

**RESOLUTION NO. .**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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**RESOLUTION URGING INDIVIDUALS IN THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO TO COMPLY WITH STATE AND COUNTY FACE COVERING ORDERS AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY MANAGER’S OFFICE TO DEVELOP A COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT COMPLIANCE WITH THE FACE COVERING REQUIREMENTS, MAKING PARTICULAR EFFORTS TO REACH OUT TO POPULATIONS THAT ARE EXPERIENCING HIGH RATES OF COVID-19, INCLUDING COMMUNITIES OF COLOR AND LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES**

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**RESOLVED**, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that:

**WHEREAS**, on March 3, 2020, the San Mateo County Health Officer (the “Health Officer”) and the San Mateo County Director of Emergency Services declared a local health emergency throughout San Mateo County related to the novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”); the emergency was subsequently ratified and extended by the Board of Supervisors; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency related to COVID-19, effective throughout the State of California; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is a potentially fatal respiratory disease that scientific evidence indicates is transmissible by infected individuals, whether symptomatic or not, primarily through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice; and

**WHEREAS**, a “face covering” is a covering made of cloth, fabric, or other soft or permeable material, without holes, that covers the nose and mouth and that does not incorporate a one-way exhale valve. Examples of face coverings include a scarf or bandana; a neck gaiter; a homemade covering made from a t-shirt, sweatshirt, or towel, held on with rubber bands or otherwise; or a mask, which need not be medical-grade; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) currently recommends that to reduce the spread of COVID-19, people wear cloth face coverings in public settings when around people outside of their household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 17, 2020, the Health Officer issued a public health order (No. c19-8) requiring individuals to wear face coverings in many enumerated high-risk public settings, subject to certain specified exceptions, and requiring business to enforce face covering requirements; this Order was updated on May 19, 2020 (No. c19-8(b)) and remains in effect; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 17, 2020, the Health Officer issued a public health order (No. c19-11) aligning the County with the State as to allowed activities while maintaining local face covering and social distancing requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, the intent of the County’s face covering mandate is to reduce the likelihood that individuals may transmit or receive the COVID-19 virus while visiting or working at local businesses, including healthcare facilities, or engaging in other activities that bring them into contact with individuals outside their household; and

**WHEREAS**, violations of the Health Officer's Orders are punishable as a misdemeanor under California Health and Safety Code section 120195 and can carry a fine up to \$1,000, imprisonment up to 90 days, or both; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to California Executive Order N-33-20 directing residents to comply with public health guidance, on June 18, 2020, the California Department of Public Health issued Guidance that "mandates that face coverings be worn state-wide" in specified high-risk public situations, consistent with the County's face covering Orders; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 1, 2020, Governor Newsom announced the creation of multi-agency teams to improve compliance with health orders, including face covering requirements; these teams are expected to initially focus on workplaces; and

**WHEREAS**, despite County and State efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in San Mateo County continues to grow; and

**WHEREAS**, as of July 1, 2020, there have been 3,376 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 108 known COVID-19 related deaths within the County, though the number of cases detected through testing represents only a small portion of the total number of likely cases in the County; and

**WHEREAS**, County and/or state data shows that compared to population proportions, Latinos comprise a much higher percentage of COVID-19 cases and several minority groups comprise a higher percentage of COVID-19 related deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, low-income individuals comprise a high percentage of the individuals with confirmed cases of COVID-19, likely in part because many of these individuals must work outside the home or live in multi-family residential settings; and

**WHEREAS**, despite County and State face covering requirements, some individuals in the County are not consistently complying with the face covering requirements and thus expose themselves and their contacts to broader potential exposure to COVID-19.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo hereby urges individuals in the County of San Mateo to comply with State and County face covering orders; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board directs the County Manager's Office to develop a community outreach program to educate the public about compliance with the face covering requirements, making particular efforts to reach out to populations that are experiencing high rates of COVID-19, including communities of color and low-income communities.

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