

Prepared by Jonathan Grieder, Ward 2 Council member, City of Waterloo, 715 Mulberry Street, Waterloo, IA 50703, (319) 291-4323.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-XXX

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A FACE MASK MANDATE FOR
THE CITY OF WATERLOO.

Whereas, we, the elected representatives of the City of Waterloo, took an oath to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Iowa; and, Whereas, the emergence of the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, that causes the diseases COVID-19, can result in serious illness or death and can easily be spread from person to person; and,

Whereas, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a national public health emergency related to the dangers posed by COVID-19; and,

Whereas, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of the State of Iowa, Kim Reynolds, signed a proclamation of disaster emergency for the entire State of Iowa based on the increasing numbers in the State of Iowa testing positive for COVID-19; and,

Whereas, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak to be a worldwide pandemic; and,

Whereas, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States signed an emergency declaration under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act authorizing emergency response measures in all fifty states in response to COVID-19; and,

Whereas, the most current local data relating to COVID-19 as provided by the Iowa Department of Public Health (“IDPH”) and the Black Hawk County Department of Public Health (“BHCDPH”) show that the state, Black Hawk county, and Waterloo continue to experience significant community spread of this disease; and,

Whereas, the City of Waterloo has a compelling interest to protect the lives of its residents; and,

Whereas Article III, Section 38A of the Iowa Constitution grants municipalities the power to determine their local affairs and government not inconsistent with the laws of the general assembly; and,

Whereas, Chapter 364 of the Iowa Code reaffirms the constitutional grant of home rule authority to municipalities “to exercise any power and perform any function it deems appropriate to protect and preserve the rights, privileges, and property of the city or its residents, and improve the peace, safety, health, welfare and convenience of its residents”; and,

Whereas, a city “may exercise its general powers subject only to limitations expressly imposed by state or city law,” and the exercise of a city power “is not inconsistent with a state law unless it is irreconcilable with the state law.” Iowa Code section 362.2(2) and (3); and

Whereas, a city may set standards “more stringent than those imposed by state law, unless a state law provides otherwise.” Iowa Code section 364.3(a); City of Des Moines v. Gruen, 457 N.W.2d 340, 343 (Iowa 1990); Bryan v. City of Des Moines, 261 N.W.2d 685, 687 (Iowa 1978); and,

Whereas, the Center of Disease Control (“CDC”), the IDPH, and BHCDPH, have all determined and encouraged that face coverings are an critical tool in the fight against COVID-19

that could reduce the spread of the virus particularly when used universally within a community; and,

Whereas, the Governor's current proclamation requires that businesses and gatherings ensure social distancing of employees, customers, and attendees, increased hygiene practices, and other public health measures to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 consistent with the guidance of the IDPH; and,

Whereas, the IDPH's reopening guidance advises that members of the public consider the use of cloth face coverings when distancing is not possible because wearing a face covering in public places where social distancing measures are difficult can help slow the spread of COVID-19; and,

Whereas, a requirement that persons in the City of Waterloo wear face coverings is essential to reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19, and necessary to protect the health, welfare, and safety of residents, visitors and accelerate local recovery efforts; and,

Whereas, a requirement that persons wear a face covering is not irreconcilable with the Governor's proclamations and the guidance of the Iowa Department of Public Health; and,

Whereas, this resolution is not meant to be stigmatizing or punitive and is in the best interest of the health, welfare, and safety, and economic recovery of the City of Waterloo and its residents; now, therefore

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERLOO, IOWA, as follows:

Section 1. Every person in the City of Waterloo must wear a face covering when:

- a. In public as opposed to one's place of residence, when one cannot stay six (6) feet apart from others.
- b. Inside any indoor public settings, including but not limited to:
 1. Grocery stores
 2. Pharmacies
 3. Hardware stores
 4. Retail stores
 5. Other public settings that are not one's place of residence and when among people who do not live in the same household
 6. City buildings
- c. Outside if maintaining six (6) feet apart is not possible
- d. Using public transportation or private car services (including taxis, ride share, or carpooling)

Section 2. No business that is open to the public may provide service to a customer or allow a customer to enter its premises, unless the customer is wearing a face covering as required by this resolution, and businesses that are open to the public must post signs at entrance(s) instructing customers of their legal obligations to wear a face covering while inside.

Section 3. Those who are exempt from wearing a face covering:

- a. Persons younger than 2 years of age due to the risk of suffocation
- b. Anyone who has trouble breathing, on oxygen therapy, or ventilator
- c. Anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove their face covering without assistance

- d. Anyone who has been told by a medical, legal, or behavioral health professional not to wear face coverings
- e. Anyone actively engaged in a public safety role, including but not limited to law enforcement, firefighters, or emergency medical personnel.

Section 4. Places and times where a persons are exempt from wearing a face covering;

- a. While traveling in a personal vehicle alone or with household members
- b. While a person is alone or with household members
- c. While exercising at moderate or high intensity e.g. swimming, jogging, biking
- d. While seated at a food establishment in the process of eating or drinking
- e. While obtaining a service that would require temporary removal of the persons face covering
- f. When federal or state law prohibits wearing a face covering or requires the removal of a face covering.

Section 5. If a cloth face covering is chosen, appropriate use of a cloth face covering includes:

- a. A snug fit, but comfortable against the side of the face
- b. Completely covers the nose and mouth
- c. Is secured with ties or ear loops
- d. Includes multiple layers of fabric
- e. Allows for breathing without restriction
- f. Can be laundered and machine dried without damage or change in shape.

Section 6. The enforcement mechanism for this resolution shall be left up to the Mayor of the City of Waterloo or their designee with the aim towards compliance not punishment.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATERLOO, IOWA, this this ____th day of August 2020.

Quentin Hart, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelley Felchle
City Clerk

