



City of Milpitas

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City of Milpitas to Require Public Use of Face Coverings to Protect Essential Workers and Community

Milpitas, CA – April 23, 2020 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On April 21, the Milpitas City Council unanimously directed the Interim City Manager, in his role as the City's Emergency Services Director to issue a regulation requiring use of face coverings at essential businesses in the City of Milpitas. Face coverings are currently strongly urged, but not required, in Santa Clara County.

The Interim City Manager signed the [order](#) on April 22, and it goes into effect at 8:00 am on Friday, April 24. Under the new order in Milpitas, face masks or coverings are required for employees and customers at essential businesses such as groceries, health care facilities, gas stations, hardware stores, and pharmacies. Face coverings are NOT required for children 6 years and under.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) began recommending the broad use of face coverings on April 3 to slow the spread of COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus. Surgical and N95 masks should be prioritized for healthcare providers and first responders, while consumers shopping for essential needs should use cloth face coverings such as scarves, bandanas, or homemade masks. Because COVID-19 has a large number of asymptomatic carriers, or people who can spread the disease without showing symptoms like a fever or cough, it is important that everyone use a face covering even if they believe they are healthy.

Face coverings do not replace the need for social distancing, and should always be used together with social distancing, sheltering at home, and regular handwashing to help people remain healthy.

“By enacting this order, Milpitas is being a leader in our county. Face coverings help protect the most vulnerable in our community,” says Councilmember Montano. “We want to flatten the curve and keep our health system from being overwhelmed, and this is the best, safest way to do that. I hope all of our residents and businesses take this order seriously to protect all of us.”

Administrative citations will be issued to those not complying with the order; however, the first step will be education. Anyone who would like to lodge a complaint about noncompliance can do so by calling 408-586-3072 or emailing facecoverings@ci.milpitas.ca.gov.

Milpitas residents are encouraged to make a face covering at home using the CDC’s [guide on homemade face coverings](#). The City of Milpitas is also looking at community partnerships to make face coverings available to families and individuals in need.

For more information on COVID-19 and the latest county health orders, visit the [Santa Clara County Public Health Department](#) website. Milpitas community members can also find information on local COVID-19 resources at the City’s [COVID-19 webpage](#).

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Stay informed. Information is changing frequently:

City of Milpitas Coronavirus Webpage: [City of Milpitas Coronavirus Updates](#)

Public Health Website: <http://sccphd.org/coronavirus>

Public Health Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sccpublichealth/>

Public Health Instagram: @scc_publichealth

Public Health Twitter: @HealthySCC

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