

## Face Coverings in the Workplace



Tom Modica

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City Team,

Recently, Governor Newsom ordered all Californians to wear face coverings while in public or in high-risk settings. While Long Beach has had a face covering requirement in place for a long time, this new requirement does make some additional changes you need to be aware of. With this new guidance, City employees continue to be required to wear face coverings in the workplace. There are a few exceptions, but you now must wear a face covering at all times while in any common area. This includes hallways, elevators, kitchens, restrooms, the parking structure, etc., even if others are not around. You should wear a face covering when coming into contact with anyone, regardless of the amount of time you spend around them. Please read the attached COVID-19 Safety Bulletin #3 for details making note of updated requirements. Wearing a face covering is another way we help protect one another and is so important in our efforts to keep our City family safe.

There have been an increased number of COVID-19 cases in our City, the cities around us and in our City workplaces. When there is a COVID-19 positive case in the workplace, our HR Occupational Health Clinic works with the Department to notify impacted employees. We do not provide details of each case to protect your fellow employees' private health information as required by law. Please continue to take precautions in the workplace, including:

- wearing a face covering at all times
- maintaining proper physical distancing
- frequently washing your hands
- regularly disinfecting high touch surfaces such as your workspace and equipment
- staying home when you are sick

You play a critical role in helping to reduce the spread of COVID-19 by following safety guidelines.

**City Hall and other City facilities will continue to remain closed to the public and employees will continue to telecommute unless directed to report to work.** We are closely monitoring the COVID-19 health metrics and consulting with our Health officials to determine how and when City facilities can safely reopen. While we do not have a definitive date for when we will begin reopening our City buildings, please know that we are working to develop a safe path to reopening once it is time to do so. Our telework program is going very well and I continue to be impressed with how you are all adapting to these historic times.

I'd also like to announce that City employees now have the opportunity to test for COVID-19 through an employee-only drive-through lane at Veterans Stadium on weekdays from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. starting Monday, July 6. As an employee, you only need to show your City ID to be seen. The employee-only lane at Veterans stadium is also open today, July 2, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Upcoming City Employee Town Hall** - Executive leadership will soon schedule a virtual Town Hall meeting. I will address the City's response to date and any concerns you may have about returning to the workplace. We are in this together, and this will be a chance to get together and have a discussion on what is going on in our City.

Onward and upwards.

Tom Modica  
City Manager