



**Orange County Economic Recovery Task Force**  
**Thursday, May 21, 2020**  
**Minutes**

**Welcome:** Mayor Demings thanked the Task Force members for your continued hard work for the last several days as well plan to reopen Orange County. I have received a copy of the reopening plan from Universal Orlando that will be presented today. I feel pretty good where we are as a County; our positivity rate remains relatively low below 3%. To put that into perspective, Cook County Chicago has 63,000 positive cases. Sadly, we have lost 38 lives in Orange County, and Cooke County has had 2900 deaths. I believe the high-density metropolitan areas have a greater probability of spreading the virus. If we put sanitation measures in place as we continue to reopen, it will prove to be a positive outcome in the long term to control the virus and keep us at low numbers. I feel good about the progress and direction we are heading. We know that consumer confidence will be important as we reopen. As you know, we have put a consumer confidence survey in place with almost 12,000 residents completing it. Thank you and I will turn it over to George Aguel, Co-Chair for the Roll Call.

**Roll Call:** George Aguel provided the roll call of the Task Force members. The following members were present:

- AdventHealth, Scott Brady, MD, Senior Vice President of Ambulatory Services – Dr. Hsu representing Dr. Brady
- Alford Inn, Jesse Martinez, General Manager
- Black Business Investment Fund (BBIF), Inez Long, President and CEO
- CareerSource Central Florida Pamela Nabors, President and CEO
- Church Street Entertainment, Doug Taylor, Managing Partner
- City of Orlando & Orlando Venues, Allen Johnson, Chief Venues Officer
- Curley and Pynn, Dan Ward,
- Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, Kathy Ramsberger, President & CEO
- Florida Department of Health in Orange County, Raul Pino, MD, Health Officer
- Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association, Keri Burns, Regional Director
- Hyatt Regency Orlando, Brian Comes, Area Vice President
- Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce, John Newstreet, President/CEO
- Lake County Agency for Economic Prosperity, Brandon Matulka, Executive Director
- M.C. Spa & Nail Spa, Mary Chau, Founder and CEO
- Mosaic Hair Studio, Mike Van del Abbeel, Salon Owner
- National Entrepreneur Center, Jerry Ross, Executive Director
- Nelson, Mullins/Broad and Cassel, Wayne Rich, Of Council
- Orange County Public Schools, Barbara Jenkins, Ed.D., Superintendent
- Orlando Health, George Ralls, MD, System Chief Quality Officer

- Orlando International Airport, Phil Brown, CEO
- Orlando Magic, Alex Martins, CEO – Linda Landman Gonzalez on behalf of Alex Martins
- Orlando City Soccer Club, Alex Leitao, CEO - Caesar Lopez on behalf of Alex Leitao
- Orlando Shakespeare Theater, Douglas Love-Ramos, President
- Prospera, Augusto Sanabria, President and CEO
- Rejoice in the Lord Ministries & President, African American Council of Christian Clergy, Pastor Roderick Zak, CEO
- Rosen Shingle Creek, Dan Giordano, General Manager
- SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, Brad Gilmour, Vice President of Operations
- Seminole County Government, Tricia Johnson, Deputy County Manager/Chief Administrator for Community Relations and Economic Development
- The Mall at Millennia, Steve Jamieson, General Manager
- The Trentham Santiago Group, Conrad Santiago, CFP®, MSFS, Private Wealth Advisor
- The Vineyard Wine Bar & Healthy Bistro, Deborah Linden, Owner
- UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management, Youcheng Wang, Ph.D., Dean
- Unicorp National Development, Chuck Whittall, President
- United Safety Council, Chris Earl, Executive Director
- Universal Orlando, Rich Costales, Executive Vice President of Resort Operations- Craig Widely attending on behalf of Rich Costales
- Walmart, Inc., Monesia Brown, Director of Public Affairs and Government Relations
- Walt Disney World Resort, Thomas Mazloun, Senior Vice President, Resort & Transportation Operations
- WaWa, Inc., Todd Souders, Senior Director Florida Operations and New Market Development
- Wyndham Destinations, Frank Goeckel, SVP, Strategy, Integration & Acquisitions
- YMCA of Central Florida, Dan Wilcox, President & CEO

**Approval of Minutes** – Tim Giuliani indicating the members received the draft minutes for the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting for review. Tim asked for any changes to the minutes. There were no changes, and a motion to approve the minutes was made by Conrad Santiago and second from Sandy Hostetter. The minutes were approved unanimously by the members.

