

**EMERGENCY ORDINANCE
EXTENDING THE REQUIREMENT FOR FACE
COVERINGS IN PUBLIC PLACES DUE TO THE
COVID-19 VIRUS, AND EXCEPTIONS THERETO**

WHEREAS, Charleston County Council determined, based on the recommendations of public health authorities, an emergency exists, and responsive to a serious threat to the public health, safety, and welfare of its citizens, that it serves the public interest and is within the County's police powers under Home Rule and S.C. Code § 4-9-25 to require that individuals wear face coverings in certain situations and locations within the **unincorporated areas of Charleston County**; and

WHEREAS, on July 2, 2020, pursuant to the authority conferred by §§ 4-9-30 and 4-9-130 of the South Carolina Code of Laws and §7-21 of the Charleston County Code of Ordinances, Charleston County Council adopted Ordinance #E-20-08 requiring face coverings in certain situations and locations within the unincorporated areas of Charleston County for a period of sixty (60) days (the "Mask Ordinance"), and on August 11th 2020, County Council adopted Ordinance #E-20-11 that extended the Mask Ordinance for an additional thirty (30) days, and on September 3, 2020, County Council adopted Ordinance #E-20-13 that extended the Mask Ordinance for an additional twenty (20) days, and on September 22, 2020, County Council adopted Ordinance #E-20-15 that extended the Mask Ordinance for an additional sixty (60) days, and on November, 19, 2020, County Council adopted Ordinance #E-20-17 that extended the Mask Ordinance for an additional sixty (60) days; and,

WHEREAS, the potential health effects and health risks posed by COVID-19 still exist and COVID-19 continues to pose an actual or imminent health emergency for the citizens of Charleston County, therefore, Charleston County Council desires to extend the Mask Ordinance for an additional period of sixty (60) days; and

NOW, THEREFORE, Charleston County Council hereby adopts the above-referenced recitals by reference as findings of County Council and extends the Mask Ordinance for an additional sixty (60) days, unless sooner terminated by act of Charleston County Council.

If, for any reason, a court of competent jurisdiction invalidates any part of the Mask Ordinance, the remaining portions of the Mask Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Dated this 14th day of January, 2021.

CHARLESTON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

By: _____
Teddie E. Pryor, Sr., Chairman