

RESOLUTION
COLORADO RIVER TRIBAL COUNCIL

A Resolution to Approve Implementing Phase Three to Lift COVID-19 Mitigation Measures to Fully Re-Open the Colorado River Indian Tribes.

Be it resolved by the Tribal Council of the Colorado River Indian Tribes of the Colorado River Indian Reservation, in *special* meeting assembled on March 28, 2022.

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Indian Tribes (hereinafter "CRIT" or "Tribes") is a federally recognized Indian Tribe, duly organized with a tribal governing body known as the Tribal Council according to the provisions contained in the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934; and

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 1(v) of the Constitution of the Colorado River Indian Tribes authorizes the Tribal Council to promulgate ordinances and resolutions providing for the administration of the health, education and welfare of members of the tribes; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on January 30, 2020; the United States Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency related to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak on January 31, 2020; the World Health Organization officially declared a pandemic due to COVID-19 on March 11, 2020; and the United States declared a National Emergency on March 13, 2020; and CRIT also declared an emergency for the Reservation on March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Indian Tribes approved Resolution No. 54-20 on April 1, 2020 requiring all non-essential businesses to close and all non-essential personnel to stay at home until April 30, 2020 and extended until August 31st, 2020 by Resolution No. 112-20, 99-20, 75-20 and 61-20 necessary to flatten the significant surge of positive COVID-19 cases in the tribal community between May 1st and July 31st, 2020; and


The foregoing resolution was on March 28, 2022 duly approved by a vote of 5 for, 1 against and 0 abstaining, by the Tribal Council of the Colorado River Indian Tribes, pursuant to authority vested in it by Sections 1.v., Article VI of the Constitution and By laws of the Tribes, ratified by the Tribes on March 1, 1975 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on May 29, 1975, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934, (46 Stat. 984). This resolution is effective as of the date of its adoption.

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By



Chairwoman



Secretary

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WHEREAS, the Colorado River Indian Tribes approved Resolution No. 135-20 approving phase two measure to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 with a “Safer at Home” Order effective until September 30, 2020 with extensions until December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Indian Tribes experienced a significant surge in positive coronavirus cases in December and January and reinstated the “Stay at Home” order effective from December 24, 2020 until March 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, due to a significant reduction in COVID-19 cases the Colorado River Indian Tribes approved Resolution No. 47-21 to re-instate the Safer at Home Order from March 13, 2021 until April 30, 2021 with an extension until May 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Council approved Resolution No. 110-21 Phase 3 on May 28, 2021 in order to continue the phased and safe re-opening of the Tribal economy with an extension until October 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Council reinstated the Safer at Home Order effective September 16, 2021 until October 3, 2021 due to significant increase in COVID-19 cases per Resolution No. 293-21, with additional extensions until March 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Indian Health Services (“IHS”) in Parker, AZ reported 5 new positive COVID-19 cases between February 27, 2022 and March 23, 2022, which demonstrates a significant reduction in COVID-19 cases; and

WHEREAS, IHS has been administering vaccinations including booster doses for COVID-19 since December 2020 including to IHS beneficiates, employees of the Tribes, and the general public; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) has reported La Paz, Riverside, and San Bernardino County COVID-19 Community Levels are now in the Low category; and

WHEREAS, approximately 95% of CRIT employees are vaccinated; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has reviewed the rate of COVID-19 vaccination, the spread of COVID-19 variants, hospitalization rates, and COVID-19 case activity within the surrounding communities and nationally to lift any mitigation measures in place; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue the phased and safe re-opening of the Tribal economy the Tribal Council is prepared to lift the mitigation measures through a phased approach to ensure safe operation of business and other services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Colorado River Indian Tribes hereby approves the re-opening of all business, schools, government

offices, churches, gyms, bars, and other entities, whether previously designated essential or non-essential, under the following conditions:

- 1) All businesses and entities shall ensure sanitation policies and procedures, screening of staff and patrons for COVID-19 identification and isolation, contact tracing protocol for positive case exposures, and communications, training, and procedures for implementation, and facemask use are in compliance with CDC, OSHA, and CRIT requirements and guidance; and
- 2) All businesses and entities shall operate at no more than 50% indoor capacity from April 1st through April 30, 2022 unless such entity was previously designated as essential and operating at a higher capacity; and
- 3) All businesses and entities shall operate at no more than 75% indoor capacity from May 31st, 2022 unless such entity was previously designated as essential and operating at a higher capacity; and
- 4) All business and entities may operate at 100% indoor capacity as of June 1st, 2022; and
- 5) All businesses and entities shall continue to comply with CRIT Face Mask requirements; and
- 6) All CRIT tribal enterprises and departments must still submit approval to Tribal Council of any large event of more than 100 participants hosted by the enterprise or department or held on or within any Tribal facility or premises in order to ensure adequate mitigation is in place; and
- 7) All CRIT Tribal Members and the reservation residents are still strongly advised to get a COVID-19 vaccination and to stay at home whenever possible to maintain the reduction in COVID-19 cases and protect the most valuable community members from COVID-19; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect April 1, 2022 and shall remain in effect until Tribal Council, in consultation with public health officials and the CRIT Incident Command Team, determines that the threat has increased and Safer at Home or Stay at Home orders must be reinstated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CRIT Incident Command team shall continue to monitor the COVID-19 case positivity rates, vaccination rates, and spread of COVID-19 variants and advise Tribal Council mitigation measures should be reinstated; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing contained herein modifies the face mask requirements mandated by Resolution No. 254-21, which remains in full force and effect modified or rescinded by Tribal Council; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the penalties outlined within Resolution No. 54-20 continue to apply for any violations of this Resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER AND FINALLY RESOLVED that the Tribal Council Chairwoman and Secretary, or their designated representatives, are hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all documents necessary to implement this action.