**Public Comment:** George Aguel shared information about the public comments received from the residents. Orange County staff read nine public comments into the record.

**Orange County Attorney's Office Update:** Tim Giuliani, Co-Chair, introduced Katherine Latorre, Assistant County Attorney, to provide a presentation on Voting Conflicts of Interest. Earlier this week, the Task Force members received information on Voting Conflicts of Interest as we review the attractions proposals today. Kate Latorre reviewed the voting conflicts of interest and guided members on what Florida law requires. A voting conflict of interest exists if the matter your incur a special private gain or loss by a Task Force member, a relative of the Task Force member or an associate of the Task Force member. A special private gain or loss is almost always an economic benefit or harm. If you do have a voting conflict of interest, the law requires that you abstain from voting. Special gain or loss cannot be speculative or

remote. If a voting conflict of interest exists, prior to the vote taken, the Task Force member must publicly state the nature of his or her interest, abstain from voting, and file a voting conflict member with the Clerk within 15 days. If you have a voting conflict of interest, you must not participate in the matter until you first disclose the nature of your conflict. Participate means any attempt to influence the decision, both oral and written communication. Voting conflict hinges on the specific facts on each individual case, and please contact county staff if you have any questions.

**Health Update:** George Aguel introduced the Health Update beginning with Dr. Raul Pino, Health Officer, Florida Department of Health in Orange County.

Dr. Brady, AdventHealth: continues to serve the community and COVID -19 patients. It's been about five weeks since our peak. You can look at the number of positive cases in the hospital to see how we're doing. We have not seen any increases in the past couple of weeks, but we haven't seen any decreases. All aspects of the hospital are open and we are requiring universal masking of guests and employees. We are also requiring temperature checks universally. In addition, pre-admission testing of all patients is included in our procedures and we have contactless registration. We are working with employers around the community to assist with safe opening processes. We are watching our numbers every day to look for a second wave.

Dr. Ralls, Orlando Health: still seeing the same trend as AdventHealth. Inpatient numbers dropped over the last couple of days. The numbers look good, and the inpatient number is a good sign. We have not changed anything on our heightened screening. We are testing all patients coming in for surgeries or any procedure and testing 100% of our employees. We continue to support our businesses as well with anything we can provide. We have seen very thorough plans coming from our theme parks.

Dr. Pino, Department of Health: seen a small increase in the number of cases. The number was going a little over. In the last 14 days, we are hovering around 30-40 new cases. Our positivity rate continues to decline; hospitalizations continue to decline and ER admissions continue to decline. We are in the middle of the third week since our reopening, and we have not seen a significant increase. We have more options for testing now through mobile testing. The need for testing has decreased, which could be the availability of testing and people going back to work.

**Theme Park Presentation:** Tim Giuliani, Co-Chair introduced John Sprouls, Chief Administrative Officer & Rich Costales, Executive Vice President of Resort Operations of Universal Orlando for a presentation on their re-opening plan. John Sprouls – we have been working over the last several weeks to be prepared. We have worked with the Governor's Office and Dr. Pino, Health Department on his guidance on our reopening plan. We had Dr. Pino and County Officials out this morning to review our procedures. We did send an official letter to the Mayor with a copy of the plan. We've asked to open our parks June 1<sup>st</sup>, which is a gradual capacity opening across every aspect. We will open on June 1<sup>st</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup> with our team members to make sure the system works. We are hoping to open on June 5<sup>th</sup> to the public.

