



Mayor Webber Lifts Indoor Mask Mandate for City Facilities

City Continues to Support COVID-Safe Practices

February 18, 2022 — In light of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's announcement yesterday that New Mexico's indoor mask mandate is lifted, Mayor Alan Webber today amended the City's Emergency Orders to align with the State of New Mexico rules and lifted the City's mask mandate for City facilities, effective immediately.

Mayor Webber says: "The Governor's decision to lift the mask mandate is an indication that we're entering the next phase of the global pandemic. Santa Fe has done a great job adapting to COVID as it has evolved and I'm confident we'll all keep working together to stay safe, open and together as a community. With or without masks, we need to continue to embrace COVID-safe practices, watch out for the most vulnerable among us and support our local businesses."

City Manager John Blair sent this message to all City employees last night regarding the mask mandate being lifted: "I'm encouraging all City staff to respect each other's comfort levels and recognize that Santa Fe County is still classified as a having a high transmission rate, according to CDC data. This means everyone is still encouraged to wear a mask in public, indoor settings. If you feel any risk, or if it's your preference, please continue to wear a mask. You are not prohibited from wearing a mask."

The City will continue to support COVID-safe practices. This includes supplying masks, continuing the use of sanitation stations, and providing additional cleaning and fogging. The City will also continue to use HEPA filters in our HVAC systems and utilize additional portable air filters in City work and public spaces.

City Manager Blair will continue to evaluate and review City policies related to COVID-19 and will monitor and take into consideration any changes in transmission rates.

Per State guidance, the City's Senior Division workforce will continue to wear masks due to the higher vulnerability of the seniors they serve; this policy is subject to change following future State directives. Fire Department personnel will continue to wear masks on medical calls. Police Department personnel will wear masks in any businesses or residences when requested to do so by that business or residence. Additionally, the Federal Mask Transit System Requirement continues through at least March 18, 2022, which includes our Santa Fe Trails and Airport.

The Santa Fe Public School Board may lift the mask requirement for public schools in the City of Santa Fe, but has not made a decision to do so at this time. The City will continue to require mask-wearing in indoor locations in which the City's Youth Programs take place until the School Board lifts the mask requirement for schools.

Until further notice, the City will continue to distribute take-home antigen tests and support testing and vaccination operations at various times and locations throughout Santa Fe. (Rapid-result PCR testing being offered at Midtown Public Safety Building will not take place on Presidents Day, February 21.)

Find the amendments to the current Emergency Proclamation Orders [here](#).