



Mayor's Proclamation

Urging Individuals to Wear Face Coverings in Public Places

WHEREAS, the 2019 Novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19") is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death by the SARSCoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus previously unidentified in humans and which can spread from person to person;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of South Carolina (the "State") issued Executive Order 2020-08, declaring a State of Emergency based on a determination that the COVID-19 poses an actual or imminent public health emergency for the State;

WHEREAS, The Mayor of the Town of Chapin issued an Emergency Proclamation on March 19, 2020 pursuant to Chapin Town Code Sec. 2.121, declaring a State of Emergency in the Town of Chapin related to the outbreak of COVID-19, consistent with state and federal requirements and recommendations;

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State has subsequently declared a continued State of Emergency in Executive Orders 2020-15 (March 28), 2020-23 (April 12), 2020-29 (April 27), 2020-35 (May 12), 2020-38 (May 27), and 2020-40 (June 11);

WHEREAS, the State is experiencing a dramatic daily increase in the number of identified new COVID-19 cases, and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control ("DHEC") is reporting that there is a major increase in hospitalizations and confirmed COVID-19 related deaths in the State;

WHEREAS, if COVID-19 cases continue to increase in the State and in the Town of Chapin the demand for medical, pharmaceutical, personal, and general cleaning supplies may overwhelm sources of supply; the private and public sector work force may be negatively impacted by absenteeism; and the demand for medical facilities may exceed locally available resources;

WHEREAS, health authorities, including the CDC, the Surgeon General of the United States, and DHEC have recommended the use of face coverings, hand-washing, and social distancing as a means of preventing the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Chapin Town Council has determined, based on the recommendations of public health experts and responsive to a serious threat to the public health, safety, and welfare of its

citizens, that it would serve the public interest strongly urge all individuals to wear face coverings while in public places and when social distancing cannot be achieved.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it proclaimed by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Chapin as follows:

Section 1. Use of Face Coverings.

- 1) All customers are strongly urged to wear Face Coverings while inside the enclosed area of any Retail Establishment, Foodservice Establishment, or Bar except while eating or drinking;
- 2) All local businesses are strongly urged to require staff to wear Face Coverings while working in areas open to the general public and areas when social distancing of at least six feet cannot be observed; and
- 3) All Foodservice Establishments and Bars are strongly urged to require staff who prepare food and who interact with customers to wear face masks covering mouth and nose while working.

Section 2. Exemptions. Face Coverings shall not be required:

- a) In outdoor or unenclosed areas in which social distancing of at least six feet is possible and observed;
- b) For people whose religious beliefs prevent them from wearing a Face Covering;
- c) For those who cannot wear a Face Covering due to a medical or behavioral condition;
- d) For children under twelve years old, provided that adults accompanying children age two through twelve shall use reasonable efforts to cause those children to wear Face Coverings while inside the enclosed area of any Retail Establishment or Foodservice Establishment
- e) For patrons of restaurants while they are dining;
- f) In private, individual offices;
- g) When complying with directions of law enforcement officers;
- h) When obtaining or rendering goods or services such as the receipt of dental services or while recreating outdoors where social distancing can be observed
- i) While exclusively with members of a family or the same household, and no person other than such family or household is within the same enclosed area.

Date: July 16, 2020

David W. Knight, Mayor
Town of Chapin, South Carolina