John Spouls mapped out the guest's journey from the purchase of a ticket and looked at every single touch point so we can keep the guest safe. We want to create touchless experiences anywhere we can. We provide pre- arrival communications on our website as well as the expectations of the company and the guest. Signage will be posted throughout the property. We will have employees throughout the park that can explain what procedures are in place and a mobile app that will have all the information. John explained the Team Member Journey – self temperature checks and staggered the parking lot, temp

checks for all team members every day as well as guests. We created new guest procedures and SOP's for Team Members. We have identified guest interaction points and provided scripted information for Team Members. We will be using mobile food ordering, staggering employee breaks and making sure we have social distancing throughout the property. John provided a summary of the preventative measures to include guest temp checks at all main entrances, and all team members and guests will be in masks. We will provide masks for guests if needed. We will close our valet operation right now. As far as Attractions and entertainment, we are going to manage capacity and ramp up very slowly across each OF our venues, we had our industrial engineering team so we can lay out social distancing in cue lines and food outlets for a safe attendance maximum. We will close interactive play areas and reduce or eliminate our mist elements. We have implemented virtual lines for a number of our attractions and we are eliminating the single rider line. We are eliminating post-show meet and greet with guests. In our restaurants, all menus will be paper and disposals. We have mobile food ordering for all venues and contactless payments. Team members will need to perform a self-temperature checks at home and staff will be asked questions when they arrive each day as well as a temperature check when they arrive to work. We will require staff to wear face coverings as well. We will have ambassadors scattered throughout the park that can inform guests of our procedures. We will have hand sanitizer at the entrance and exit of every attraction, every food venue and merchant venue. We will increase frequency of breaks of team members so they can wash their hands. We will have signage placed throughout the parks. We want our guests to know before they go and what we expect of our guests. We will have signs to practice safe health practices, and floor markings for social distancing throughout the parks. Examples of communication handouts for guests are available to remind them of all the practices. This information will be available in other languages. We will have queue entry examples posted in the attraction, so guests understand how we are social distancing.

Jon Weiss, Director, Planning, Environmental, and Development Department: All the attractions were asked to put together a plan on their reopening based on the Governor's Executive Order 2020-123. Mayor Demings asked Orange County staff to perform field inspections to verify the attractions had developed their plan and readiness to implement the plan as presented. The staff was provided with copies of the plans, procedures, and manuals. Staff performed inspection this morning to include Dr. Pino, Health Officer, Department of Health, Dr. Zuver, Medical Services Director, Jon Weiss, Director, PEDS Department and Shane Gerwig, Orange County Building Official. Reviewed Universal's readiness to implement the plan as presented. All the elements explained in the presentation, were fully explained to staff, health screening, guest arrival, queue management, including back of house operations and signage and communication. In summary, the Orange County team had no significant concerns regarding Universal's readiness or ability to implement what they've prepared. If there are any questions of the Orange County team, we will be happy to respond.

Universal Orlando Motion: Tim Giuliani, Co-Chair, called for a motion to approve Universal Orlando's plan as approved. Dr. Jenkins made the motion, and Dan Giordano seconded the motion. Tim called for any discussion. Mayor Demings asked if there were any members that abstained from voting. Lucas asked for anyone to announce if they are abstaining from the vote. The following Task Force members abstained from the vote: Chris Earl, Thomas Mazloun, Dan Ward, Rich Costales, Brad Gilmour and Brandon Matulka. Mayor Demings asked the County Attorney to ensure we can conduct a voice vote. Ms. Holmes said we

could proceed with a voice vote. Tim Giuliani, Co-Chair, called for a vote and the motion was passed unanimously.

Question: Dr. Jenkins asked Jon Weiss about temperature checks for large numbers – any lessons learned on temperature check stations at Universal Orlando. John Sprouls indicated that they had over 30K interactions and it has gone extremely smoothly. The technology works great. We had only a handful of people that registered over the 104 CDC temperature. Universal Health Services staff on hand, guests allowed to sit in a cool area for 20 minutes, and then they were retested. The guests have been supportive of the process or the masks.

Dr. Pino commented and spoke about the thermometers that send the data to the cloud, and an alert is sent before the child coming to school and it can tell them what to do when there's an elevated temperature.

