

Town of Chapel Hill

Proclamation

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2020, Orange County and the Town of Chapel Hill issued Stay-At-Home orders to limit the spread and mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 disease, save lives, promote and ensure the health and safety of our town and county residents, public service employees, transit operators, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, by observing social and physical distancing, the residents of North Carolina were able to “flatten the curve” of viral spread and, on Friday, May 8th, entered into a phased social and economic re-opening process; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), studies show that “a significant portion of individuals with coronavirus lack symptoms and that even those who eventually develop symptoms can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms; and

WHEREAS, the virus can stay in the air for up to three (3) hours and spread between people interacting near one another, including when people speak, cough, sneeze, sing, or exercise near one another; and

WHEREAS, based on scientific evidence, the CDC, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Orange County Health Department and other health organizations recommend wearing cloth masks or face coverings in public settings where other physical distancing measures are difficult to maintain; and

WHEREAS, by wearing a mask or face covering, each of us is taking care of one another so that those we encounter can stay healthy; and

WHEREAS, when entering Phase Two of re-opening, the Town of Chapel Hill joined with Orange County in requiring employees at restaurants, retail stores, personal care, grooming, and tattoo shops to wear masks while on duty; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chapel Hill and Orange County also strongly recommend that everyone over the age of 12 wear masks or cloth face coverings over their nose and mouth when indoors in a public place and outdoors when unable to maintain a distance of at least six (6) feet from persons other than individuals living within the same household.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pam Hemminger, Mayor of the Town of Chapel Hill do hereby proclaim Wednesday, May 27, 2020, as the launch of the campaign

Safer For Everyone In Chapel Hill

And urge everyone to wear masks when out in public to allow our community to reopen safely and to prevent our healthcare systems from becoming overwhelmed.

Furthermore, I urge everyone to be understanding to those who, for reasons of age, health condition or religion, cannot safely wear a mask and to remain vigilant in staying 6+ feet apart and washing hands frequently.

Please continue to Be Kind, Be Smart and Stay Apart to help our entire community stay healthy, resilient and strong.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE TOWN OF
CHAPEL HILL, ON THIS THE TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY OF MAY IN
THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY.

Pam Hemminger

