



ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER No. C19-12f

**ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER
OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
GENERALLY REQUIRING MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND
WORKERS TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS
INDOORS AND IN SOME INSTANCES OUTDOORS**

(PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ORDER)

DATE OF ORDER: May 4, 2021

Please read this Order carefully. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order is a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Safety Code § 120295, *et seq.*; Cal. Penal Code §§ 69, 148(a)(1); San Francisco Administrative Code §7.17(b))

Summary: Since March 2020, the City and County of San Francisco (the “City”), its citizens, and the Bay Area have collectively worked together to reduce the spread of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (“COVID-19”) and is the cause of the global pandemic. While these efforts have slowed the spread of COVID-19 and effective vaccines have been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, there is still risk associated with transmission of the virus, especially to unvaccinated people in the City. At the same time, we now know much more about how the virus is transmitted and know that the risk of transmission outdoors is low, especially when people are not in large groups. In San Francisco, vaccination rates are relatively high and infection rates have been steadily decreasing. In late April 2021, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (the “CDC”) issued guidance, based on improved scientific understanding, lower infection rates, and high vaccination rates, outlining that in many outdoor settings, use of face coverings is not necessary due to the decreased risk of infection and listing certain outdoor settings where masking is still recommended due to the fact that there is still a risk of infection in some situations, even outdoors. The CDC guidance is available online at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html. And on May 3, 2021, the State of California issued guidelines that mirror, in most instances, the CDC guidance. The California guidance is available online at www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx. In light of the new CDC and California guidance, the Health Officer is revising this Order to reflect best practices at this stage of the pandemic, with a focus on a few rules allowing removal of a face covering in most situations when outdoors.

While vaccination is the most effective strategy to prevent infections, Face Coverings remain important tools to prevent COVID-19 among unvaccinated people, particularly indoors. Substantial scientific evidence shows that when combined with physical distancing and other health and safety practices like avoiding crowded indoor spaces and large gatherings with unvaccinated individuals, wearing Face Coverings significantly



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reduces the chance of COVID-19 spreading in the community. Face Coverings reduce the amount of infectious droplets and aerosols that people release into the air from their nose and mouth, which can infect others. Face Coverings also provide some protection to the wearer by reducing the amount of virus particles that may enter their nose or mouth and lead to infection.

To help secure what gains we have made against this disease and return to increasing personal interactions with others and fully reopen businesses and our schools, we must maintain our commitment to wearing Face Coverings in higher risk settings until the pandemic is over while recognizing that lower rates of infection and high rates of vaccination are making many settings safer. In these important ways and others, wearing a Face Covering is both an act of altruism and self-interest. By doing so, we not only protect our fellow community members, but ultimately ourselves and our loved ones, especially those who remain unvaccinated and thus vulnerable due to age or health conditions.

In sum, going forward and for as long as this Order remains in effect as needed to address the pandemic, and unless a specific exception set forth in this Order applies:

- Face Coverings are no longer required to be worn in many settings outdoors as follows:
 - For people who are fully vaccinated (meaning two weeks after their final dose of the vaccine), wearing a Face Covering is generally not mandated outdoors. For all others (partially vaccinated or unvaccinated people), a Face Covering must be worn outdoors when they cannot maintain physical separation from others, and this Order strongly recommends maintaining at least six feet distance. For both groups, a Face Covering must be worn outdoors when another requirement mandates. And for this requirement, passing by someone briefly, such as when walking, running, or riding a bike, does not require putting on a Face Covering.
 - Face Coverings are required for vaccinated and unvaccinated people in large crowded situations, such as live performances, parades, fairs, festivals, sports events, or other similar settings. For any outdoor event or setting that includes 300 or more people, a Face Covering must be worn by everyone regardless of whether distancing is maintained. Removal of a Face Covering is allowed in these settings where a Health Officer order or directive specifically provides for it, such as while following the rules for eating at a large sporting event.
 - Even if people are going to be outside in an uncrowded setting, everyone should keep a Face Covering on-hand to have one ready to put on, such as when they need to go indoors outside their Residence, where Face Coverings are still generally required to be worn.
- Face Coverings are required while waiting at public transit stops and while on public transit (as required by Federal law).
- Face Coverings are required in most indoor settings other than when at home—such as when shopping, when working indoors near others, when gathering with others



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indoors, or when engaging in indoor activities—unless there is an exception that applies. Setting-based exceptions include: indoor dining (consistent with associated rules), personal services (when removal is brief and required for the service, consistent with associated rules), and small gatherings with fully-vaccinated people or a mix of fully-vaccinated and low risk unvaccinated people. There are other exceptions listed in this Order and in other Health Officer orders and directives.

- Everyone must wear a Face Covering when in shared areas of buildings or spaces where other may frequently enter including lobbies, common rooms, hallways, laundry areas, food preparation spaces, elevators and bathrooms.
- Personnel who interact with the public must wear a Face Covering while doing so to protect themselves. And Personnel must also wear one as required by industry standards, such as Cal/OSHA rules.

Other rules apply in specific contexts, such as when a Health Officer order or directive may require Personnel to wear a Face Covering when working with customers or members of the public outdoors. More specific orders and directives modify the rules listed in this Order. And people may remove their Face Covering when otherwise allowed by a Health Officer order or directive, including as such orders or directives address people who are fully vaccinated.

This Order includes certain specific exceptions. For instance, this Order requires that any child younger than two years not wear a Face Covering because of the risk of suffocation. This Order also does not mandate wearing a Face Covering for people who are in their own cars alone or with members of their own Household or living unit, unless they use the vehicle to transport others. And anyone who has a written exemption from a healthcare provider based on a disability, medical condition, or other condition that prevents them from wearing a Face Covering does not need to wear one.

The Order updates and replaces the prior Face Covering order (Health Officer Order No. C19-12e) issued on March 18, 2021. This Order is in effect, without a specific expiration date, until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Health Officer. The Health Officer will continue to carefully monitor the evolving situation and will periodically revise this Order as conditions warrant to protect the public and limit the spread of the virus.

This summary is for convenience only and may not be used to interpret this Order; in the event of any inconsistency between the summary and the text of this Order below, the text will control.

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UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, 120175, AND 120220, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO (“HEALTH OFFICER”) ORDERS:

1. Effective Date.

This Order will take effect immediately upon issuance (the “Effective Date”), and will continue to be in effect until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Health Officer. As of the Effective Date, this Order replaces Order Number C19-12e, issued March 18, 2021. Any capitalized terms in this Order that are defined in the Stay-Safer-At-Home Order, Health Officer Order No. C19-07 (including as updated in the future), incorporate the definitions in that order (including as those definitions may later be updated or revised without a need to update this Order.)

2. Face Covering Defined.

General Definition. As used in this Order, a “Face Covering” means a covering made of cloth, fabric, or other soft or permeable material, without holes, that covers only the nose and mouth and surrounding areas of the lower face. A covering that hides or obscures the wearer’s eyes or forehead is not a Face Covering. Different types of Face Coverings offer varying degrees of protection against viral transmission both to the person wearing the Face Covering and to those around them, depending largely on their fit and the ability to filter air particles. It is strongly recommended that people wear Face Coverings that fit snugly against one’s face without leaving any gaps and offer good air filtration including, in order of effectiveness, from least to most effective: two or three ply tightly woven cloth masks;



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surgical or procedural masks; double masks (such as a surgical/procedural mask covered by a cloth mask); authentic KN95 respirators; or NIOSH-approved N95 respirators (without unfiltered exhalation valves). While bandanas, scarves, ski-masks, balaclavas, and single-layer neck gaiters continue to qualify as Face Coverings, both the San Francisco Department of Public Health and California Department of Public Health consider them less effective at preventing viral transmission and discourage their use; also, as discussed in more detail later in this Section 2, bandanas, scarves, ski-masks, and balaclavas are not allowed in certain settings, such as riding on public transportation. For comprehensive information and guidance on using properly fitted and effective Face Coverings, visit:

- www.sfdcdp.org/maskingupdate (San Francisco Department of Public Health);
- <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Get-the-Most-out-of-Masking.aspx> (California Department of Public Health); and
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html> (United States Centers for Disease Control).

It is further strongly recommended that the following groups wear masks with improved fit and filtration and that these groups may want to consider wearing an N95 respirator:

- Those who are unvaccinated for COVID- 19 and who:
 - Are at higher risk of severe illness if they get COVID-19 due to age or underling medical conditions (see www.sfdcdp.org/vulnerable for details).
 - Must be in higher-risk situations where they cannot practice ideal safety precautions due to allowed mask removal and limited physical distance. Examples include:
 - Being indoors near unmasked individuals (for example, while dining or while receiving personal services where masks are allowed to be removed);
 - Entering indoor settings after people have been unmasked (for example, workers who are indoors in areas where dining or personal services without masks are allowed, hotel room service, and janitors who service individual offices);
 - Being indoors with exposure to a high volume of masked people throughout the day (for example, workers in high-volume grocery or retail stores or transit operators); and
 - Being outdoors around unmasked individuals in crowded locations or where a person cannot maintain the recommended 6 feet distance (for example, those who work where outdoor dining or personal services are offered and masks are allowed to be removed).
 - Must be indoors around someone with COVID-19 or is a close contact of someone with COVID-19.

