



Town of La Conner, Washington

DECLARATION OF THE MAYOR

WHEREAS, as a result of the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19, its significant progression in Washington State, and the high risk it poses to our most vulnerable populations, Gov. Jay Inslee has issued several proclamations, which limited Washingtonians' ability to participate in certain activities unless certain conditions are met; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues as an ongoing and present threat in Washington State, and the Town of La Conner; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and its persistence in Washington State continue to threaten the life and health of residents and visitors to La Conner as well as the economy of La Conner businesses, and remain a public disaster affecting life, health, property or the public peace; and

WHEREAS, after months of improving COVID-19 epidemiological conditions in Washington State, the emergence of highly contagious COVID-19 variants, including the "delta variant" that is at least twice as transmissible as the virus that emerged in late 2019, coupled with the continued significant numbers of unvaccinated people, have caused COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations to rise sharply among unvaccinated populations and have resulted in breakthrough infections in some fully vaccinated individuals; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of every employer to protect the health and safety of employees by establishing and maintaining a healthy and safe work environment; and

WHEREAS, Town employees provide services to the public, and in doing so interact with the public on a regular basis; and

WHEREAS, scientific evidence is clear that vaccinations, distancing and facial coverings are the most effective weapons in the fight against COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Town of La Conner to take additional action by re-imposing certain restrictions applicable to proceedings and events taking place within Town facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ramon Hayes, Mayor of the town of La Conner, Washington, as a result of the above-noted situation, and under Article XI, Section 11 of the Washington Constitution and Chapter 38.52 RCW, do hereby proclaim that the following restrictions shall be implemented immediately:

1. Facial Coverings (Masks).

a. Regardless of vaccination status, individuals entering the Town's public facilities consisting of Maple Hall, Town Hall, or the Garden Club shall wear a facial covering at all times except as set forth below.

b. the requirement to wear a facial covering does not apply when:

i. The individual is under eight years of age;

- ii. A medical condition including those with respiratory conditions that restrict breathing, mental health conditions, or disability contraindicates the wearing of a facial covering;
- iii. The individual is communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing-impaired or has another disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;
- iv. The individual is alone in an enclosed space, such as an office,
- vii. The individual is actively engaged in a public safety capacity, including but not limited to law enforcement, firefighters or emergency medical personnel;
- viii. The individual is seated and actively consuming food or beverage;
- ix. Facial coverings are prohibited by law or regulation;
- x. Facial coverings are in violation of documented industry standards;
- xi. The individual is participating in a private gathering.

c. For the purposes of this Order, a facial covering (mask) is any material covering an individual's nose, mouth, and chin.

2. Social Distancing Requirements. Regardless of vaccination status, individuals must attempt at all times to maintain Social Distancing and use Sanitary Practices while in any Town facility. Social Distancing and use Sanitary Practices include the following:

- a. maintaining at least six-foot social distancing from other individuals;
- b. washing hands with soap and water for at least twenty seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer;
- c. covering coughs or sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not hands);
- d. regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces, and
- e. not shaking hands.
- f. Where possible, meeting organizers for any size of meeting should designate with signage, tape, or by other means six-foot spacing for employees and visitors to maintain appropriate distance.
- g. Meeting Organizers for any size of meeting should have disposable masks, hand sanitizer and sanitizing products readily available for employees and visitors.
- h. Microphones shall be sanitized after each person uses the microphone.
- i. Meeting Organizers shall strive to maximize ventilation, including opening doors and windows.

3. Health Status. Regardless of vaccination status, each individual should perform a daily health assessment and stay home if they have a fever, cough, or other signs of possible COVID-19.

4. Duration. This Order shall be effective and remain in full force and effect until October 3, 2021 at 12:01 AM unless the Mayor rescinds or modifies this Order before that time.

Dated August 16, 2021

TOWN OF LA CONNER, WASHINGTON



Ramon Hayes, Mayor