SÃO PAULO CITY: ACTIONS TAKEN TO TACKLE THE CORONAVIRUS

April 8th, 2020
QUARANTINE EXTENDED UNTIL APRIL 22

- The quarantine measure was extended until April 22nd. Commercial establishments and service providers must keep public access closed.
- Establishments whose activities were listed as exceptionalities by the decree, must adopt additional measures to fight against the spread of coronavirus: intensify cleaning actions, make alcohol gel available to their customers and disseminate information about COVID-19 and prevention measures.

HEALTH
INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

São Paulo City Hall Laboratory produces face protection masks

- The FAB LAB LIVRE SP, public digital laboratories of the Municipal Innovation and Technology Secretariat, adapted its structure and logistics for the production of acetate masks.
- The main laboratory located at the city center was chosen to concentrate twelve 3D printers and a laser cutter, with the capacity to produce one thousand masks between 30 and 40 days.

São Paulo City will have third field hospital by May

- The chosen location is Ibirapuera Sport Center, an area known for the main green park in São Paulo city.
- The site will provide 240 beds for low complexity and 800 health professionals.
- The investment is around R$ 42 million and should start receiving infected people on May 1st.
São Paulo City Hall creates new emergency facilities to assist people in street situation

- Five of them are municipal sports centers that have been adapted and prepared to operate 24 hours a day as emergency shelters.
- Aside from meals, the beneficiaries have access to toilets and hygiene kits, where they can take showers and receive guidance about the necessary sanitization.
- One of the emergency shelters is exclusively for elderly and people with disabilities.

Project "Citizen Kitchen Network" (Rede Cozinha Cidadã)

- Restaurants will be credited to provide meals for people in the street situation.
- The initiative intends to make up for the scarcity of food supply for this population with the greatest vulnerability circumstance, and on the other hand, allows small restaurants to endure the financial crisis.
- The accreditation was opened on April 1st and will continue until the end of the emergency state to deal with the pandemic of the new coronavirus.

São Paulo City Hall and organizations launched "Solidarity City Action" (Ação Cidade Solidária)

- The project combines efforts from the municipal administration and civil society organizations for a great mobilization of volunteering in order to create a solidarity network to help families in situations of extreme vulnerability.
- Elderly people over 60, people with pre-existing diseases, people with disabilities and their families, and vulnerable families, especially the ones living in marginalized urban areas (slums), will be the beneficiaries of the initiative.
- In the first stage of the program, the population will be able to donate food baskets and hygiene and cleaning items that must be delivered to eight collection points, through a solidary drive-thru system.
Municipal Education Secretariat will provide access to educational content to about 1 million students in São Paulo

- The learning initiative integrates actions for different grade levels, proposing specific activities even for Early Childhood Education.
- All the materials will be printed and delivered, and it will bring activities that students can do independently. All contents follow what is already provided in the São Paulo City Hall's Educational Curriculum.
- The educational material starts to be delivered as of April 13th to the registered addresses.

São Paulo City Hall will transfer R$ 24 million to families to purchase food at home

- The amount is part of the “School Food Program” (Programa Alimentação Escolar) and will be directed to 350,000 children enrolled in the municipal education system.
- To secure the feeding of children in situations of social vulnerability while the emergency situation continues due to the pandemic of COVID-19, São Paulo City Hall will distribute "food vouchers" (cartões alimentação) to the families.
- In addition, families will receive information with nutritional guidance, indicating healthier food, the types that should be avoided and some prohibited items.
LEGISLATION

São Paulo City Hall may invest another R$ 1,5 billion in measures against the pandemic and is able to receive donations from individuals and legal entities.

- Act n. 17.335, March 27th approved by the Municipal Chamber.
  - Authorization of exceptional measures in the scope of administrative contracts for the provision of services and public finances in view of the emergency situation and state of public calamity resulting from the coronavirus.
  - It allows renegotiation of administrative service contracts with companies that maintain outsourced employees working for the City Hall. The intention is to avoid massive layoffs.
  - Access to the financial surplus determined at the end of 2019 financial year and of the total revenues collected in the 2020 financial year from the municipal public funds.
- Decree n. 59.301, March 24th to guide the receipt of goods in donations or lending to face the pandemic of COVID19 to support the Municipal Health Secretariat in an extraordinary case.
  - There is no need to formalize the donation in a specific legal instrument.
  - Delegated power to the Secretary for International Affairs, Luiz Alvaro Salles Aguiar de Menezes, to authorize the receipt and formalize the legal instruments indicated in the decree.

PEOPLE IN STREET SITUATION

São Paulo City Hall has installed sinks to assist people in street situation in their hygienization.

- Sinks with potable water in the central region of the city to help people in street situation to carry out hand hygiene in this period of pandemic.
The sinks are being installed in places with a large crowd of people in street situation.
The Specialized Social Approach Service (Serviço Especializado de Abordagem Social) will distribute soap for hand sanitization.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND ECONOMIC MEASURES

São Paulo City Hall invests R$ 5,76 million to help collectors of recyclable materials affected by the coronavirus pandemic

- A total of 2,300 collectors empowered by cooperatives or independent will receive financial assistance for up to three months.
- The cooperatives that operate in recyclable materials collection in São Paulo had their activities temporarily suspended due to the pandemic. This is a necessary measure to safeguard the collectors’ health.

CULTURE

The coordination of efforts of São Paulo City Hall to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Culture field.

