

PROCLAMATION

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF WELLTON, ARIZONA, RECOMMENDING AND PROVIDING GUIDANCE FOR USE OF FACE COVERINGS IN PUBLIC SPACES.

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a disease dangerous to public health which spreads easily, quickly, and undetected because people who have caught it are contagious but may never show symptoms, be in the early stages of the disease when they do not have symptoms, or have mild symptoms; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 can lead to severe respiratory illness, permanent damage to vital organs, and death; and

WHEREAS, individuals with certain underlying medical conditions of any age and the elderly are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, there is no vaccine, treatment, or cure for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, without vaccine, treatment, or cure individuals must together prevent exposure to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2020, Governor Douglas A. Ducey issued Executive Order No. 2020-36 which ordered entities such as the Town to develop policies which ensure physical distancing and provide for necessary protection equipment, the purpose of which is “to ensure that the State of Arizona continues to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to the greatest extent possible”; and

WHEREAS, the Town supports Governor Douglas A. Ducey’s phased approach to allow businesses to remain open in a safe and healthy manner while maintaining healthcare capacity and avoiding crisis standard of care to respond to COVID-19 by taking actions to limit the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, to prevent COVID-19 exposures in Arizona Courts, on May 8, 2020, Arizona Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert Brutinel issued Administrative Order No. 2020-75 titled *Authorizing Limitation of Court Operations During a Public Health Emergency and Transition to Resumption of Certain Operations*, which orders masks, face covering, or face shields for in-person contacts of any kind in all Arizona Courts; and

WHEREAS, on June 17, 2020, Arizona Governor Douglas A. Ducey issued Executive Order No. 2020-40, which finds that face coverings are effective in preventing the transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 20-40 declares that a city or town “may, based on conditions in its jurisdiction, adopt policies regarding the wearing of face coverings in public for the purpose of mitigating the spread of COVID-19”; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Wellton hereby finds that there is community spread of COVID-19 in the Town of Wellton; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Wellton is within its powers to take measures to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of and reduce the harm to residents and visitors within its town limits from the spread of COVID-19, specifically its police powers as a political subdivision of the State of Arizona, including ARS § 9-240(B)(22) which gives the town the power to take any action and prescribe regulations, which may be necessary or expedient for the prevention or suppression of disease; and as a power reserved to the States under the Tenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, A.R.S. § 26-311 empowers the Mayor of the Town of Wellton to declare a local emergency exists and during such emergency, have the authority to impose all necessary regulations to preserve the peace and order of the town; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Cecilia McCollough, Mayor of the Town of Wellton, Arizona, by the authority vested in me by the urgency of the circumstances and law recited above, proclaim the following:

Section 1. That the recitals set forth above are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

Section 2. That a public health emergency continues to exist in the Town of Wellton and that action is required to limit the spread of COVID-19 in the Town of Wellton.

Section 3. It is highly recommended that all individuals within the jurisdiction of the Town of Wellton wear face coverings in all places of public accommodation, if they are or will be in contact with other individuals who are not in their household, in spaces where it is difficult or impossible to maintain physical distancing. Face coverings are also recommended in all spaces where it is difficult or impossible to maintain physical distancing. Physical distancing means keeping 6 feet distance between individuals who are not in the same household. These spaces include but are not limited to grocery stores, pharmacies, restaurants and bars, gyms and similar facilities, retail stores, special events and public transit. Businesses that interact with the public should require employees to wear face coverings. A face covering means material that covers the nose and mouth. It can be secured to the head with ties or straps or wrapped around the lower portion of the face. It can be made from materials such as cotton, silk, or linen, or be a surgical mask. A cloth face covering may be made or sewn by hand, as well as improvised from household items such as a scarf, t-shirt, sweatshirt or towel. A face covering should be worn per guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Section 4. This Proclamation shall remain in full force and effect for the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency or until lawfully amended or terminated.

ISSUED by the Mayor of the Town of Wellton, Yuma County, Arizona, this 18th day of June 2020 at 5:00PM.



Cecilia C. McCollough, Mayor

ATTEST:



Larry Killman, Town Manager