

PRESS RELEASE

July 30, 2020

For Immediate Release

Face Covering Mandate in Effect for Logan City Beginning August 1, 2020

Logan, UT -- Governor Gary Herbert has approved Mayor Holly Daines' request to require face coverings in the City of Logan. That requirement will go into effect on August 1 at 12:01 am. At the governor's weekly press conference today he said, "Wearing a mask shouldn't be political. It's good science and it makes sense."

Also at the press conference, Dr. Ben Abbott of BYU, who has reviewed over 130 scientific studies regarding effectiveness of masks, estimates that 50% or more new cases of the virus are spread by asymptomatic carriers and that masks could help get the outbreak under control and serve as a bridge to get us back to normal, with huge economic payoffs. He said, "Masks are an essential tool in fighting coronavirus...and are safe for healthy individuals."

As of August 1, any individual within Logan City who is age five and older and able to medically or psychologically tolerate a face covering shall be required to wear a face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth in public areas where consistent social distancing of at least six feet is not possible, reasonable, or prudent.

We have support from the majority of Logan's City Council, the Logan City School District and Utah State University, including USU President Noelle Cockett, for this mandate.

Guidelines:

Face coverings are required:

- Inside retail and public locations, including all city buildings.
- While waiting outside of retail and public locations when social distancing is not possible.
- At public gatherings, indoor or outdoors, when social distancing is not possible.
- Use common sense and wear a mask when possible, reasonable and prudent.

Face coverings are not required:

- Outdoors when social distancing is easily maintained.
- On children under the age of 5.
- On a person with a health condition that does not allow them to wear a face covering.

- In situations where wearing a face covering is not possible due to the nature of a job, physical situation, or services being rendered such as dental treatment, swimming, physical exercise when distanced, or if your essential job function prevents the use of a face mask.

Enforcement:

- Enforcement will be done primarily through education and warnings, however, enforcement and penalty provisions for this order may be pursuant to Logan Administrative Enforcement Code §17.60 or Utah Code Ann. §76-8-317. While a violation of this executive order can be cited administratively or criminally, law enforcement has been directed to provide a verbal reminder to people in violation of this order and only cite for repeat or egregious violations.

Our reasons are as follows:

- 1) Prevention. Cases are currently manageable in our health district. We want to be proactive, particularly with 20,000 USU students returning to campus from other cities and states, and students in the Logan City Schools scheduled to return to school. In-person learning is dependent on keeping COVID-19 cases at a manageable level.
- 2) The economy. We want to keep our industry and economy operating by preventing the transmission of COVID-19.
- 3) Consistency. Face coverings are required in all K-12 schools and all State-owned buildings at USU and elsewhere on campus. Standardizing policies regarding face coverings for our entire community eliminates confusion for all.
- 4) Proven research. The most recent research regarding cloth face coverings shows they help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Salt Lake County is seeing a decrease in COVID cases in their area and crediting their face covering mandate for that success.

Research:

- <https://pws.byu.edu/covid-19-and-masks>.
- [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)31142-9/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31142-9/fulltext)
- <https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2020-07-08-oxford-covid-19-study-face-masks-and-coverings-work-act-now>

Media Contact:

Teresa Harris
teresa.harris@loganutah.org
435-716-9002