- Regulatory Ordinance of Emergency Decree
  - Implementation of teleworking and rotation in face-to-face assignments.
  - Restriction of service to the public in the Culture Secretariat building with prior appointment for situations of essential attendance.
  - Alignment with outsourced companies hired to operate the equipment in the portfolio, complying with the rules of Decree.
- Closure of all Culture equipment – Cultural Centers, Theaters, Museums and Culture Houses. The signed contracts are guaranteed to be relocated through the ordinance published on March 13, 2020.
- Relocation of major events to the second semester.
• Hiring of autonomous Culture professionals without income to generate online content through single presentations (experiences, readings, concerts, workshops, theater, skits, etc.).

• Artistic Production budget: Online Cultural Center R$ 1,75 million. Online theater R$ 1,34 million. Online culture house R$ 1,22 million. Collectives Cultural Events R$ 1,8 million.

• Cultural training budget: “EMIA” (Municipal School for Artistic Initiation) online R$ 1,25 million. “Piá Online” R$ 1,11 million. “Vocational Online” R$ 1,20 million. “Young Online Monitor” R$ 1,83 million.

• Foments: efforts to anticipate the launch of the notices that were scheduled for the months of April and June with a total budget of R$ 63,750,000.00

• PROMAC – Municipal Support for Cultural Projects: extension of the project registration deadline to May 27th, 2020. The public customer service is online. The Commission will schedule online meetings, avoiding the project interruption. The total PROMAC investment is R$ 30,000,000.00 (tax incentives).

• SPCine
  • Making all SPCine Play content available, free of charge to people of São Paulo.
  • Ensuring the maintenance of festivals and exhibitions in São Paulo that have been postponed or canceled.
  • Continuing the training of film club agents through distance learning
  • Festivals and other activities online.
São Paulo City Hall recognized Public Calamity to guarantee actions to fight the coronavirus.

- Decree was signed by Mayor Bruno Covas on Friday, March 20th.
- Creation of a crisis' committee, with daily discussions, which articulates the Municipal Secretaries and their respective agendas, in the fight against COVID-19.
- The measure is necessary because extraordinary medical expenses can impact municipal expenditure.
- The decree allows a series of agility for decision-making and the establishing of the actions that are discussed with the secretariat team of the City Hall.
- São Paulo City Hall had already established an emergency situation for the city through the Decree n. 59.283

LEGISLATION

- **Decree 59.291 from March 20, 2020**: declares a state of public calamity in the city of São Paulo to face the pandemic caused by the Coronavirus.
- **Normative instruction from the Municipal Education Secretariat n. 13 from March 19, 2020**: establishes transitional measures and anticipates the recess period of the educational units of the direct and partner network due to the emergency situation in São Paulo City - pandemic due to the coronavirus.
- **Decree n. 59.290 from March 19, 2020**: determines the closure of the municipal parks, under the management of the Municipal Secretariat of Green and Environment, as well as the Bike Park and the Workers’ Sports Recreation and Education Centre.
- **Decree n. 59.285 from March 18, 2020**: suspends face-to-face service to the public in commercial establishments and operation of nightclubs and others aimed at holding parties, events or receptions.
● Ordinance of the Municipal Mobility and Transport Secretariat n. 77 from March 17, 2020: inclusive, and for an indefinite period, the execution of the “Motor Vehicle Traffic Restriction Program”.

● Decree n. 59.284 from March 16, 2020: declares emergency situation in São Paulo and defines other measures to fight the pandemic caused by the coronavirus.

PEOPLE IN STREET SITUATION

São Paulo City Hall creates emergency shelters for people in street situation

● There will be an expansion of the reception centers for people in street situation with the implementation of emergency shelters exclusively for suspects of being infected with the new coronavirus. One of them will be used by people already diagnosed with COVID 19, the two other emergency centers will start operating in order to guarantee more space and recommended distance between the beds.

● Five new emergency centers, with capacity for 400 people with adequate spaces for their hygiene.

● Municipal Health Secretariat intensified approaches to people in street situation through the health teams that provide the first assistance.

● Specialized Social Approach Service: staffed by 600 mentors, and also intensified the guidelines in the care against coronavirus. All the events and visits are suspended.

HEALTH: investment of R$ 1.1 billion in the health area

São Paulo City Hall starts installation of low complexity field hospitals with 2.000 beds

● São Paulo City Hall started to build 2 low complexity field hospitals in the City with 2 thousand beds to assist patients with suspected infection of COVID 19.

● The 2 spaces (the Anhembi indoor venue and the Pacaembu Stadium) will start to be used on next March 31st.
● Managed by the Albert Einstein Private Hospital.
● The beds at these locations will be available to people being cared for the Basic Health Units and hospitals.

**São Paulo City Hall starts vaccination campaign against influenza**

- Influenza vaccination started yesterday (Monday, March 23rd) in 468 Basic Health Units to elders and health employees, and gradually for other groups.
- The vaccine doesn’t protect against COVID-19, but it will help the health professionals to check the medical diagnosis for COVID-19, as it excludes the other types of flu.

**New Intensive Care Unit Beds**

- 490 new Intensive Care Unit beds in the public hospitals, 300 financed by the Health Ministry and 190 financed by the City Hall.
- Health employees are not allowed to take vacation for the next few 60 days.

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND ECONOMIC MEASURES**

**Technical Chamber will streamline measures against coronavirus**

- The Technical Chamber brings together the City Hall, the City Council and the Audit Office.
- The Technical Chamber was created on March 17th.
- Aims at facilitating the bureaucratic procedures and to create common understanding between the authorities.
- Aims to speed the operationalization of the decision-making by the City Hall.

**TRANSPORTATION**

- The “Motor Vehicle Traffic Restriction Program” is suspended.
- The circular tourism line is suspended.
• The rotative parking ("Zona Azul") is suspended within 300 meters from health units, to assist the general population and the movement of health professionals.
• Elderly people are advised not to use buses at peak hours.
• The municipal buses will be washed and properly sanitized by the end of each trip.

REFERENCES:


