

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN URGENCY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING TEMPORARY SAFETY PROTOCOLS UPON THE
REOPENING OF COUNTY FACILITIES TO THE PUBLIC DURING THE ONGOING COVID-19 STATE OF
EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the employees of the County of Lake perform many functions the State of California has designated as essential during this ongoing State of Emergency created by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, since the state and local declarations of emergency, County employees have continued to work for the benefit of the public, although most County offices have been closed to the public; and

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate the reopening of County offices to the public while still protecting both County employees and members of the public from the spread of the coronavirus during this State of Emergency, it is necessary to implement certain safety precautions; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of California Public Health and the County's Public Health Officer that the public should utilize protective face coverings when in close quarters with other persons outside their households; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of a temporary practice of using protective face coverings when working in close quarters with members of the public will allow County employees to return to their workplaces and to resume the provision of in-person services to the public at an earlier date than they could safely do otherwise; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has recently approved a temporary County policy requiring all County employees, not otherwise protected by a minimum six-foot separation or protective shielding, to wear face masks provided by the County during any period of in-person interaction with members of the public; and

WHEREAS, it is equally important that members of the public who interact with County employees also make use of protective face coverings during the period of such interactions; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is empowered by Article XI, section 7 of the California Constitution with police power, authorizing the Board to take actions determined to be necessary to protect public, health, welfare and safety; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 25123 authorizes the Board of Supervisors to adopt, by four-fifths vote, an ordinance for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health or safety with a declaration of the facts constituting the urgency; and

WHEREAS, it is urgent that this Board determine and implement the appropriate safety measures to allow the gradual reopening of County facilities to the public and the return of in-person customer service by County employees to begin as soon as practically possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section One. The above recitals are true and correct, are incorporated herein by reference and hereby establish the factual basis constituting the urgent need supporting the adoption of this Ordinance.

Section Two. As soon as the County of Lake begins the gradual process of reopening County facilities to public access and returning to the in-person provision of customer services to the public, the following safety practices must be observed while the present COVID-19 State of Emergency continues to exist, or until otherwise ordered by the Board of Supervisors:

- a. All persons who enter a County facility and engage in an in-person interaction, face-to-face or in close proximity, not otherwise protected by a minimum six-foot separation or protective shielding, shall wear face masks/coverings of their own devise or wear a face mask provided to them free of charge by the County of Lake during the period of that interaction. In addition, when in lobbies, hallways, stairwells or using restrooms of County facilities, all persons are strongly urged to wear masks.
- b. All persons who enter a County facility who utilize an elevator shall wear face masks/coverings of their own devise or wear a face mask provided to them free of charge by the County of Lake while in the elevator.

Section Three. County-provided face masks shall be available to the public at the front entrance areas of all County facilities.

Section Four. Persons who refuse to utilize a face mask in either of the above-described situations may be refused service.

Section Five. Any person who has a medical or other condition that precludes the use of a face mask/covering shall, prior to coming to the County facility, contact County or Court staff to request and be granted alternate arrangements for the provision of service. Such alternate arrangements may include a physical separation of no less than six (6) feet or a remote interaction.

Section Six. It can be seen with a certainty that there is no possibility that this Ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

Section Seven. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict and no further.

Section Eight. This Ordinance shall take effect on the ____ day of _____, 2020 and before the expiration of fifteen (15) days after its passage, it shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation printed and published in the County of Lake.

The foregoing Ordinance was introduced before the Board of Supervisors and passed by the following vote on the _____ day of _____, 2020.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING:

COUNTY OF LAKE

Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: CAROL J. HUCHINGSON
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ANITA L. GRANT
County Counsel