

Rogers C. Anderson
Williamson County Mayor



WILLIAMSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT

July 9, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

On July 3, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee signed Executive Order 54 to grant county mayors in 89 counties the authority to issue local requirements that citizens wear face coverings in public places in order to slow the spread of COVID-19 cases, which have significantly risen in recent weeks. Governor Lee encouraged every Tennessean across the state to use a face covering or mask, to socially distance and wash hands frequently. Pursuant to this Order, Williamson County Mayor Rogers Anderson issued an emergency declaration requiring that citizens wear a cloth or other face covering in certain circumstances in order to slow the spread of COVID-19 and thus allow our businesses to remain open, and our schools to reopen in the fall.

The Mayor's declaration included several exceptions to the face covering requirement. As implementation began, it became clear that clarification and/or correction of two of the exceptions is needed, and the Mayor has issued an addendum to the declaration for that purpose. First, the addendum clarifies that the exception for children applies to children 12 and under, rather than children under 12. Second, the addendum clarifies that the exception for houses of worship also applies to religious ceremonies (including such ceremonies as weddings and funerals) and activities attendant thereto that occur at locations other than churches.

We appreciate the support and cooperation of our citizens as we continue with the measures in order to protect the health and safety of our citizens and allow our economy to remain open. The addendum will expire at the same time as the original order, which is set to expire at 11:59 p.m. on August 3, 2020.

Respectfully,

Williamson County Government
Rogers C. Anderson, Mayor



Rogers C. Anderson
Williamson County Mayor



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ADDENDUM TO DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY BY WILLIAMSON COUNTY MAYOR

WHEREAS, the President of the United States, the Governor of the State of Tennessee, and the Mayors of a number of municipalities in the state of Tennessee have made emergency declarations related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and have recognized it as a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) advise the use of cloth or other types of face coverings to slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, due to a need for immediate action to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities in order to be able to safely allow governmental operations to continue, businesses to remain open, and schools to reopen in the fall, Mayor Rogers Anderson issued an emergency declaration requiring use of face coverings in certain public areas of Williamson County on July 6, 2020, as authorized by Governor Bill Lee's Executive Order 54; and

WHEREAS, said emergency declaration included a number of exceptions to the face covering requirement; and

WHEREAS, it has become clear that clarifications as to two of those exceptions are needed;


NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY DELEGATED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 54 AND PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR LEE'S RECOGNITION OF A CONTINUING STATE OF EMERGENCY AND MAJOR DISASTER RELATED TO COVID-19,

IT IS ORDERED that the emergency declaration and dated July 6, 2020 does not apply to:

1. Any person who is age 12 or under (rather than under age 12 as previously stated); or to
2. Persons in a place of worship or participating in any type of religious ceremony or activity attendant thereto (unless a face covering is required by the place of worship or other location where the religious ceremony is taking place), although persons in places of worship or otherwise participating in religious ceremonies or activities attendant thereto are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings to slow the spread of COVID-19.

All other provisions of the July 6, 2020 declaration and order, including the additional exceptions to the face covering requirement, shall remain in full force and effect.

This addendum shall become effective immediately, and will expire on August 3, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., unless sooner cancelled or unless extended.



Rogers Anderson, Mayor
Williamson County, Tennessee