

EMERGENCY ORDER REQUIRING
THAT FACE COVERINGS OR MASKS BE WORN
IN THE CITY OF SAVANNAH DURING THE
COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the United States and state of Georgia have experienced a recent drastic spike in new COVID-19 cases as well as hospitalizations; and

WHEREAS, the incidence of infection and death in the metropolitan Savannah area remains of great concern signifying the continued spread of the highly contagious and deadly COVID-19 disease: over the past 14 days at rates in excess of 100 per 100,000 Chatham County residents; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) advises that the use of masks or cloth face coverings will slow the spread of COVID-19, and the CDC recommendations on PPE usage are hereby incorporated by reference; and

WHEREAS, taking measures to control outbreaks minimizes the risk to the public, maintains the health and the safety of the City’s residents, and limits the spread of infection in our communities and within the healthcare delivery system; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority of O.C.G.A. § 38-3-28(a), local governments are specifically empowered to enact rules and regulations as may be necessary for emergency management purposes; and

WHEREAS, this order is intended to be entered with due regard for the uniform principle that masks or face coverings will slow the spread of COVID-19 as contemplated by O.C.G.A. § 38-3-28(c); and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Mayor of the City of Savannah, with advice from the City Manager and other subject matter experts, emergency conditions persist within the City requiring extraordinary and immediate corrective actions for the protections of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Savannah.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by local and state law;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that masks or facial coverings shall be required when indoors with people who are not members of a given person’s immediate household within the City, vaccination status notwithstanding, to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus disease known as COVID-19 as follows:

1. All persons entering a building owned or occupied by the City of Savannah; early childhood, elementary, and secondary institutions; hospitals, and while a passenger on any federally regulated transportation.



ATTEST:


Mark Massey
Clerk of Council


Van R. Johnson II
Mayor, City of Savannah