

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07- 87

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A FACE COVERING POLICY FOR  
PERSONS IN LINN COUNTY-OWNED FACILITIES

WHEREAS, in response to the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak, Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds issued a Proclamation of Disaster Emergency, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared a national public health emergency, and President Trump issued a proclamation declaring that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 can spread from person-to-person and poses a possibility of causing severe illness or death; and

WHEREAS, the risk of transmission of COVID-19 may be substantially reduced by community containment strategies, measures, and protocols designed to slow the community spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Linn County Public Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and other public health experts encourage the use of a mask or other face covering for protection in public settings to mitigate the risk of community spread, especially when social distancing measures are difficult to maintain; and

WHEREAS, the Linn County Board of Supervisors implemented Policy COVID-002 regarding the use of face coverings by Linn County employees in Linn County-owned facilities and vehicles to protect public health, and

WHEREAS, the Linn County Board of Supervisors finds that additional measures to protect public health and the life, health, safety, and property of people entering Linn County-owned facilities are in the public interest.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Linn County Board of Supervisors approves and adopts the Linn County-Owned Facilities Face Covering Policy, and the requirements included in said policy, attached hereto and made part of this resolution. The policy is effective on July 20, 2020 and remains in effect until repealed or superseded.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July 2020.

LINN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ben Rogers, Chair

  
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Brent Oleson, Vice Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stacey Walker, Supervisor

AYE: 3 NAY: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joel Miller, Linn County Auditor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

## **LINN COUNTY-OWNED FACILITIES FACE COVERING POLICY**

### **1. PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES**

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for use of face coverings in Linn County-owned buildings to

- Protect public health and safety by reducing exposure to the COVID-19 virus (virus).
- Help slow the community spread of the virus.
- Help prevent spread of the virus to others by people who are asymptomatic, or who have the virus and do not know it.

### **2. SCOPE**

This policy applies to all Linn County-owned facilities and vehicles.

### **3. EXCEPTIONS**

Facilities and vehicles managed by the Sheriff's Office, the Juvenile Detention Center, and outdoor facilities operated by Linn County Conservation.

### **4. DEFINITIONS**

**Asymptomatic:** Showing no signs or symptoms of a particular disease.

**Face Covering:** Material that securely covers a person's nose and mouth and remains affixed in place without the use of one's hands. Examples of face coverings compliant with this policy include cloth masks, paper masks, scarfs, bandanas, neck gaiters, and face shields that cover a person's mouth and nose.

### **5. PROVISIONS**

- A. All persons must wear a face covering when entering and while in publicly accessible areas of a Linn County facility that is subject to the provisions of this policy. This requirement is in effect regardless of any less restrictive State orders or guidance on face coverings.
- B. Linn County will provide a disposable paper facemask at no charge to persons who enter a county facility without a face covering.
- C. Linn County will provide a reusable face shield at no charge to persons subject to a health condition that prevents the wearing of a facemask. Persons provided with a reusable face shield must leave it at a designated location when leaving the facility. Linn County will sanitize all reusable face shields provided to the public.
- D. This policy does not require face coverings to be worn by persons for whom such covering would cause impairment due to an existing health condition and who present medical verification to that effect.

- E. Linn County will post signs demonstrating the proper wearing of a face covering at public entrances to Linn County-owned facilities that are subject to the provisions of this policy.
- F. Linn County will deny any person who refuses to wear a face covering entrance to Linn County facilities subject to the provisions of this policy.
- G. A face covering is not a substitute for other social distancing measures or other preventive actions, which persons should observe to the greatest extent possible.
- H. The policy does not modify or amend the provisions of Linn County Policy Employee Face Coverings Policy, Policy Number COVID-002
- I. In the event that any section, provision, term, or requirement of this policy is deemed invalid, illegal, or unenforceable by a controlling Court of Law or by federal, state or local statute, such section, provision, term, or requirement shall be excluded to the extent that it has been deemed invalid, illegal, or unenforceable. All other sections, provisions, terms, and requirements shall remain in full force and effect.