



DECLARATION FOR THE TOWN OF OCEAN CITY RELATED TO COMBATING THE SPREAD OF NOVEL CORONAVIRUS FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL STATE OF CIVIL EMERGENCY AND FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE USE OF FACE COVERINGS

WHEREAS, a State of Emergency and a catastrophic health emergency was declared by Governor Hogan on March 5, 2020, related to COVID-19 which was renewed on March 17, 2020, April 10, 2020, May 6, 2020, June 3, 2020, and July 1, 2020 to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the State;

WHEREAS, a Civil Emergency was declared by the Town of Ocean City on March 16, 2020, which was renewed and amended on March 22, 2020, March 29, 2020, March 31, 2020, April 28, 2020, May 4, 2020, May 14, 2020, and May 28, 2020 to protect those who live and work in Ocean City during this catastrophic health emergency related to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Governor Hogan created a Maryland Coronavirus Response Team which has transitioned into the Maryland Strong Recovery Team as part of the April 24, 2020, “Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery” which was the State of Maryland’s path to gradually and responsibly reopening the State’s economy while protecting public health and continuing to combat the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has been confirmed in all Maryland counties, the rates of infection continue to rise throughout the country and the risk of further spread of COVID-19 continues to pose a threat to the residents and visitors of Ocean City;

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Maryland Strong Recovery Team advised that widespread use of Face Coverings is likely to help control the spread of COVID-19 and based upon that advice the Governor issued Order 20-07-29-01 “Amending and Restating the Order of June 10, 2020 ... and Generally Requiring Use of Face Coverings”;

WHEREAS, the use of Face Coverings is a tool that can be used to help stop the spread of COVID-19 and is recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Maryland Department of Health.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD W. MEEHAN, Mayor of the Town of Ocean City, and pursuant to the power and authority of Town Code Sec. 18-2 do hereby declare and renew a state of civil emergency as a result of COVID-19, this 31st day of July, 2020 and do hereby enact the following Orders, pursuant to Town Code Sec.18-4, effective at 5:00 p.m. on July 31, 2020:

1. All persons over the age of five (5) years old are required to wear a Face Covering when they are:

(a) Visiting, using, or when otherwise present on the Town of Ocean City’s Boardwalk between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.; and

(b) Attending or participating in any Town of Ocean City Special Event, indoor or outdoor.

2. Exceptions. Paragraph 1 does not require persons to wear Face Coverings:

(a) if, due to a bona fide disability or medical condition, it would be unsafe for the person to do so;

(b) to the extent wearing a Face Covering would impede communication by or with persons who have a hearing impairment or other disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;

(c) if wearing a Face Covering would subject the person to an unsafe working condition, as determined by federal, state, or local occupational safety regulators or workplace safety guidelines;

(d) while consuming food or beverages; or

(e) engaging in other physical activities where the use of a Face Covering is likely to pose a bona fide safety risk.

3. Definition. "Face Covering" means a covering that fully covers a person's nose and mouth and is secured to the person's head but is not a Medical-Grade Mask. The term "Face Covering" includes, without limitation, scarves, bandanas, and plastic full-face shields.

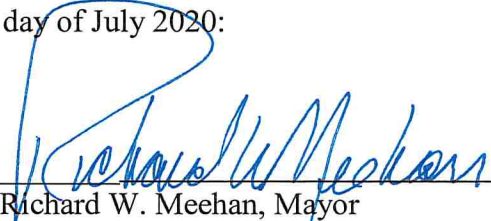
4. Penalty. Voluntary compliance is expected. A person who violates these Orders may be subject to all criminal penalties available by and through the Governor's Order and the Town's Code.

This Declaration issues Orders intended to supplement the Governor's Order, Number 20-07-29-01, generally requiring the use of Face Coverings. The Orders contained herein shall remain in place at this time, subject to further amendment and additional Orders at the discretion of local authorities based on re-evaluation of the status of the public health emergency.

It is further Ordered that this Proclamation and Declaration be posted for public display at both City Hall and the Public Safety Building and be distributed to the news media.

AS WITNESS to my hand and official seal this 31st day of July 2020:




Richard W. Meehan, Mayor


Diana L. Chavis, City Clerk