Temporary Emergency Measures to Lessen the Spread of COVID-19 in the City of Jamestown

(Jamestown, ND) – Effective Friday, October 30, the City of Jamestown implements an Emergency Order necessary to protect both individuals and businesses due to COVID-19. Pursuant to Chapter 40-05.1 of the North Dakota Century Code and the Home Rule Charter of the City of Jamestown, the City has authority to provide for the public health, safety, and morals of the City. Mayor Dwaine Heinrich states “due to the increase in the number of positive COVID-19 cases being reported in Jamestown, additional safety measures are being enacted in order to protect the public.”

These safety measures include:

1. Face coverings are required for all public facing retail and service employees, including liquor and eating establishments, while employees may come in contact with the general public. Additionally, all businesses are urged to require face coverings of the general public when entering the establishment.

2. The City is requiring that for any gathering of 50 or more people that a plan be submitted to the City that details how the event will keep the public safe. This plan will need to include the contact name, email address, and/or text number of the organizer, location of the event, and the details, including a diagram or narrative on how the event will be set up in a safe manner, and the number of people expected to attend the event. The event organizer should indicate that they have reviewed the ND Smart Restart Large Group Gatherings information at https://ndresponse.gov/sites/www/files/documents/covid-19/ND%20Smart%20Restart/Large%20Gatherings/SmartRestart_Gatherings.pdf

Event organizers will be asked to keep track of the attendance at the gathering so attendees can be notified if a positive case is found to have attended the event for purposes of contact tracing later. This plan should be submitted to give sufficient time for at least a 48 hour review. The plan will be automatically approved unless denied within 48 hours of submission of the plan.

A large group gathering is any public or private event bringing people together in a room or confined space (whether indoor or outdoor) at the same time. This does not include religious services, including weddings or funerals, but does include wedding receptions and funeral receptions. This excludes K-12 school activities and sporting events as those events are governed by the NDHSAA Guidelines. Also excluded are University of Jamestown activities and sporting events.

Heinrich states that “we hope that these measures will help control the spread of COVID-19 in our community and mean to encourage residents to accept personal responsibility to protect fellow Jamestown residents.” Stronger measures, including business closures, could be enacted if we do not do our part to stop the spread.

Currently, there are 127 active cases of COVID-19 in Stutsman County. The 14-day positivity rate in the community is increasing. Stutsman County saw a high rate of positivity at 6.4% in prior weeks, but soon decreased to 1.3% and is now going back up with the current 14-day positivity rate at 5.0%.
EXECUTIVE ORDER

TEMPORARY EMERGENCY MEASURES TO LESSEN THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

WHEREAS, the Mayor declared a state of emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, by order and proclamation of March 14, 2020 and ratified by the City Council on March 16, 2020;

WHEREAS, the state of emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic is ongoing;

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of North Dakota has issued revised guidelines for businesses restricting capacity and encouraging the wearing of face coverings;

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Jamestown are experiencing an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases;

WHEREAS, the City of Jamestown desires to protect both individuals and businesses experiencing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 40-05.1 of the North Dakota Century Code and the Home Rule Charter of the City of Jamestown, the City has the authority to provide for the public health, safety, and morals of the City; and

WHEREAS, City of Jamestown Municipal Code 2-59 (I) allows the Mayor to “issue such other orders as are imminently necessary for the protection of life and property”.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. **Wearing of Face Coverings – When Required.** Face coverings are required for all public-facing retail and service employees, including liquor and eating establishments, while the employee may come in contact with the general public. A face covering shall mean a paper or two-layered cloth face mask or face shield that covers the nose and mouth completely. Any employee who is unable to wear a mask or other face covering because of a medical condition shall be exempt. Although not currently required, it is strongly encouraged for all individuals to wear face coverings while in public to further prevent, control or reduce the spread of Covid-19 and all businesses are urged to require face coverings for the general public entering their establishment.

2. **Events Over 50 People - Prior Approval Required.** Any indoor or outdoor gathering within the City of Jamestown where attendance is anticipated to be 50 or more individuals must obtain prior approval from City Staff. Each applicant must submit a plan which depicts how the event will meet or exceed current health and safety protocols along with any other information City Staff deem necessary. All applications shall be sent to Info@jamestownnd.gov and shall be considered automatically approved unless electronic notice of the denial is given within 48 hours of receipt of the application. Prior approval is not required for the following gatherings:

   a) All public and private schools, including the University of Jamestown and school sponsored activities and
b) All religious, wedding, and funeral services. However, any reception following the service with an anticipated number of attendees above 50 must obtain prior approval.

3. **Effective Date and Term.** These emergency measures shall take effect at 8 A.M., Friday, October 30, 2020, [the "Effective Date"] for a period of 7 days and may be further extended or earlier terminated, as the case may be, upon action of the City Council.

Ordered this 28 day of October, 2020.

Signed by:

\[Signature\]
Dwaine Heinrich
Mayor

Attest:

\[Signature\]
Sarah Hellekson
City Administrator