Chuck Whittall: are you using the handheld thermometers or the walkup device that you stand in front of. Mr. Sprouls indicated they are using the hand held thermometers right now.

**Working Group Updates:** George Aguel, Co-Chair, introduced the Bringing Back Tourism Working Group. As you heard from Mayor Demings, the Bringing Back Tourism Working Group met several times this week to review the re-opening plans of our smaller attractions. We will now hear from Dr. Youcheng Wang, Co-Chair.

**Bringing Back Tourism Working Group Update:** Dr. Youcheng Wang, Co-Chair, provided the update on behalf of the Working Group. The focus of the working group this week is to review and make recommendations in terms of the small attractions. Each attraction was asked to submit their guidelines and manual and required to make a presentation in front of the Working Group. The consensus of the Working Group is that all guidelines presented met the state mandate and the County guidelines. Each guideline is a little different because of the nature of the business and the scale of the business is a little different the common theme is the focus on the safety of the employees and the visitors. During the process, we invited medical professionals to provide information or ask/answer questions. The Working Group approved to move forward with the smaller attractions reopening plans as submitted. There are 13 attractions, which include: Aloma Bowling, Andretti Indoor Karting and Games, Boardwalk Bowl, Face Amusement, Fun Spot, Gatorland, Icon Park, K1 Speed, Magical Midway, Nona Adventure Park, Slingshot, Starflyer and WonderWorks. Dr. Wong recommended approval of the smaller attractions reopening plans as presented. The Working Group voted on the reopening plans as a package. Dr. Wong reviewed the timelines of each attraction's reopening plan.

Jon Weiss, Director, Planning, Environmental, and Development Department: provided results from the on-site inspection of the smaller attractions. The County received the reopening plans for each of these attractions. There are a lot of common aspects in the operational guidelines such as employee screening, temperature checks, face coverings, training and protocols, reporting, social distancing guidelines for employees and guests, signage and communication, availability of hand sanitizers, and cleaning protocols. We coordinated an on-site inspection with County Staff and covered critical implements of the plan and readiness to implement the plan as presented. This included employee health screening practices, sanitation practices, employee training plans, and signage for employees and guests. Most of the

attractions did a satisfactory job to explain the plan as presented. The plan still has to go to the Mayor and the Governor's Office for approval even after County Staff has signed off on the plan.

Q: Chuck Whittall - I didn't think it had to go to the Governor's Office for approval. I thought it was delegated to the Mayor. Dr. Wong said that the Task Force approved the plan, and then it would go to the Mayor and then the Governor's Office. The County Attorney's Office indicated the plan does have to go to the Governor's Office for review and approval with an endorsement letter from the Mayor.

Roseann- indicated the opening dates listed with the smaller attractions have to include a future date and we will need to adjust the motion. George Aguel, Co-Chair – called for a motion to approve the smaller attractions plan as presented. Roseann indicated that we need to change Nona Adventure Park reopening plan date from May 20<sup>th</sup> to May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Jesse Martinez made a motion with the amended language, and the second by Doug Taylor. Discussion: The following Task Force members abstained from voting: Chuck Whittall, Chris Earl, Wayne Rich, and Rich Costales. George Aguel, Co-Chair, called for a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**CARES Act Funding for Small Businesses:** Tim introduced the CARES Act funding for small businesses presentation by Eric Ushkowitz, Economic Development Administrator, and Andrea Wesser-Brawner, Chief Innovation & Emerging Technologies. Orange County recently received \$243 million in CARES funding to assist small businesses as well as provide funding for social services and community assistance for residents that have been impacted by this pandemic.