For more information on how to improve your mask fit and filtration as well as how to properly and safely use an N95 respirator, visit www.sfdcdp.org/ppe.



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Masks With Uncovered Valves. Any mask or respirator that incorporates a one-way valve (typically a raised plastic cylinder about the size of a quarter on the front or side of the mask) that is designed to facilitate easy exhaling allows droplets to be released from the mask, putting others nearby at risk. As a result, these masks are not a Face Covering under this Order and must not be used to comply with this Order’s requirements unless the exhalation valve is itself covered by another Face Covering.

Face Covering Restrictions on Public Transit. All people using public transit or waiting at public transit hubs (including passengers, operators, crew members, or other workers) must wear a Face Covering at all times in accordance with this Order, the February 2, 2021 Order of the United States Centers For Disease Control and Prevention (“Requirements For Persons to Wear Masks While On Conveyances And Transportation Hubs”, available online at www.cdc.gov/quarantine/pdf/Mask-Order-CDC_GMTF_01-29-21-p.pdf), and related guidance (available online at www.cdc.gov/quarantine/masks/mask-travel-guidance.html). For example, bandanas, scarves, ski-masks, and balaclavas used alone do not constitute Face Coverings when on public transit. In the context of public transit, where a conflict exists between this Order and any applicable CDC order or federal guidance, the more restrictive CDC order or federal guidance controls. It is strongly recommended that people who use public transit get fully vaccinated, and people should wear a well-fitting double Face Covering on public transit until they are fully vaccinated given the difficulty in maintaining distance and limited ventilation on public transportation.

3. **Face Covering Requirement and Exceptions.**

Each person in the City must wear a Face Covering when outside the person’s Household (when “Outside the Residence”) at all times except as follows:

- a. A person does not need to wear a Face Covering when allowed by another Health Officer order or directive not to wear a Face Covering, including as those orders or directives may be amended. In such instances—for example Health Officer Directives Nos. 2020-14 (Childcare Providers), 2020-16 (Dining), and 2020-19 (Small Outdoor Gatherings) found at www.sfdph.org/directives—the other order or directive will describe the specific conditions that allow a person not to wear a Face Covering.
- b. Face Coverings are no longer required to be worn in many settings outdoors, subject to the following two rules and other key considerations:
 - i. *Vaccination status.* For people who are fully vaccinated (meaning two weeks after their final dose of the vaccine), wearing a Face Covering is generally not mandated outdoors. For all others (partially vaccinated or unvaccinated people), a Face Covering must be worn outdoors any time physical distancing from others outside the Household cannot be maintained, and this Order strongly recommends maintaining six feet distance. For purposes of this requirement, passing by someone briefly, such as when walking, running, or riding a bike, does not require putting on a Face Covering. And for both groups, a Face Covering must be worn



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outdoors when otherwise required by a Health Officer order or directive and may be removed when otherwise allowed (such as when eating outdoors consistent with the outdoor dining rules in Directive No. 2020-16).

- ii. *Crowded situations.* For attendance at any outdoor event or setting that includes 300 or more people, such as a very crowded street or live performances, parades, fairs, festivals, sports events, or other similar settings, a Face Covering must be worn by everyone regardless of vaccination status and regardless of distancing except when removal of the Face Covering is allowed by a Health Officer order or directive (such as while following the rules for eating at a large sporting event).
 - iii. All people should keep a Face Covering on-hand when outside to have one ready to put on, including if they are unvaccinated and also when anyone goes indoors other than into their own Residence.
 - iv. As required by federal law, a Face Covering must be worn while waiting at any public transit stop or facility, as well as when on public transit, as provided in Section 2 of this Order above.
 - v. A Face Covering is not required outdoors when its removal is allowed by another Health Officer order or directive. For example, at the time this Order was updated, diners must wear a Face Covering when seated outdoors at a dining establishment and they are not eating, but if the directive on dining changes to allow a customer to remove a Face Covering at all times when seated at a table outdoors at a dining establishment, then this Order does not require wearing the Face Covering except as required by that directive.
 - vi. A Face Covering must be worn by Personnel who work outdoors with members of the public and as part of that work cannot maintain physical distancing, such as for outdoor dining or outdoor personal services, consistent with the rules that apply to that setting as listed in a separate Health Officer order or directive.
- c. If a person is unclear about whether a Face Covering must be worn while outdoors, they are strongly encouraged to wear a Face Covering to protect themselves and others. A person does not need to wear a Face Covering when wearing personal protective equipment (“PPE”) that is more protective than a Face Covering, as required by (i) any workplace policy or (ii) any local, state, or federal law, regulation, or other mandatory guidance.
 - d. A person does not need to wear a Face Covering when they are alone or with a member of their Household or living unit in a building or completely enclosed space such as a private office or conference room, and people who are not part of their Household or living unit are not likely to be in the same space at any time immediately following them. If someone who is not part of a person’s Household or living unit enters the enclosed space, both people must wear a Face Covering for the duration of the



