

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR THE STATE OF OREGON, COUNTY OF BENTON**

**In the Matter of Requiring Personal Use)
of Masks or Cloth Face-coverings) ORDER #D2021-063
in Indoor and Outdoor Public Settings)**

WHEREAS, On March 8th, 2020 the Governor of the State of Oregon declared a state of emergency to address the threat of COVID-19 illness in the state; and

WHEREAS, On March 17th, 2020 the Benton County Commissioners declared a County State of Emergency to address the threat of COVID-19 illness in Benton County; and

WHEREAS, Benton County has extended its emergency declaration through September 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on August 11, 2021, the Governor issued an executive order requiring masks or personal face coverings to be worn by individuals over the age of 5 in indoor public settings; and

WHEREAS, Benton County needs to protect the gains made through COVID-19 vaccinations, social distancing, use of masks, and sanitization efforts to prevent the renewed occurrence and spread of COVID-19 illness that could cause the State or County to reimpose tighter restrictions, adversely impact the health care system, and imperil essential workers and vulnerable individuals. Additional guidance documents can be found on the Benton County website <https://co.benton.or.us/covid19>; and

WHEREAS, based on current medical and public health science prior emphasis on personal precautions including handwashing, personal distancing, and indoor and outdoor masking / face-covering are effective in limiting transmission of respiratory illnesses including COVID-19; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Benton County Board of Commissioners, through its emergency authority and as the Board of Health, requires individuals 5 years of age and older to wear masks or face-covering at all times in indoor public settings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that masks or face coverings shall be worn by persons 5 years of age and older in outdoor public settings where physical distancing of 6 feet is not feasible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this order shall be effective on upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this order shall be applicable within the boundaries of Benton County, including within city limits.

Adopted this 17th day of August, 2021.

Signed this 17th day of August, 2021.

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Xanthippe Augerot, Chair




Nancy Wyse, Commissioner



Pat Malone, Commissioner

Approved as to form:



Vance M. Croney, County Counsel