

**CITY OF JEROME
PUBLIC HEALTH RESOLUTION NO. 06-20**

WHEREAS, the health and safety of all residents and visitors to the City of Jerome is of the greatest priority to the City of Jerome, and is the statutory duty of the city under Idaho Code 50-304; and

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 had not been previously identified in humans and can easily 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 Committee of the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of COVID-19 a public health emergency of international concern; and

WHEREAS, the CDC reports that people are most COVID-19 contagious when they are most symptomatic (the sickest) however spread is possible before people show symptoms, or by those that are asymptomatic; 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 and after March 13, 2020, the Idaho Governor issued a series of Orders addressing public health measures to slow the spread of COVID-19 including a **Stay Healthy Order** signed May 30, 2020, and inclusive of the Idaho Rebounds Plan; and

WHEREAS, as of July 20, 2020, Idaho was reporting 14,873 total cases of confirmed and probable COVID-19, including 571 new cases on July 19, 2020 and 119 deaths to date; and

WHEREAS, the emergency services and local healthcare facilities have limited capacity to handle a significant increase in COVID-19 confirmed cases in Jerome County; and

WHEREAS, the CDC recommends that people wear cloth face coverings in public settings, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain; and

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

WHEREAS, the City of Jerome Mayor and City Council find it necessary to enact additional recommendations beyond those outlined in the May 30, 2020 Department of Health and Welfare Stay Healthy Order to slow the community spread and protect the health, safety, and welfare of individuals living, working and visiting the City of Jerome; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Jerome, in consultation with South Central Idaho Public Health, and local Health Care Professionals has determined it is necessary and appropriate to act in order to improve the likelihood that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors in the city remain safe and secure, and the health care facilities in the city are not overwhelmed; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor finds that a shutdown event, similar to that enacted in March, April, and May of this year would likely devastate our local businesses, and can likely be avoided by taking measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 within our community such as wearing of face coverings;

NOW, THEREFORE, the city does hereby adopt the following resolution, relating to wearing of face masks, and it shall remain in effect until rescinded, superseded or amended by the Mayor or City Council.

BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JEROME AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: COMMUNITY EFFORT TO STAY HEALTHY

Every person is strongly encouraged to follow the “Three Ws” to stay healthy and to help the Jerome Community stay healthy: “Wash Your Hands,” “Wear a Mask,” and “Watch Your Distance.”

1. **“WASH YOUR HANDS”**: Residents, citizens and visitors to the City of Jerome are reminded to follow CDC recommendations and to wash their hands with soap and warm water with as much frequency as possible and for a minimum of 40 seconds per washing. When soap and water are not available or practical the use of hand sanitizer is encouraged.
2. **“WEAR A MASK”**: When in any indoor or outdoor public place, residents, citizens and visitors to the City of Jerome are encouraged to completely cover their nose and mouth with a cloth or similar face covering, whenever other members of the public are physically present for otherwise unprotected social interaction, subject to the following guidelines:
 - a. **DEFINITIONS**: For purposes of this Public Health Resolution “public place” shall mean any place open to all members of public without specific invitation, including but not necessarily limited to, retail business establishments, restaurants and bars, government offices, medical, educational (schools), religious facilities, arts and recreational institutions, public transportation, including taxi cabs and ridesharing vehicles. “Members of the public” shall mean persons not therein employed, present without invitation.
 - b. **EXCEPTIONS**:
 - i. Children under the age of 5.
 - ii. Persons who cannot medically tolerate wearing a face covering. A person is not required to provide documentation demonstrating that the person cannot medically tolerate wearing a face covering.
 - iii. Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
 - iv. Persons, including on-duty law-enforcement officers, pharmacists, or others, for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.
 - v. Persons who are obtaining a service involving the nose, face, or head for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service.
 - vi. Persons who are seated at a table in a restaurant for the purpose of eating or drinking, or any establishment that offers food or beverage service, so long as the person is able to maintain a distance of 6 feet away from persons who are not members of the same household or party as the person. This exemption does NOT apply to entry, exit, or other movement through the facility.
 - vii. Indoor or Outdoor public places where people can, and consistently employ social distancing as recommended by CDC.

3. "WATCH YOUR DISTANCE": Residents, citizens and visitors to the City of Jerome are encouraged to maintain six feet (6') of physical distance between themselves and other members of the public whenever possible. Residents, citizens and visitors of the City of Jerome are further encouraged to avoid public gatherings of more than 50 persons unless the physical distance and mask wearing can be observed.
4. LOCAL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION: Every registered business in the City of Jerome is encouraged to enforce these recommendations on his/her premises for all who enter, whether they be employee, vendor, patron, or any other person.
 - a. It is acknowledged that businesses may encounter aggressive or angry patrons not wishing to wear face coverings, and in some instances patrons who are unable to wear a face covering due to a known medical condition as excepted above. The city acknowledges that businesses operate on the principles of private property, and may address these conflicts as they see appropriate, provided those measures make a reasonable effort to comply with this requirement. The city encourages businesses to provide masks for sale (or free of charge) or make other accommodations for such patrons, such as curbside service.
5. ENCOURAGED TO POST AND ENFORCE: Every business is encouraged post this Resolution, or an approved summary of it in a conspicuous place at all public entrances to their facilities, and is encouraged to make a reasonable effort to enforce these suggestions with all who enter their premises.

SECTION 2: EFFECTIVE DATE AND SUNSET DATE

This resolution shall take effect at 12:00 a.m., on July 22, 2020 and shall remain in full force and effect until rescinded, superseded or amended by the Mayor or City Council.

Approved by:



David M. Davis, Mayor

ATTEST:



Bernadette Coderniz, City Clerk