman

Email*  

Phone*  

Street Address*  

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Galveston

State*  
Tx

ZIP*  
77554

Subject*  
Non-Full time beach house owners

Comments* (?)  
500 character maximum
Can you please comment on the fairly sizable number of homeowners who live outside of Galveston, some in Covid-19 hotspots, continuing to travel to Galveston each weekend?
I understand this may be a legal issue, but I am aware of other cities “strongly discouraging” such travel as it disregards the concept of social distancing and staying in one primary home.
Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.
First Name: ROBERT

Last Name: LOYD

Email: [Redacted]

Phone: [Redacted]

Street Address: [Redacted]

City: weathford
State: TX
ZIP: 76087

Subject: closing of state parks, city parks, public beaches.

Comments: the closing of all forms of public recreation. This is not a good idea. The small groups I understand. The 6 foot distancing is great. Forcing people to be inside non-stop with no relief from stress. Wound up children's. This is a perfect storm. When did the pursuit of happiness become a crime? The people who break the law must be punished. Not the ones that don't. Why do we find this approach necessary? Large groups of drunken people arrested. Let the civil people be civil.
First Name*  
Steve

Last Name*  
Mullins

Email*  

Phone*  

Street Address*  

City*  
Galveston

State*  
TX

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77554

Subject*  
CV19 Closures

Comments* (?):  
500 character maximum

Closing Galveston beaches and businesses is placing a heavy burden on property and business owners. What is Galveston County going to do to offset the income that's been forcefully removed? Prorated property taxes perhaps? In addition, the authoritarian rule has taken away access rights and liberties of locals and visitors to the island. At some point we have to stop hiding and continue living, this virus isn't going away.
First Name *
Dan

Last Name *
Walsh

Email *
[Redacted]

Phone *
[Redacted]

Street Address *
[Redacted]

City *
Galveston

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Texas

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77554

Subject *
Beach Closures

Comments *(?)*
500 character maximum

The current beach closure order seems to be a lazy attempt to limit contact......you should be able to close the beach to large groups/parties, but individuals or couples should be allowed to walk on the beach (while still keeping their distance from others).......... Come on........!!!!!
First Name*  
Oliver

Last Name*  
Klinger

Email* 

Phone* 

Street Address* 

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Subject*  
Conora virus

Comments* (?)  
500 character maximum

It's time to announce a plan to open things back up and do so no later than the end of the month. The economy is too complex to shut down without catastrophic damage. There will be nothing to salvage this summer if you wait. People are going to get sick. No avoiding it either way, but the overwhelming number of people will still continue to social distance themselves and act responsibly. But the restaurant, tourist and real estate business will take years to get back to normal.
First Name *
Patty

Last Name *
Erdman

Email *

Phone *

Street Address *

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Galveston

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Subject *
Beach

Comments * (750 Character Maximum)
Would it be possible to open just a small section of the beach and have it patroled by beach patrol? Residents would only be allowed to walk or fish on it but large crowds would not be allowed to gather. I know that Florida is trying this and having it patroled with drones. Babe's Beach would be a perfect area to try this. Thank you!
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**Subject**
City of Galveston COVID-19 Regulation for second home owners

**Comments**
In light of the the current COVID 19 environment, I'd like to propose a new regulation for second home owners living full-time outside of Galveston City that feel they are free to come and go to "check on their property" during the State, County and City mandated stay at home effort. I suggest Galveston put into place a regulation that requires second home owners to quarantine for 14 days upon arrival - similar to the regulation that NY State and Governor Cuomo put into affect for NYers leaving.