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interaction. For clarity, individuals must wear Face Coverings whenever they are in semi-enclosed spaces such as cubicles. When Outside the Residence, a Face Covering must be worn if the person is in a space where others who are not part of their Household or living unit routinely are present during a given day, even if the person is alone at the time. By way of example and without limitation, a Face Covering must be worn indoors in shared office spaces, in office spaces or at desks where different individuals work in rapid succession, and in common areas such as elevators, laundry rooms, food preparation areas, break rooms, lobbies, hallways, and bathrooms. A Face Covering must also be worn by someone like a plumber, teacher, care assistant, or housecleaner who visits inside someone else's house or living space to perform work, and anyone who lives there should also wear a Face Covering when near the visitor.

A Face Covering does not need to be worn in such spaces by someone who is eating or drinking so long as that person complies with Section 3.e below. And anyone who is preparing food or other items for sale or distribution to others may be required by Section 4.b below to wear a Face Covering at all times when preparing such food or other items, even if they are alone when doing so.

- e. A person does not need to wear a Face Covering when (i) alone or only with members of their Household or living unit, (ii) they are eating or drinking, whether indoors or outdoors, and (iii) nobody else is within six feet. In the context of foodservice such as a restaurant, guidelines issued by the state or in a separate Health Officer order or directive must be followed and may require servers to wear a Face Covering.
- f. In accordance with California Department of Public Health ("CDPH") and CDC guidelines, any child younger than two years old must not wear a Face Covering because of the risk of suffocation. Children age two to nine years must wear Face Coverings to the greatest extent feasible. Children age two to nine years may wear an alternative face covering (as that term is described in Section 3.g, below) if their parent or caregiver determines it will improve the child's ability to comply with this Order. Children age two to nine and their accompanying parents or caregivers should not be refused any service based on a child's inability to wear a Face Covering (for example, if a four-year old child refuses to keep a Face Covering on in a grocery store), but the parent or caregiver should when possible take reasonable steps to have the child wear a Face Covering to protect others and minimize instances when children without Face Coverings are brought into settings with other people. Parents and caregivers of children age two to nine years must supervise the use of Face Coverings to ensure safety and avoid misuse.
- g. A person does not need to wear a Face Covering when they can show either:
 - (1) a medical professional has provided a written exemption to the Face Covering requirement, based on the individual's medical condition, other health concern, or disability; or
 - (2) wearing a Face Covering while working would create a risk to the person related to their work as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines. In accordance with CDPH and CDC guidelines, if a



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person is exempt from wearing a Face Covering under this paragraph, they still must wear an alternative face covering, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, unless they can show either: (1) a medical professional has provided a written exemption to this alternative face covering requirement, based on the individual's medical condition, other health concern, or disability; or (2) wearing an alternative face covering while working would create a risk to the person related to their work as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.

A Face Covering should also not be used by anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the Face Covering without assistance.

- h. A person does not need to wear a Face Covering when in a motor vehicle and either alone or exclusively with other members of the same Household or living unit. But a Face Covering is required when alone in the vehicle if the vehicle is used as a taxi or for any private car service or ride-sharing vehicle as outlined in Section 4.c below.
- i. A person does not need to wear a Face Covering when they are allowed to remove a Face Covering by another order or directive of the Health Officer, including but not limited to guidance that allows fully-vaccinated people or a mix of fully-vaccinated people and low-risk unvaccinated people to remove a Face Covering for indoor gatherings if certain conditions are met. Refer to the more specific order or directive for the rules regarding when Face Coverings may be removed.

