

Mayor Amends Facial Covering Order in Response to New CDC Recommendations

"Given our City ordinance's link to the CDC recommendations, I've signed a 'modified order' to be issued pursuant to Proclamation VIII that would require facial coverings when recommended by the CDC or the by the State's facial covering requirements, whichever is more protective," Mayor Alan Webber

CITY OF SANTA FE PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY VIII- COVID-19 Amended Facial Covering Order – April 27, 2021

WHEREAS, the City's "Public Health Protection Ordinance," Section 10-7 SFCC 1987, requiring facial coverings in public, expires when the Centers for Disease Control CDC withdraws its face covering recommendation, as applied to the city;

WHEREAS, today, the CDC revised its facial covering recommendations, no longer recommending facial coverings outdoors when vaccinated persons are alone, with their families, or gathering in small groups;

WHEREAS, the CDC's recommendation is based, in part, on the increased rate of vaccination in the United States:

WHEREAS, New Mexico leads vaccination efforts in the nation with 57.2% of the State's eligible population at least partially vaccinated and 41.1% fully vaccinated;

WHEREAS, Santa Fe County's vaccination rates are 67.5 and 47.2 for partially and fully vaccinated residents, respectively;

WHEREAS, the orders issued pursuant to Proclamation VIII included the requirement that facial coverings be worn in public, including outdoors, other than during eating or drinking; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe's vaccination rate and CDC recommendations support reducing the City's outdoor facial covering requirement, as permitted within the limitations of the State's public health order's limitations.

THEREFORE, I replace my prior order regarding facial coverings as follows: Unless a healthcare provider instructs otherwise, and subject to the State's Public Health Order requirements that may be more strict, persons in Santa Fe must wear a facial covering in indoor public settings and when attending outdoor ticketed public events, such as concerts and sporting events, except when eating or drinking; as used here, "public setting" means places that are open to the public.