

EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER 2022-14

I, Melvin Carter III, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, on February 24, 2022, pursuant to Saint Paul Legislative Code section 13.06, do hereby issue the following Executive Order:

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Tim Walz issued Executive Order 20-1 declaring a Peacetime State of Emergency to authorize all necessary resources to be used in support of the COVID-19 response. This Executive Order has expired; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, I issued an Emergency Declaration in response to the COVID-19 pandemic pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 12.29 and Saint Paul Legislative Code section 13.06, which the City Council consented to on March 17, 2020. This Declaration has been extended and remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, Saint Paul Legislative Code 13.06(c) gives the Mayor the authority to issue emergency executive orders and provides that “by like proclamation the mayor may modify or rescind any such regulation”; and

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2022, pursuant to Saint Paul Legislative Code section 13.06, I issued Executive Order 2022-11, which required the following:

1. Individuals, regardless of vaccine status, at City-Controlled Property: Must wear a face covering indoors at all times. Employees who are not in a congregate setting and are alone in their assigned workspace may refrain from wearing a face covering.
2. Individuals are not required to wear a face covering while outdoors, unless at an activity specifically designated and posted by the City as requiring a face covering.
3. Businesses Licensed by the City of Saint Paul: Must require all Individuals to wear a face covering indoors at all times when social distancing of at least 6 feet is not maintained, except for temporary removal of face covering when eating or drinking.
4. Athletes, performers, and supporting staff competing or performing at indoor spaces that are licensed or controlled by the City of Saint Paul are not subject to this regulation.
5. All Businesses: Strongly encouraged to continue to require that all individuals, regardless of vaccine status, wear a face covering indoors at all times when social distancing of at least 6 feet is not maintained.; and

WHEREAS, at that time, the City of Saint Paul maintained the above-described face covering requirement in order to continue evaluating the spread of COVID-19 by monitoring case rates, positivity rates, hospitalizations, and vaccination rates; and

WHEREAS, according to data available as of February 24, 2022, case rates, positivity rates, and hospitalizations in Ramsey County have continued to decline deeply. Current data from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Protection for Ramsey County over the past seven days show a 56.36% decline in cases and a 14.71% decline in new hospital admissions, while current data from Saint Paul Ramsey County Public Health shows that the positivity rate in Ramsey County is 6.27%; and

WHEREAS, these promising public health metric trends, combined with 81% of those eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine (5 and older) in Ramsey County having received at least one dose, demonstrate progress toward ending this pandemic;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Melvin Carter III, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, do hereby issue the following Emergency Executive Order:

Executive Order 2022-11, related to face coverings in City-Controlled Property and City-Licensed Businesses, is rescinded and replaced with this Executive Order on the below-listed effective date.

Regulations:

1. Individuals, regardless of vaccine status, at City-Controlled Property: Must wear a face covering indoors at all times. Employees who are not in a congregate setting and are alone in their assigned workspace may refrain from wearing a face covering.
2. Individuals are not required to wear a face covering while outdoors, unless at an activity specifically designated and posted by the City as requiring a face covering.
3. Athletes, performers, and supporting staff competing or performing at indoor spaces that are controlled by the City of Saint Paul are not subject to this regulation.
4. All Businesses: Strongly encouraged to continue to require that all individuals, regardless of vaccine status, wear a face covering indoors at all times when social distancing of at least 6 feet is not maintained.

Terms:

1. Individual: all persons except young children at risk of suffocation and persons who cannot medically tolerate wearing a face covering.
2. City-Controlled Property: includes park facilities, libraries, and City offices and workplaces.
3. Face Covering: includes manufactured or homemade cloth face coverings. Face coverings must fully cover an individual's nose and mouth. Face coverings are not required to be medical-grade masks.

Enforcement:

1. Any Individual who fails to comply with this requirement will be asked to leave any City-controlled property. Any individual who subsequently refuses to leave said property upon request will be deemed to be trespassing and may be subject to criminal penalties as provided by law.

Pursuant to Chapter 13 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code, this Executive Order will take effect immediately on February 24, 2022 following my signature and, if not sooner rescinded or later extended, shall expire at the end of forty (40) days after its effective date or at the end of the declared local emergency to which it relates, whichever occurs first.

Signed: February 24, 2022



Mayor Melvin Carter III