4. Face Covering Requirements in Specific Circumstances.

Regardless of the exceptions listed above, a Face Covering is required as follows:

- a. A person must wear a Face Covering when they are required by another Health Officer order or directive to wear a Face Covering, including when the requirement of the other order or directive is more restrictive than this Order.
- b. Personnel who interact with the public must wear a Face Covering while doing so to protect themselves. And Personnel must also wear a Face Covering while working as required by industry standards, including but not limited to Cal/OSHA rules.
- c. A driver or operator of any public transportation or paratransit vehicle, taxi, or private car service or ride-sharing vehicle must wear a Face Covering when driving, operating, standing, or sitting in such vehicle, regardless of whether anyone else is in the vehicle, due to the need to reduce the spread of respiratory droplets in the vehicle at all times. But drivers or operators of public transportation vehicles are allowed to remove a Face Covering when seated in the operator compartment of the vehicle at terminals, the vehicle is stopped, and there are no passengers onboard due to the physical separation of the operator compartment and cleaning protocols between drivers.



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5. Wearing Face Coverings Around People Vulnerable to COVID-19.

People in the City are encouraged to consider whether wearing a Face Covering in their Household or living unit would protect someone else living there who is vulnerable to COVID-19. Everyone who is eligible to receive a vaccine is urged to do so in order to protect themselves and those around them. Vulnerable people include unvaccinated older adults and unvaccinated people with certain underlying medical conditions. A full list of populations that are vulnerable to COVID-19 and which should accordingly take extra precautions is available online at www.sfcdep.org/vulnerable. This determination is left to the individual, but if anyone who lives with a vulnerable person is engaged in frequent out-of-home activity under the Stay-Safe-At-Home Order, wearing a Face Covering when home may reduce the risk to the vulnerable person.

6. Face Covering Requirements for Businesses.

All Businesses, governmental operations, and other organizations in the City must:

- a. Require their employees, contractors, owners, volunteers, gig workers, and other personnel to wear a Face Covering at the workplace and when performing work off-site at all times as required by this Order and with allowance for exceptions included in the order.
- b. Take reasonable measures, such as posting signs, to remind customers, clients, visitors, and others of the requirement that they wear a Face Covering while inside of the business, facility, or location or when waiting in line to enter (if unvaccinated) and physical distance is not maintained between people (six feet is recommended). And take all reasonable steps to prohibit any member of the public who is not wearing a Face Covering from entering, not serve that person if those efforts are unsuccessful, and seek to remove that person. This must include using a safety monitor to ensure compliance onsite when the Safer-At-Home Order requires the business to have an on-site safety monitor.

A sample sign to be used for notifying customers can be found at the Department of Public Health website, at sf.gov/outreach-toolkit-coronavirus-covid-19.

7. Intent.

The intent of this Order is to ensure that all people when Outside the Residence in the City as permitted by the Stay-Safe-At-Home Order wear a Face Covering (except where there is an exception) to reduce the likelihood that they may transmit or contract the virus that causes COVID-19. In so doing, this Order will help reduce the spread of the virus and mitigate its impact on members of the public who remain at risk and on the delivery of critical healthcare services to those in need. The intent of this Order is also to implement the CDC and State of California guidelines listed in the Summary at the beginning of this Order regarding use of Face Coverings. All provisions of this Order must be interpreted to effectuate this intent.



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8. Continuing Severe Health and Safety Risk Posed by COVID-19.

This Order is issued based on evidence of ongoing occurrence of COVID-19 and transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus within the City, the Bay Area, and the United States of America and best practices regarding the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically. Due to the outbreak of the virus in the general public, which is a pandemic according to the World Health Organization, there is a public health emergency throughout the City. Most COVID-19 infections are caused by transmission from people who have no symptoms of illness. Evidence shows that wearing a face covering, when combined with physical distancing of at least six feet and frequent hand washing, significantly reduces the risk of transmitting coronavirus when in public and engaged in activities. For clarity, although wearing a Face Covering is one tool for reducing the spread of the virus, doing so is not a substitute for physical distancing of at least six feet and frequent hand washing.

9. Cases and Deaths.

This Order is also issued in light of the existence, as of April 29, 2021, of 36,201 confirmed cases of infection by the virus that causes COVID-19 (up from 37 on March 16, 2020, the day before the first shelter-in-place order in the City went into effect), primarily by way of community transmission, as well as at least 537 deaths (up from a single death on March 17, 2020). This information, as well as information regarding hospitalizations and hospital capacity, is regularly updated on the San Francisco Department of Public Health's website at <https://data.sfgov.org/stories/s/fjki-2fab>. This Order is necessary to slow the rate of spread, and the Health Officer will continue to assess the quickly evolving situation and may modify this Order, or issue additional Orders, related to COVID-19, as changing circumstances dictate.