Eric Ushkowitz presented on the CARES funding for small businesses. At Tuesday's Board of County Commission meeting, the Board approved \$72.9M in funding for small business financial assistance. Eric mentioned a couple of changes made by the Board to include - 25 employees or under. We are in current discussions with organizations we partner with to assist with this program and review applications. Eric recognized OEP, BBIF, Prospera, and the NEC for their partnership during this process. The program will offer a one-time \$10K grant and does not need to be paid back. The criteria includes: In business by January 1, 2020, have a business license in Orange County, a brick and mortar business (Board Added: Home business with 3 or more employees), demonstrate ongoing business operations at time of the Mayor's Stay at Home Executive Order, must have no more than 25 employees, business taxes are paid up to date, expected to stay in business through December 31, 2020, and commit to following recommended COVID-19 safety guidelines. The businesses that would not be eligible for the small business grant are not physically located and operated in Orange County, received federal funds for COVID-19 (PPP), home-based business, non-profit corporations, publicly traded companies, code enforcement liens and current findings of financial mismanagement. We are looking at a June 1<sup>st</sup> launch of the program. We are building the application portal, and the information will be disseminated to our partners for review and the county team will conduct a final review. We expect the process to take 2-3 weeks for the review phase and 2-3 weeks for the processing phase.

**Questions:** Doug Taylor- are nonprofit businesses eligible? Eric responded that nonprofits are not eligible for the program. We have a lot of companies with compelling stories, but we need to draw the line so we could get the money out as soon as possible. Eric recognized Andrea Wesser-Brawner and Sheena Ferguson on their contribution to the presentation.

**Open Discussion:** George led the Task Force in open discussion.

Q: Chuck Whittall: with businesses closed for so long, how's the general financial health of Orange County? Mayor Demings responded that overall the fiscal health of Orange County is good. We have strong reserves in the county to deal with extraordinary circumstances. I have taken some measures to stabilize our budget going forward. We are looking within our budget for reduction in expenses. The recovery period of time will take several years for us to recovery. If we open effectively, we will reduce the recovery period. We are trying to make sure the CARES Act funding and additional federal funding, we be utilized to leverage economic recovery efforts of the county through supporting individuals as well as families. We do appreciate your efforts and my staff has worked diligently with your input to fashion the plan of action presented to you today and get money in the hands of our residents directly impacted. We see this as gap funding for people that have a need now and recovering from the pandemic. Thank you again for your volunteer efforts over the last several weeks. In terms of the process going forward, I've had the opportunity to evaluate the small attractions plans, and I will likely make a recommendation to the Governor to reopen the small attractions today. In terms of the larger attractions, I need some time to digest what's been presented. I will make the determination and correspond with the Governor tomorrow morning.

Q: Chuck: What are thoughts on OCPS opening schools in the fall? Dr. Jenkins: we are going to have a worksession with the Board this afternoon on that topic, and the answer is we don't know. We are waiting for direction from the state. They are talking about at a blended model and continue distance learning. We don't have any direction at this point; I believe the state has to give us some parameters. It would be challenging to bring back students with social distancing. We are still brainstorming around possible scenarios of distance learning, blended model or trying to bring children back with safety measures.

Q: Wayne Rich: Assuming the Governor signs off on the reopening plans, going forward what kind of monitoring and enforcement will be implemented? If there are complaints from the guests, the complaints would be investigated by the appropriate state or local authorities based on the guidelines put in place.

**Next Steps:** Tim Giuliani - the next task force meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 10am. All task force and working group meetings are streamed live on Orange TV, and public comment can be submitted at [publiccomment@ocfl.net](mailto:publiccomment@ocfl.net) by 5pm the day before the Task Force meeting. You can also provide any comments or questions at [economicrecovery@ocfl.net](mailto:economicrecovery@ocfl.net)

**Closing:** Mayor Demings thanked the Task Force members and the comprehensive presentations. The Mayor talked about the collaboration between health care and Orange County Staff to put a process in place to review the attraction plans as presented. We go forward in unity as a community. I am reminded as we went through the crisis of the Pulse Nightclub incident, as a community, we came together for the good of all. I believe as we have struggled now during the pandemic, our community is coming together. If we focus on the future and what it can look like when everyone works together, we will be able to return to pre-COVID times of existence in our community.

**Co-Chairs:** George Aguel and Tim Giuliani, Co-Chairs thanked everyone for their work and adjourned the meeting.