

## **Advisory Re: City Guidelines & Mosque Reopenings**

As New York City prepares to reopen the economy on June 8th, Majlis Ash-Shura: Islamic Leadership Council of New York is advising the Muslim community to continue to remain cautious and careful in their activities. Coronavirus still poses a great risk to the community and has the possibility to spike up again if proper measures are not put in place and enforced.

After consultations with Imams, medical experts, local leadership, and state and city officials, it has been deduced that mosques continue to pose dangers to the Muslim community due to the nature of close contact in prayer, ablution stations, and shared prayer carpets. Due to extenuating circumstances, it is suggested to continue performing prayers at home for the sake of public safety. Despite State plans to reopen necessary businesses, Majlis Ash-Shura is still highly advising that mosques remain closed for as long as possible until the situation improves more.

In the event that your mosque chooses to reopen due to necessity, proper protocols **must** be put in place and **enforced** according to state and city standards. Mosques must, in accordance with the state requirements, fill-out and prepare safety plans detailing their resources and capacities to ensure the safety of their community and congregation.

### **Such protocols **must** include, but are not limited to:**

- Maintenance of social distance at least 6 feet apart.
- Wearing and possibly providing masks to all congregants and staff at all times.
- Limiting buildings or facilities to a maximum capacity of 10 individuals (including staff).
- Maintain routine sanitization protocols and provide hand sanitizer and/or other disinfectants.
- Recommending that individuals bring their own prayer rugs and perform ablution at home.

For a comprehensive list of city and state protocols, [click here](#).

For a reference on how to create a safety plan for your mosque, [click here](#).

To access the safety plan template, [click here](#).

For questions, guidance, or assistance in filling out safety plans, contact [info@shuranewyork.org](mailto:info@shuranewyork.org) or dial 311.