

CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA
EMERGENCY DECLARATION

AN EMERGENCY DELARATION OF THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA; RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL, STATE AND LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC; REQUIRING THE USE OF FACIAL COVERING OR MASK IN PUBLIC SETTINGS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA WHERE CDC SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES CANNOT BE FOLLOWED; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE DATE AND SUNSET DATE.

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is currently in a declared Public Health Emergency as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic since the Governor issued Executive Order 20-51 on March 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida is currently under a declared State of Emergency as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic since the Governor issued Executive Order 20-52 on March 9, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf County Board of County Commissioners declared a Local State of Emergency on March 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's declaration of a State of Emergency authorizes in accordance with Section 252.38 Florida Statutes each political subdivision within the State to waive the procedures and formalities required by law pertaining to, among other things, the performance of public work and taking whatever action necessary to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Port St. Joe has determined that public indoor and outdoor gatherings that do not allow for the following of the social distancing guidelines as set forth by the CDC constitutes a threat to the public's health, safety and welfare and may lead to the spread of the Covid-19 Virus and that the enactment of this Emergency Declaration requiring the use of facial coverings in public settings is necessary to help prevent the spread of the Covid-19 Virus; and

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the powers conferred by Section 252.38 Florida Statutes and the Charter of the City of Port St. Joe, be it Declared by the City Commission of the City of Port St. Joe, Florida that:

1. Every person over the age of six(6) who is in a public space within the City limits of Port St. Joe, Florida is required to wear facial covering(mask) when not able to engage in social distancing guidelines as set forth by the CDC.
2. Every operator, employee, customer or patron of a business establishment located within the city limits of Port St. Joe, Florida is required to wear a face mask or covering at all times while at that business establishment unless he or she is able to engage in social distancing.

3. The operator and employees of a business establishment shall ensure that every individual in that establishment is aware of this Emergency Declaration. This can be accomplished by placing a sign in a conspicuous area which informs all persons entering the establishment of this Emergency Declaration.

4. All persons accessing City buildings for purposes of conducting public business, visitation, delivery, or any other activity requiring a presence in a City building shall wear a face mask or covering.

8. **Effective Date:** This Emergency Declaration shall become effective on Monday July 27, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. and will remain in effect until further action of the City Commission or shall automatically sunset upon expiration of the current State of Emergency declared by the State of Florida and Gulf County due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

THIS EMERGENCY DECLARATION ADOPTED this the 21st day of July 2020.

**BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS
PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**

BY: 


REX BUZZETT
Mayor-Commissioner

ATTEST:

BY: 

CHARLOTTE M. PIERCE
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BY: 

CLINTON T. MCCA HILL
City Attorney