10. Obligation to Follow Stricter Requirements of Orders.

Where a conflict exists between this Order and any state law or public health order related to the COVID-19 pandemic or infectious diseases, the most restrictive provision (i.e., the more protective of public health) controls. Consistent with Executive Orders of the Governor of the State of California, Statewide Public Health Officer Orders, California Health and Safety Code section 131080, and the Health Officer Practice Guide for Communicable Disease Control in California, except where the State Health Officer may issue an order expressly directed at this Order and based on a finding that a provision of this Order constitutes a menace to public health, any more restrictive measures in this Order continue to apply and control in the County.

11. Incorporation of State and Local Emergency Proclamations and State and Local Health Orders.

- (a) State and Local Emergency Proclamations. This Order is issued in accordance with, and incorporates by reference, the March 4, 2020 Proclamation of a State of



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Emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom, the March 12, 2020 Executive Order (Executive Order N-25-20) issued by Governor Gavin Newsom, the February 25, 2020 Proclamation by the Mayor Declaring the Existence of a Local Emergency issued by Mayor London Breed, as supplemented on March 11, 2020, the March 6, 2020 Declaration of Local Health Emergency Regarding Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) issued by the Health Officer, and guidance issued by the California Department of Public Health, as each of them have been and may be supplemented.

- (b) State Health Orders. This Order is also issued in light of updated guidance on face coverings issued by the CDPH on May 3, 2021 (available online at www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx), the December 3, 2020 Regional Stay At Home Order (as supplemented), the earlier March 19, 2020 Order of the State Public Health Officer (the “State Shelter Order”), which set baseline statewide restrictions on non-residential Business activities, effective until further notice, the Governor’s March 19, 2020 Executive Order N-33-20 directing California residents to follow the State Shelter Order, and the other orders of the State Public Health Officer related to the pandemic and the State’s response to the pandemic.
- (c) Federal Executive Orders. This Order is also issued in light of federal orders, including the January 20, 2021 Executive Order on Protecting the Federal Workforce and Requiring Mask-Wearing, which requires all individuals in Federal buildings and on Federal land to wear Face Coverings, maintain physical distance, and adhere to other public health measures, and the February 2, 2021 Order of the United States Centers For Disease Control and Prevention, which requires use of a Face Covering on public transportation. The Order is also issued consistent with CDC guidance posted online on April 27, 2021, available online at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html.
- (d) Local Health Orders and Directives. This Order is also issued in light of other orders and directives issued by the Health Officer as they relate to the pandemic and the County’s response to the pandemic. Those orders and directives show the seriousness of the issue and the many efforts that the County, including but not limited to the Department of Public Health, have taken to address the spread of COVID-19 within the County. This Order incorporates by reference and is based in part on each of the other orders and directives issued by the Health Officer to this point, including as each of them may be updated in the future. That includes, without limitation, Health Officer Order No. C19-07 (imposing restrictions on activities outside the home for all people in the County to protect all during the pandemic), including as it may be updated or amended in the future, in relation to this Order.



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12. Failure to Comply With Order.

Under Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and the Chief of Police in the County ensure compliance with and enforce this Order. As stated at the beginning of this Order, the violation of any provision of this Order constitutes an imminent threat and immediate menace to public health, constitutes a public nuisance, and is punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

13. Copies.

The City must promptly provide copies of this Order as follows: (1) by posting on the Department of Public Health website at www.sfdph.org/healthorders; (2) by posting at City Hall, located at 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl., San Francisco, CA 94102; and (3) by providing to any member of the public requesting a copy. In addition, the owner, manager, or operator of any facility, business, or entity that is likely to be impacted by this Order is strongly encouraged to post a copy of this Order onsite and must provide a copy to any member of the public asking for a copy.

14. Severability.

If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, then the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other people or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

15. Interpretation.

All provisions of this Order must be interpreted to effectuate the intent of this Order as described in Section 1 above. The summary at the beginning of this Order as well as the headings and subheadings of sections contained in this Order are for convenience only and may not be used to interpret this Order; in the event of any inconsistency between the summary, headings, or subheadings and the text of this Order, the text will control.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Susan Philip, MD, MPH,
Acting Health Officer of the
City and County of San Francisco

May 4, 2021