



City of Cordova

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local Mask Mandate Repealed; Emergency Declaration Extended

Last night, City Council voted to repeal the City’s mask mandate and relax its COVID-19 Emergency Rules in light of Cordova’s high vaccination rate, high vaccine availability, and new CDC guidelines.

CCMC Director Hannah Sanders stated, “I am pleased to see the evidence that the COVID-19 vaccine is effective at both preventing morbidity from and transmission of COVID-19. I want to encourage healthy vaccinated individuals to feel comfortable returning to normal activity without masks and without social distance. The Cordova medical community has vaccine available for anyone over 12 years old who would like to be immunized.”

Individual businesses may continue to require masks at their discretion. Masks will still be required at Cordova “Mudhole Smith” Airport and Alaska Marine Highway per Federal requirements for public transportation. The CDC still advises that people wear masks while in health care and congregate settings.

At the same meeting, City Council also voted to extend the City’s Declaration of a Local Emergency. While the end of the mask mandate reflects the progress Cordova has made and the strong position Cordova is in today, this extension of emergency allows the City to retain the authority needed to react nimbly to any future COVID-19 outbreaks, and to continue to qualify for state and federal funding related to COVID-19. City Manager Helen Howarth said: “I encourage all Cordovans to get vaccinated so our success in keeping COVID-19 out of town continues.”

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