

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-\_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF POCATELLO ENCOURAGING FACE COVERINGS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHEN THEY ARE IN PUBLIC PLACES AS WELL AS OTHER MITIGATION STRATEGIES TO PREVENT THE FURTHER SPREAD OF COVID-19; TO PROTECT THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO THE CITY OF POCATELLO AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans, and can spread from person to person. The virus is spread between individuals who are in close contact with each other through respiratory droplets; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the International Health Regulations Emergency of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of COVID-19 a public health emergency of international concern; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Idaho Governor Brad Little signed a declaration of emergency for the State of Idaho in response to concerns that cases of COVID-19 are imminent in Idaho; and

WHEREAS, on or after March 13, 2020, Governor Little issued a series of Orders addressing public health measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 including a Stay at Home Order signed March 25, 2020 and subsequent orders including the Idaho Rebounds Plan; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Pocatello passed Resolution 2020-01 declaring a Local Disaster Emergency which is effective until such time as it is terminated by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that people are most contagious when they are most symptomatic (the sickest), however spread is possible before people show symptoms or by those that are asymptomatic; and

WHEREAS, the CDC recommends that people wear face coverings in public settings, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain and both local and national experts agree wearing face coverings significantly reduces the transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is critical for our schools and university to be able to provide classroom-based instruction, hospitals and health care providers to be able to properly function, and all citizens to be able to move about the community freely; and

WHEREAS, on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Pocatello held a Special Meeting for the purpose of gathering information from local health experts wherein each person who presented spoke of the benefits of face coverings in the fight against COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Southeastern Idaho Public Health has issued a COVID-19 Regional Response Plan, effective July 24, 2020, that asks everyone to wear face coverings in public when physical distancing is not possible; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Pocatello has, by Proclamation dated July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020, expressed his full support of Southeastern Idaho Public Health COVID-19 Regional Response Plan and encouraged all residents, business owners, and visitors to support said plan and to wear a face covering; and

WHEREAS, many local as well as national retail and other commercial businesses are requiring face coverings to be worn by those who enter their buildings; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pocatello has adopted a Face Covering Policy, effective July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020, for City employees and visitors to City facilities and riders of public transportation; and

WHEREAS, there is a continuing and urgent need to protect all residents and visitors in the City of Pocatello from the risks relating to the COVID-19 pandemic through the protection provided by wearing facial coverings; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of all citizens of the City of Pocatello is the greatest priority and is of the utmost importance to the Mayor and the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City of Pocatello Mayor and City Council desire to provide recommendations to slow the community spread and protect the health, safety and welfare of individuals living, working and visiting the City of Pocatello; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council do hereby adopt the following recommendations which shall be in effect for as long as necessary in the fight against COVID-19.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POCATELLO AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Mayor and City Council urge citizens, business owners, and visitors to the City of Pocatello to heed the advice of local health experts, Southeastern Idaho Public Health, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who all advise that while in public, if unable to practice physically distancing, people should **WEAR A FACE COVERING**.

2. The Mayor and City Council strongly encourage the citizens, business owners, and visitors in the City of Pocatello to follow the mitigation strategies recommended by Southeastern Idaho Public Health, pursuant to its Covid-19 Regional Response Plan issued July 24, 2020, as follows:

- a. Stay at home if you are sick.
- b. Maintain physical distance of six feet from others (outside of immediate family) whenever possible.

- c. Wear face coverings in public when physical distancing is not possible.
- d. Wash hand frequently for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.
- e. Large gatherings are asked to implement: physical distancing, use of face coverings by staff and participants, increased sanitation measures and increased personal hygiene measures (handwashing/hand sanitizing.)
- f. Carefully monitor your health (refer to <https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html> for more information).

3. This Resolution shall be effective upon its adoption and approval.

RESOLVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

CITY OF POCA TELLO, a municipal  
corporation of Idaho

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BRIAN C. BLAD, Mayor

ATTEST:

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RUTH NEWSOM, City Clerk