

A RESOLUTION NO. 6087

Supporting and approving the use of face coverings and six (6) feet of social distancing to all members of the public to reduce and prevent the transmission of COVID-19; and declaring an emergency therein.

...oooOOOooo...

WHEREAS, on January 23, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), activated its Emergency Response System to provide ongoing support for the novel coronavirus, now known as "COVID-19" across the country; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization ("WHO") declared that COVID-19 was a pandemic, predicting that the rates of infection would continue to rise in many locations around the world, and across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Ohio, Michael DeWine, issued Executive Order 2020-OID, declaring a state of emergency employing preventive and proactive measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to treat those affected; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Springfield, Ohio, Warren Copeland, issued a Mayoral Proclamation and Executive Order declaring a local state of emergency in response to actions taken by the federal, state, and local jurisdictions to address those conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the CDC recommends the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the COVID-19 and to help prevent people who may unknowingly have the virus from transmitting it to others; and

WHEREAS, as of June 25, 2020, The Ohio Department of Health reported an increase of 892 new COVID-19 cases, which amounted to the largest single-day increase in cases in more than two (2) months; and

WHEREAS, as of June 27, 2020, the Clark County Combined Health District reported a total of an estimated 739 positive cases of COVID-19 in the County and 8 deaths; and

WHEREAS, the City of Springfield, Ohio is experiencing a local surge of the spread of COVID-19 within our community that threatens to strain our local and regional healthcare systems; and

WHEREAS, additional measures are deemed necessary, above and beyond those instituted by both the State and Federal government, in order to help delay the community spread outbreak of COVID-19 in the City of Springfield, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, wearing a face covering and maintaining six (6) feet or more of physical "social" distance from one another is an important act of safety and empathy that those in the City of Springfield, Ohio can do in an effort to protect others from an infection that may be unknowingly carried and transmitted; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Resolution become effective immediately in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Springfield from the transmission of COVID-19, which creates an emergency to preserve the public peace, health, safety and property necessitating the immediate effectiveness of this Resolution; NOW, THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Commission of The City of Springfield, Ohio, at least four of its members concurring:

Section 1. That the City Commission of The City of Springfield, Ohio affirms and fully supports the following safety measures as proffered by the CDC, the Ohio Department of Health, and the Clark County Combined Health District as follows:

- (1) When any person, whether an employee, a customer, or a visitor who enters a public establishment located in the City of Springfield, Ohio that invites the public into their premises for the purpose of receiving services, purchasing products, or otherwise conducting business, wear a face covering¹ over their nose and mouth and while inside the establishment and while in the presence of others; and
- (2) When any person, whether an employee, a customer, or a visitor who enters a public establishment located in the City of Springfield, Ohio that invites the public into their premises for the purpose of receiving services, purchasing products, or otherwise conducting business, maintain at a minimum at least six (6) feet of physical distance from other non-group members.
- (3) All exemptions to facial coverings shall apply to those expressly exempted under the CDC's guidelines and/or the Ohio Department of Health's. However, this exemption applies only to facial covering and does not affect the need to physically distance.

Section 2. That City of Springfield, Ohio shall take all necessary action to:

¹ "Face covering" means a covering made of cloth, fabric, or other soft or permeable material, without holes, that sits close to the face and covers the nose and mouth and surrounding areas of the lower face, and that does not impair the wearer's breathing. A face covering includes, but is not limited to, gaiters, scarves, such as fabric masks, scarves, bandanas, or other homemade covering made from readily available clothing. A face covering need not be medical-grade or N95 respirators.

- (1) Support facial coverings and 6 feet of physical distancing by all members of our community; and
- (2) Pursuant to Amendment No. 2, issued April 7, 2020, to the Mayor Proclamation and Executive Order, all City Commission meetings shall continue to be conducted virtually, either as a telephonic or videoconference meeting, during the pendency of the COVID-19 public health emergency; and
- (3) Support and also recommend that administrative board meetings, public body meetings, committee meetings and community organized meetings shall be conducted virtually, either as a telephonic or videoconference meeting, during the pendency of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Section 3. That by reason of the emergency set forth and defined in the preamble hereto, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately.

ADOPTED this 30th day of June, A.D., 2020.

Warren R. Lopez
PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COMMISSION

Jim R. Pierce
CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION