

Health and Safety Policy – City of Harker Heights

The City of Harker Heights has revised its Health and Safety Policy as described in Directive #8 issued June 29, 2020. This policy requires all City employees to wear a face covering at our facilities when we collectively cannot ensure sufficient social/physical distancing (6 feet between persons from different households).

1. We have notified our employees and visitors of the policy by the posting signage on our front door and website <http://www.harkerheights.gov>
2. We have Implemented the policy by:
 1. Notifying our employees and visitors of the policy.
 2. We will wear a face covering while at work outside our private individual offices and when maintaining sufficient physical social distancing from another person is impossible or unlikely; and
 3. Visitors are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering when entering the various municipal lobbies

The City of Harker Heights Policy is in response to:

Directive #8 was issued by the Bell County Judge on June 29, 2020 as the 8th Directive associated with the Disaster Declaration that the Commissioners Court approved on March 23, 2020. This Directive to the Disaster Declaration was made in response to the recent spike in COVID-19 cases within Bell County.

- The Directive was issued in response to the increased number of cases in Bell County, along with an increase in the positivity rate of COVID19 cases and a decrease in the available hospital bed capacity for area hospitals
- It is important to issue this order now to have the greatest possible effect on reducing the spread of COVID-19 WITHOUT another shelter-in-place order, which none of us want.

Key measures of the order:

- **The City of Harker Heights will fully comply on June 29th.**
- **All employees** at the Municipal Buildings **must wear face coverings** when in an area or performing an activity which involves close contact or proximity to co-workers or the public where six feet of separation is not feasible.
- **All visitors** at the Municipal Buildings **are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings** when in an area or performing an activity which involves close contact or proximity to co-workers or the public where six feet of separation is not feasible
- **Face coverings** may include homemade masks, scarfs, bandanas, or a handkerchief.
- Employees, visitors, and all residents of the Bell County should **continue physical distancing of at least six feet** while outside your home.

- **Harker Heights City Staff** are also required to wear face coverings under the same circumstances as the public while off site conducting city business.
- **The City of Harker Heights** encourages the public to work to protect our neighbors, friends, and family members by adhering to this order.

The City of Harker Heights acknowledges that face coverings do not need to be worn in the following circumstances:

- When exercising outside or engaging in physical activity outside.
- While driving alone or with passengers who are part of the same household as the driver.
- When doing so poses a greater mental or physical health, safety, or security risk.
- While operating outdoor equipment or pumping.
- While in a building or participating in an activity that requires security surveillance, screening, or identification, for example, banks. When consuming food or drink.

The City of Harker Heights acknowledges per the Directive #8 that:

- Churches and places of worship are not considered commercial businesses; therefore, this order does not apply to them.
- In accordance with Directive #8 the City of Harker Heights does hope that all will consider wearing face coverings as a best practice.
- Questions Related to Directive #8 should call 254.953-5600