

Resolution 21-072

An Emergency Resolution Providing Recommendations Deemed Necessary to Slow the Community Spread of Coronavirus (Covid-19).

Whereas, the City of Brookings has previously adopted emergency ordinances and recommendations consistent with the advice of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

Whereas, the City continues to address the COVID-19 pandemic, a public health emergency, and is authorized to enact further public safety requirements and restrictions on public gatherings that it deems necessary to address the current public health emergency; and

Whereas, the purpose of social distancing requirements is to slow the spread of disease so that the State and City's healthcare system are not overwhelmed; and

Whereas, greater than 90% of the cases recently identified in this region were the Delta variant, which is more infectious, even in vaccinated individuals; and

Whereas, Brookings County has realized an increase in COVID-19 cases and is now in high community spread with the lack of vaccinations among certain age groups; and

Whereas, fully vaccinated people with Delta variant breakthrough infections can also spread the virus to others, and unvaccinated persons remain the greatest concern; and

Whereas, the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommend that eligible individuals should receive the COVID-19 vaccine; and

Whereas, according to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, there is a need to increase COVID-19 vaccination coverage and to encourage use of masks in public indoor places in areas of substantial or high transmission;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City of Brookings, that based on current knowledge of the Delta variant of COVID-19, vaccine effectiveness, and current vaccine coverage, that further prevention strategies are now needed to reduce the transmission of the Delta and other variants, and that the following recommendations, effective upon adoption and publication of this Resolution, should be implemented to control the spread of COVID-19 within the City of Brookings:

1. Indoor masking should be used when social distancing cannot be achieved regardless of vaccination status.

2. All individuals two years and older wear face masks (unless medical or developmental conditions prohibit the use).
3. All eligible individuals should receive the COVID-19 vaccine.
4. Stay six (6) feet away from others when possible.
5. Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated areas.
6. Wash your hands, and clean and disinfect areas often.
7. Cover coughs and sneezes.
8. Monitor your health daily and follow the Center for Disease Control and Prevention guidance if symptoms develop.

In addition to the specific recommendations listed above, businesses should operate in a manner consistent with CDC guidelines and any applicable state regulations and the Governor's Executive Orders to address the recent increases in COVID-19 infections.

This Resolution shall continue until it is amended or repealed.

Be It Further Resolved by the City of Brookings that this resolution is considered necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the City, and is therefore effective upon passage and publication.

Passed and approved on the 24th day of August, 2021.

CITY OF BROOKINGS:

ATTEST:

Oepke G. Niemeyer, Mayor

Bonnie Foster, City Clerk