

PROCLAMATION

OF MAYORS AND COUNTY COMMISSION OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, UTAH

REGARDING THE WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS

WHEREAS, many misconceptions about COVID-19 exist regarding its symptoms, mortality and morbidity rates, treatment and preventive measures that can be taken to reduce the transmission rate of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, though COVID-19 is often associated with flu related symptoms such as a fever or cough, COVID-19 has killed 4 times as many people as the flu so far this year; and

WHEREAS, to date, there is no cure for COVID-19, no proven preventative medication, and no vaccine will likely be available until next year; and

WHEREAS, while many of those who become infected will not experience symptoms, many others will die or suffer severe complications requiring our local medical resources, including Dixie Regional Medical Center, to mobilize to care for all patients, retraining medical staff to work in areas unfamiliar to them, restricting the ability to provide important but non-urgent and elective surgical procedures, and severely limiting our ability as a community to care for other problems such as traumas, heart attacks, and strokes; and

WHEREAS, we know that people can become infected and transmit COVID-19, even if they have no symptoms, and the rapidly growing number of COVID-19 infections is placing a strain on our healthcare system and places us at risk of having to shut down our economy once again; and

WHEREAS, there are many in our community who are at risk for serious medical complications or death from COVID-19 infection including those suffering from chronic lung diseases, diabetes, hypertension, obesity and some forms of asthma; and

WHEREAS, experience has proven that hand washing and physical distancing alone are not enough and, despite earlier confusion and news reports to the contrary, the science now shows that wearing face coverings over the mouth and nose may decrease transmission of the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the virus that causes COVID-19 spreads most easily in shared indoor spaces where ventilation varies, and physical distancing is not possible, raising the risk of exposure while visiting or working in such spaces; and

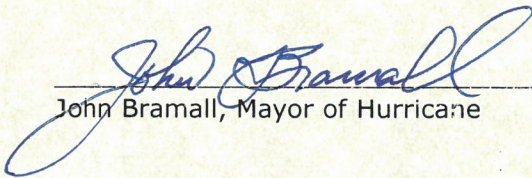
WHEREAS, in order to decrease the transmission of this infection in our community, the practice of wearing face coverings will help reduce the transmission of COVID-19, allowing schools to open in the fall and remain open throughout the school year, and keeping our economy open and strong; and

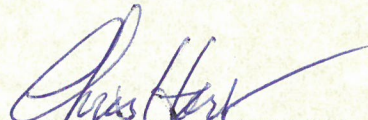
WHEREAS, when in indoor public spaces, including offices and stores, or outdoors where physical distancing cannot be maintained, the proper wearing of face coverings over the mouth and nose reduces transmission of COVID-19, decreasing the burden on our local medical resources, our hospital, and our healthcare workers.

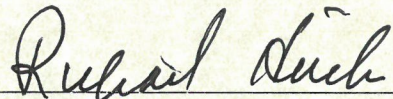
NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Mayors of cities and towns in Washington County, in collaboration with local physicians and the Washington County Commission proclaim our endorsement and encourage face coverings to be worn in all indoor public spaces and outdoors when physical distancing cannot be maintained; and

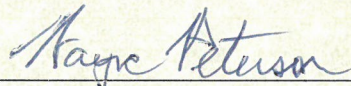
THEREFORE, we strongly recommend businesses in our County, Cities and Towns support and encourage that face coverings be worn in their establishments.

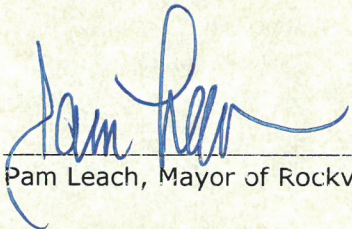
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands this 27th day of July, 2020.

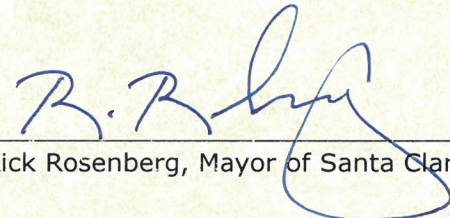

John Bramall, Mayor of Hurricane

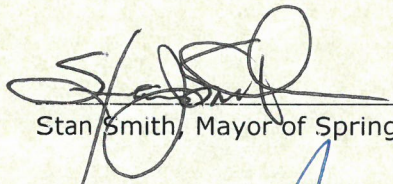

Chris Hart, Mayor of Ivins
signing personally

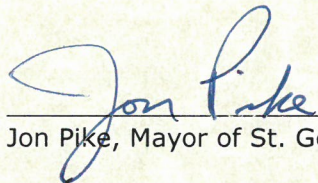

Richard Hirschi, Mayor of LaVerkin

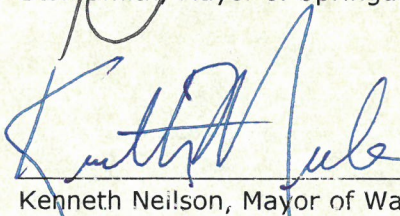

Wayne Peterson, Mayor of Leeds

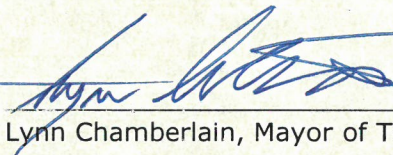

Pam Leach, Mayor of Rockville

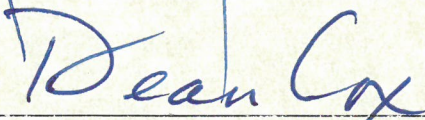

Rick Rosenberg, Mayor of Santa Clara

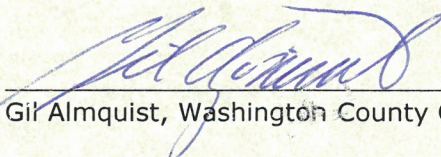

Stan Smith, Mayor of Springdale


Jon Pike, Mayor of St. George


Kenneth Neilson, Mayor of Washington


Lynn Chamberlain, Mayor of Toquerville


Dean Cox, Washington County Commission


Gil Almquist, Washington County Commission