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То:	(MetroNet) All Internet Users; (MetroNet) All Users
Subject:	Covid-19 Phase 3 and Workplace Safety
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Dear County Employees,

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I hope that you and your families are doing well and staying safe. While the COVID-19 positivity rates are down in our County, this is not the time to let our guard down. As it relates to County operations during this pandemic, **thanks to each and every one of you** for continuing to provide all the services that we normally provide to our residents.

My expectation moving forward is that we continue to prioritize safety and continue to adhere to the necessary precautions that each department has implemented throughout the past six months, based on the advice of our medical experts, the CDC and the Florida Department of Health. These precautions are proven to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and include strict adherence to the proper use of personal protective equipment such as facial coverings, workplace modifications such as the installation of plexiglass and dividers, limiting in-person meetings, continuing the use of ZOOM or Microsoft Teams to conduct County meetings, and continuing to work from home if feasible.

Each department's operational needs are different, and each department will continue to monitor and adapt to the changing needs going forward, under the Governor's Phase 3 statewide order. The precaution taken in requiring employees to work from home if possible has provided the added benefit of reduced traffic. This is one provision that has been a silver lining throughout the past six months and one that I encourage departments to continue to permit if it is deemed that employees are as productive at home as they are in the workplace.

As you have heard me say repeatedly, please continue to wear your face masks, maintain social distancing, and practice good hygiene. All County employees are required to continue to use a face mask in the workplace until further notice. These simple precautions make a big difference. Together, we can stop the spread of COVID-19 and avoid another surge in the positivity rate and an increase in hospitalizations in our County. While everyone wants to get back to "normal," we must also acknowledge that there is no vaccine yet and safety remains paramount. We are living under <u>"New Normal"</u> rules, which we must embrace for our community's wellbeing.

Once again, I would like to thank you, our County employees. You have risen to the occasion in so many ways. While many of you have continued to carry out your regular work duties without missing a beat, others have played an integral part of our Coronavirus Assistance in the community. From ensuring our Seniors receive meals to working at our call centers or on our Surge teams, your contributions have been instrumental. We are stronger as a County because of everyone's ability to come together for our community. Thank you for your service to Miami-Dade County and God bless you and your families.

Carlos A. Gimenez, Mayor Miami-Dade County (305) 375-1880