Yesterday, Governor Cooper announced by Executive Order 163, that the State will loosen some restrictions of Phase 2 with a modified Phase 2.5 plan, effective Friday (September 4) at 5 p.m. The new 2.5 Phase increases the mass gathering limits to 25 people indoors and 50 people outside. It also allows for indoor playgrounds, skating rinks, and other indoor exercise facilities to open at 30% capacity and outdoor playgrounds to open with no restrictions. The playground at the Town Center will open Friday at 5 p.m., but we encourage residents to wipe down any playground equipment with sanitizing wipes before using it. There is no change in the restrictions on restaurants and bars, nightclubs, movie theaters, and indoor entertainment facilities will remain closed.

Governor Cooper reminded North Carolinians that although we are loosening the restrictions, now is the time to continue staying cautious and vigilant as we work to beat the pandemic. He urged the public to continue with the 3 W’s - Wear, Wash, Wait and even lowered the age limit on required masks to anyone age 5 and older.

Executive Order 163 in its entirety can be found on the Town’s website. Town of Topsail Beach appreciates all of you who have done your part to reduce the spread of COVID in our community. And with your cooperation we will remain healthy and beat this pandemic.