

**EMERGENCY ORDER CONFIRMING EXTENSION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY AND PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR CITY OF HINESVILLE**

WHEREAS, the state of Georgia remains under a state of emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Governor Brian P. Kemp has relaxed and/or removed many restrictions on businesses resulting in citizens and visitors interacting in public and commercial establishments; and

WHEREAS, the guidelines promulgated by the White House on re-opening America specifically call for a 14-day downward trajectory among other gating criteria, which guidelines are specifically incorporated by reference; and

WHEREAS, the incidence of infection and death in the metropolitan Savannah area has consistently risen signifying the continued spread of the highly contagious and deadly disease; and

WHEREAS, the number of cases in Liberty County, Georgia is growing rapidly and if COVID-19 continues to spread in Coastal Georgia, the number of persons relying on medical, pharmaceutical, and general cleaning supplies will increase, the private and public sector work force will be negatively impacted by absenteeism, and the demand for medical facilities may exceed locally available resources; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") advises that the use of masks or cloth face coverings will slow the spread of COVID-19, and the CDC recommendations on PPE usage are hereby incorporated by reference; and

WHEREAS, taking early and preventative measures to control outbreaks minimizes the risk to the public, maintains the health and the safety of the City's residents, and limits the spread of infection in our communities and within the healthcare delivery system; and

WHEREAS, it is vitally important that *we all work together* to decrease the widespread proliferation of COVID-19 among us all now rather than suffer the unfortunate and devastating medical and economic consequences later; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority of O.C.G.A. § 38-3-28(a), local governments are specifically empowered to enact rules and regulations as may be necessary for emergency management purposes; and

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. § 38-3-28(a) also grants political subdivisions the power to supplement the Governor's Executive Orders; and

WHEREAS, this order is intended to be entered with due regard to the uniform principle that face masks or face coverings will slow the spread of COVID-19 as contemplated by O.C.G.A. § 38-3-28(c); and

WHEREAS, this emergency order is authorized by O.C.G.A. §§ 38-3-4 and 38-3-28 and the local control provisions of Governor Kemp's Executive Order of July 15, 2020, and it is specifically intended to supplement such declaration, as amended, and should not be construed to be inconsistent therewith; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Mayor of the City of Hinesville, with advice from the City Manager and other subject matter experts, emergency conditions persist within the City requiring extraordinary and immediate corrective actions for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of Hinesville.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED, AND ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF HINESVILLE, GEORGIA, DULY ASSEMBLED AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE SAME, AS FOLLOWS:

1. For the purpose of this Order, a "Face Covering" is a cloth or other type of masking device that covers the wearer's nose and mouth.
2. Per Governor Brian Kemp's 07.15.20.01 Executive Orders, all residents and visitors of the State of Georgia are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings as practicable while outside their homes or place of residence, except when eating, drinking, or exercising outdoors.
3. This order is intended exclusively for the purposes of education and voluntarily compliance with Executive Order 07.15.20.01, which strongly encourages residents and visitors to the State of Georgia to wear face coverings outside of their homes. City of Hinesville staff will continue to educate the public on the benefits of wearing masks in the form of a continued public awareness campaign and incentives for small businesses who incur additional costs due to the implementation of COVID-19 protective measures for their place of business.
4. Should any provision, section, paragraph, sentence, or word of this Order be rendered or declared invalid by any final court action in a court of competent jurisdiction or by reason of any preemptive legislation, the remaining provisions, sections, paragraphs, sentences, or words of this Order as hereby adopted shall remain in full force and effect.
5. This Order becomes effective at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 16, 2020 and shall be in effect until rescinded or until the Governor's Public Health Emergency expires on August 11, 2020, whichever comes first.

SO DECLARED at 4:55 a.m. p.m. on Thursday, July 16, 2020.

Allen Brown,  
Mayor of Hinesville

Sarah Lumpkin,  
City Clerk, Hinesville

