

ORDINANCE NO. 23-2021

Terminating the Requirement for the Wearing of  
Facial Coverings and Declaring an Emergency.

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2020 Council adopted Ordinance 30-2020 enacting Chapter 767 of the Codified Ordinances to require the wearing of face coverings in the City of Worthington to slow the spread of COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 30-2020 provided that the face covering requirements would only remain in effect until December 31, 2020 unless extended, modified, or earlier terminated by a majority vote of the City Council; and,

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2021 Council adopted Ordinance 09-2021 which extended the face covering requirements until December 31, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (the "CDC") has stated that fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance; and,

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2021 Governor Mike DeWine announced that he has asked the Ohio Department of Health to remove most of the pandemic health orders, including the State of Ohio's face covering requirements; and,

WHEREAS, Columbus Public Health has recommend that the City terminate its face covering requirements to be consistent with the State of Ohio; and,

WHEREAS, City Council has determined that to avoid potential confusion and inconsistency with the State of Ohio that it is in the best interest of the City of Worthington to waive notice of public hearing, to waive the twenty-one day waiting period, and to declare an emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Municipality of Worthington, County of Franklin, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That Ordinance No. 09-2021 is hereby repealed in its entirety effective immediately.

SECTION 2. That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare of the Municipality to be consistent with the State of Ohio and to be effective immediately upon its passage and publication. That notice of passage of this Ordinance shall be posted in the Municipal Administration Building, the Worthington Library, the Griswold Center and the Worthington Community Center and shall set forth the title and effective date of the Ordinance and a statement that the Ordinance is on file in the office of the Clerk of Council.

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SECTION 3. That the waiver of notice of public hearing, the waiver of the waiting period, the declaration of immediate effectiveness, and the adoption of this Ordinance was passed by a six-sevenths vote of the members of Council in accordance with the Charter of the City of Worthington, Ohio.

Passed May 17, 2021

/s/ Bonnie D. Michael

President of Council

Attest:

/s/ D. Kay Thress

Clerk of Council

Introduced May 17, 2021

P.H. May 17, 2021 (As Emergency)

Effective May 20, 2021