

ORDINANCE NO. 340

AN ORDINANCE OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF HOYT, KANSAS, REQUIRING INDIVIDUALS TO WEAR MASKS OR OTHER FACE COVERINGS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; REQUIRING BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO REQUIRE ALL EMPLOYEES, CUSTOMERS, VISITORS, MEMBERS, OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO WEAR A MASK OR OTHER FACE COVERING IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; AND ESTABLISHING PENALTIES THEREFORE.

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Hoyt, Kansas prioritizes the protection of the health, safety, welfare and economic well-being of residents and visitors to the City of Hoyt, and

WHEREAS, the City of Hoyt is facing a crisis with the pandemic and public health emergency of COVID- 19, resulting in illness, quarantines, school closures, and temporary closure of businesses resulting in lost wages and financial hardship, and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency for COVID- 19 beginning January 27, 2020, with now more than 21,050,000 cases of the illness and more than 356,000 deaths as a result of the illness across the United States, and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared a pandemic on March 11, 2020, and

WHEREAS, a State of Disaster Emergency was proclaimed for the State of Kansas on March 12, 2020, and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the ongoing COVID- 19 pandemic of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency declaration for all states, tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia pursuant to Section 501 (b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 5121-5207 (the "Stafford Act"), and

WHEREAS, as of this date, in Kansas, there have been 234,300 reported positive cases of COVID- 19 spread among all 105 counties, including 2,897 deaths, and

WHEREAS, after a steady trend of decreasing metrics, recent months have seen the numbers of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and deaths spike in Kansas and across the nation, and

WHEREAS, this worrying trend of increased COVID- 19 spread is a danger to the health and safety of residents and visitors to the City of Hoyt, and also presents a serious threat to reopening and reviving the City's economy, and

WHEREAS, wearing a mask in public is the easiest and most effective way to protect each other to prevent COVID- 19 spread and to help keep the City's schools and businesses open, and the economy running, and

WHEREAS, wearing a mask in public is not only safe and easy, it is necessary to avoid more restrictive local measures that could involve closing schools, businesses, organized youth sports, and other important activities, and

WHEREAS, the City of Hoyt must remain flexible to account for the evolving nature and scope of the unprecedented public health emergency posed by COVID- 19, while also simultaneously safely, strategically, and incrementally reopening business and facilitating economic recovery and revitalization, and

WHEREAS, for the aforementioned and other reasons, the Governing Body of the City of Hoyt is acting pursuant to its constitutional home rule authority to provide for the health, safety, welfare and economic well-being of residents and visitors of the City of Hoyt, by requiring that masks or other face coverings be worn as described in this Ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF HOYT, KANSAS:

Section 1. That the following words or phrases when used in this Ordinance shall have the following meanings:

(a) "Mask or other face covering" means a covering of the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is simply wrapped around the lower face. A mask or other face covering can be made of a variety of synthetic and natural fabrics, including cotton, silk, or linen. Ideally, a mask or other face covering has two or more layers. A mask or other face covering may be factory-made, sewn by hand, or can be improvised from household items such as scarfs, bandanas, t-shirts, sweatshirts, or towels.

(b) "Public space" means any indoor or outdoor space or area that is open to the public; this does not include private residential property or private offices or workspaces that are not open to customers or public visitors.

Section 2. That masks or other face coverings are required as follows, and with the following exceptions:

(a) All persons in the City shall cover their mouths and noses with masks or other face coverings when they are in the following situations:

(1) Inside, or in line to enter, any indoor public space;

(2) Obtaining services from the healthcare sector in settings, including but not limited to, a hospital, pharmacy, medical clinic, laboratory, physician or dental office, veterinary clinic, or blood bank, unless directed otherwise by an employee thereof or a health care provider;

(3) Waiting for or riding on public transportation or while in a taxi, private car service, or ride-sharing vehicle; or,

(4) While outdoors in public spaces and unable to maintain a 6-foot distance between individuals (not including individuals who reside together) with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity.

(b) The persons responsible for all businesses or organizations in the city must require all employees, customers, visitors, members, or members of the public to wear a mask or other face covering as follows:

(1) Employees, when working in any space visited by customers or members of the public, regardless of whether anyone from the public is present at the time;

(2) Employees, when working in any space where food is prepared or packaged for sale or distribution to others;

(3) Employees, when working in or walking through common areas, such as hallways, stairways, elevators, and parking facilities;

(4) Customers, members, visitors, or members of the public, when in a facility managed by the business or organization; or

(5) Employees, when in any room or enclosed area where other people (except for individuals who reside together) are present and are unable to maintain a 6-foot distance except for infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity.

(c) The following individuals are exempt from wearing masks or other face coverings in the situations described in subsections (a) and (b):

(1) Persons age five years or under—children age two years and under in particular should not wear a face covering because of the risk of suffocation;

(2) Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering—this includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance;

(3) Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing, or communication with a person who is deaf or hard of hearing, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;

(4) Persons for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulations or workplace safety guidelines;

(5) Persons who are obtaining a service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service;

(6) Persons who are seated at a restaurant or other establishment that offers food or beverage service, while they are eating or drinking, provided they maintain a 6-foot distance between individuals (not including individuals who reside together or are seated together) with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity;

(7) Athletes who are engaged in an organized sports activity that allows athletes to maintain a 6-foot distance from others with only infrequent or incidental moments of closer proximity;

(8) Persons who are engaged in an activity that a professional or recreational association, regulatory entity, medical association, or other public-health-oriented entity has determined cannot be safely conducted while wearing a mask or other face covering;

(9) Persons engaged in a court-related proceeding held or managed by the Kansas Judiciary; and,

(10) Persons engaged in any lawful activity during which wearing a mask or other face covering is prohibited by law.

(d) It shall be an affirmative defense to any prosecution under subsection (a) or (b) that the person in violation is an individual listed under subsection (c).

Section 3. Penalties and enforcement of the provisions contained herein shall be as follows:

(a) A violation of any provision of Section 2 of this Ordinance shall be deemed an infraction and punished with a \$50.00 fine plus court costs.

(b) The person responsible for any business or organization that does not comply with Section 2 (b) of this Ordinance includes a sole proprietor, or any officer, partner, member, manager, director, or other supervisor for the business organization, who may be held jointly and severally responsible for such violation with respect to any enforcement of the violation.

Section 4. That this Ordinance shall be in effect until repealed by the Governing Body.

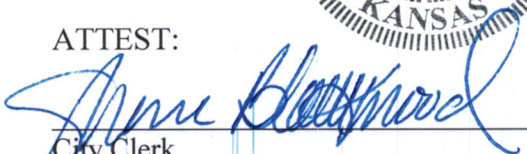
Section 5. That this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication in the City's official paper.


The above and foregoing Ordinance passed and adopted by the Governing Body of the City of Hoyt, Kansas, this 5th day of January, 2021.

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ATTEST:


City Clerk


Mayor