



G A R D E N C I T Y

# Memorandum

**To: Ron Feldner – City Manager**  
**From: C. Scott Robider – City Marshal**  
**Date: 5/26/2020**  
**Re: Status of Reopening Rec Baseball Fields in the Area**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide you a summary of the status of baseball field reopening throughout the region as well as insight into the City’s thought processes that will be utilized to make the future decisions about reopening City facilities including baseball fields. I understand that persons have reached out to City staff and elected officials via email to request that the City reopen the Bazemore Park baseball fields ASAP. The information outlined in this document was compiled from other municipalities regarding the reopening baseball fields and it references existing orders/declarations currently in place as well as recent COVID-19 case data.

Governor Kemp’s Executive Order (EO No. 05.12.20.02) mandating shelter in place (SIP) expires at 11:59 pm on June 12, 2020 and it includes the requirement that persons 65 years of age and older SIP among other requirements. Furthermore, the City’s Emergency Declaration (ED) dated May 16, 2020 incorporates the Governor’s EO provisions related to mitigating the spread of COVID-19 within our community. The referenced order/declarations can be reviewed using the links below.

<http://www.gardencity-ga.gov/Home/Components/News/News/887/123>

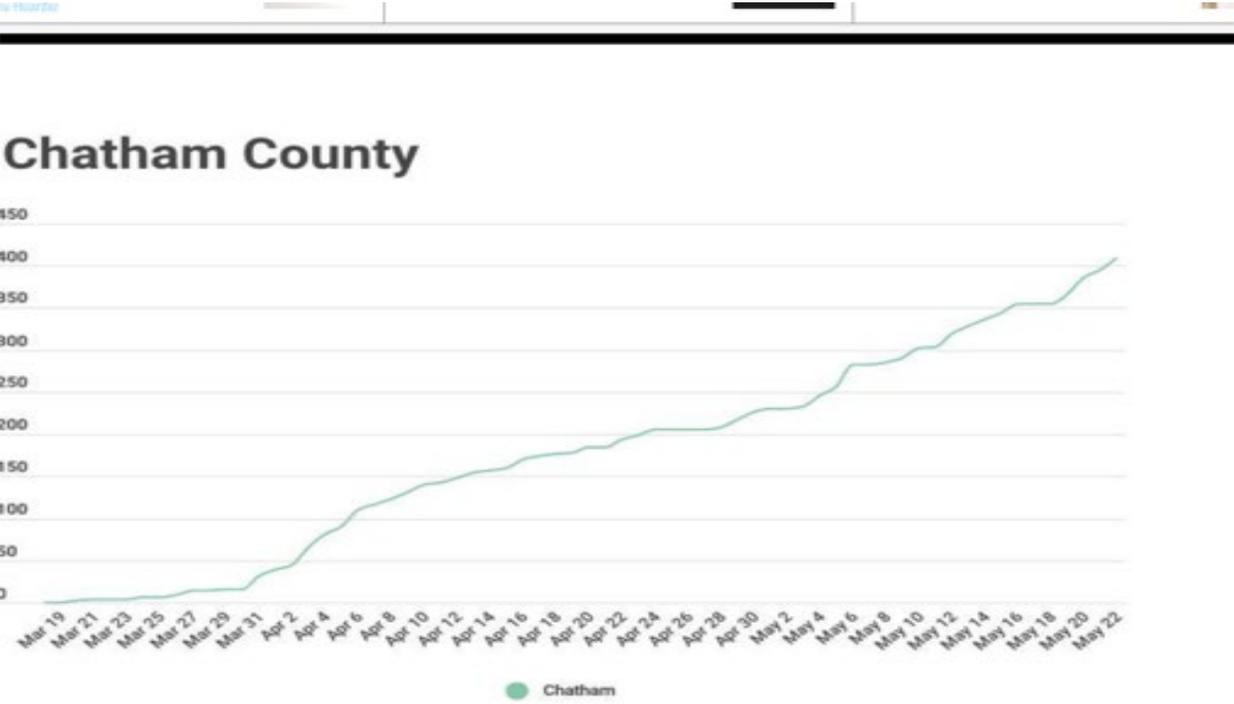
<https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/executive-orders/2020-executive-orders>

In light of the fact that EO 05.12.20.02 is effective until June 12, the City staff surveyed the local governments in the table below to obtain information as to when they plan to reopen baseball fields and allow practices and games to resume.

Local Government	Baseball Field Reopening Status
Garden City	Plan to reopen on June 13 and require applicable measures to be taken to reduce the possibility of exposure and/or spread of COVID-19
Chatham County	County Manager’s office indicated a mid-June reopening
Pooler	City Manager’s office indicated a June 13 reopening
Pt Wentworth	City Administrator’s office indicated that a reopening schedule has not been set
Bloomington	City Administrator’s office indicated that a reopening schedule has not been set but that late June seemed likely

Bryan County	Fields reopened with multiple restrictions (i.e. no more than 5 people on a baseball field at a time, no more than 2 people inside the batting cage at a time).
Savannah	City Manager’s office does not have a firm schedule as of yet
Tybee Island	City Manager’s office said recreation is run through YMCA and fields are open
Thunderbolt	City Administrator’s office indicated a June 1 reopening
Rincon	City Administrator’s office indicated a mid-June reopening

In addition, the City has researched the latest COVID-19 data that is provided by the Department of Health (DPH) to assess trends in new cases, etc. The latest data from May 22, 2020 continues to show a steepening increase in the number of cases within Chatham County (see graph below).



Based on the research compiled by the City staff as outlined herein, it is recommended that the City maintain the proposed June 13 reopening date for the baseball fields unless Governor Kemp issues a new EO which includes restrictions that could affect this proposed reopening date. The City should also consult with the DPH as necessary leading up to June 13 to assess the latest case data regarding COVID-19. The City should also develop a reopening plan for the baseball fields and other organized sports to address applicable requirements that players, parents and participants will need to adhere to once reopening occurs in order to promote the health, safety and welfare of those involved.

END OF MEMORANDUM