



CITY OF SANTA FE
PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY X- COVID-19
July 11, 2021

WHEREAS, pursuant to Santa Fe City Code (SFCC) 1987, Section 2-1.3, “Powers and Duties of the Mayor,” the Mayor has, within the city limits, the power conferred on the sheriffs of counties to suppress disorders and keep the peace;

WHEREAS, the City’s Emergency Declaration Ordinance, Section 20-1, authorizes the Mayor to proclaim that a state of emergency exists, after consultation with the emergency manager, chief of police, and/or fire chief;

WHEREAS, such an emergency proclamation allows the Mayor to prohibit and/or require certain actions to protect life and property and to preserve public peace and safety;

WHEREAS, SFCC 1987, Section 2-16, defines “emergency” to include a “public health or medical emergency” and other occurrences “requiring an emergency response, or any other condition that warrants action to protect life, property, or the environment”;

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization announced the emergence of a novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (referred to as "COVID-19") and on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency due to the virus;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Michelle Lujan Grisham, the Governor of the State of New Mexico, declared a Public Health Emergency exists in New Mexico and on March 12, 2020, Kathyleen M. Kunkel, Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Health, declared the COVID-19 outbreak a condition of public health importance;

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 in New Mexico and the City of Santa Fe has killed, harmed, impaired economically and suppressed the wellbeing of the residents of the City, resulting in an ongoing and significant negative impact on the social, economic, and overall quality of life of the residents of Santa Fe;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the foregoing clauses, I declared an emergency to exist in the City on March 13, 2020, (Proclamation I), March 23, 2020 (Proclamation II), May 26, 2020 (Proclamation III), July 27, 2020 (Proclamation IV), September 28, 2020 (Proclamation V); November 30, 2020 (Proclamation VI); January 30, 2021 (Proclamation VII); March 29, 2021 (Proclamation VIII); and May 24, 2021 (Proclamation IX);

WHEREAS, former Secretary Kunkel, formerly acting NMDOH Cabinet Secretary Billy Jimenez, and former Secretary Tracie C. Collins, issued a series of Public Health Orders and Amendments, approximately 45 of them, beginning on March 13, 2020, with the most recent issued on June 30, 2021, imposing various restrictions on activities within New Mexico;

WHEREAS, a growing number of individuals have been infected with COVID-19 in New Mexico, including 10,642 cases in Santa Fe County as of June 6, 2021;

WHEREAS, since my last proclamation, new variants of the COVID-19 virus, with higher infection rates, have continued to spread and the most infectious variants known are being transmitted in New Mexico;

WHEREAS, 151 Santa Fe County residents have died from COVID-19 infections as of June 6, 2021;

WHEREAS, while reopening steps are positive for the City's economy, they also increase the risk of infection for unvaccinated persons;

WHEREAS, more than 2,203,856 doses of the three COVID-19 vaccines authorized for experimental use in the United States have been administered in New Mexico;

WHEREAS, Centers for Disease Control (CDC) no longer recommends facial coverings for outdoor activities and it no longer recommends facial coverings for

vaccinated persons in indoor settings, recognizing the high efficacy of vaccination and the unlikelihood of outdoor transmission;

WHEREAS, unvaccinated persons continue to face a significant risk of infection, particularly in close-contact, indoor settings, and particularly when in close-contact with unvaccinated persons;

WHEREAS, while New Mexico leads the nation in percent decreases in COVID in the last 14 days, Santa Fe is a national and international tourist destination and neighboring states and countries of origins for tourists are hotspots in percent increases in cases, particularly of the more contagious Delta variant;

WHEREAS, the duration of effectiveness of vaccines is unclear and we do not yet know when and whether boosters should be required;

WHEREAS, emergency relief funds are available from a number of sources for tenants who are behind on their rent and utilities payments;

WHEREAS, the City's Utilities Department works with residents who need to set up a payment plan in order to avoid water shut-offs;

WHEREAS, recently, there has been a spike in the acuity of behavioral health (substance use disorder and mental health) episodes;

WHEREAS, Proclamation IX expired at noon today, July 12, 2021; and

WHEREAS, certain orders I previously issued remain necessary to protect life and property and preserve the public peace and safety of the people of Santa Fe; other orders I previously issued require updating to address the continuing pandemic; and certain new orders will improve the City of Santa Fe's pace of recovery from, and limit the harm caused by, the pandemic.

THEREFORE, I, ALAN M. WEBBER, Mayor of the City of Santa Fe, New Mexico, hereby declare, that a public health emergency continues to exist in the City. As a result, events have caused and are causing danger of injury or damage to persons and property within the city. I hereby invoke all Section 2-1.3, and Sections 20-1.2 through 20-1.5 of the Santa Fe City Code of 1987, to preserve the peace and order in the City of Santa Fe.

In particular, I take the following actions:

I. I order the following:

- a. City facilities may accommodate public use to the extent possible while maintaining the applicable COVID-Safe Practices (CSPs) and as not difficult or impossible with regards to in-person public meetings;
- b. The City Manager shall address the public health emergency by
 - i. increasing in-person City services and access to facilities in a safety-conscious manner, as long as local infection rates continue to decrease and as long as City employee rates remain near zero;
 - ii. directing City employees, as applicable, to perform emergency functions;
 - iii. facilitating the continued application of the policy adopted to evaluate and address the public health and safety risks, including illegal activity, flash floods, environmental compliance of, and locations of encampments, and to provide residents of such encampments with access to available social services, including transitional housing in furtherance of the Built for Zero initiative to eliminate chronic homelessness, to avoid removing encampments, other than encampments in City parks, when leaving them in place furthers the purposes of this Order; and
 - iv. working with the Human Resources Department to issue policies regarding COVID-19 Safe Practices for City employees.
- c. Resources of the City shall be used to address the emergency as reasonably necessary, including the following:
 - i. Only persons who are following applicable CSPs and requirements and wearing a facial covering may enter City facilities
 - ii. If a member of the public requiring indoor services has a medical reason to not wear a facial covering, City employees shall find a reasonable way to accommodate providing services to that member of the public that does not include putting employees and other members of the public at risk; and
 - iii. City employees who are not vaccinated shall be encouraged, but not required, to get tested on a regular basis.

d. When inside the publicly accessible areas of City facilities employees, and other City actors, such as committee members and contractors, must wear a facial covering.

e. Employees, and other City actors, such as committee members and contractors, may only engage in public business inside City facilities without a facial covering when they are both (1) fully vaccinated (two weeks after final dose); and (2) in areas of City facilities that are not open to the public. “Open to the public” includes areas where the public is present (with or without an appointment) and areas the public may enter without an appointment. An area is not open to the public if it is fully enclosed by walls and a door that separates the area from an area accessible to the public. An area with a partial barrier between City actors and the public is open to the public.

f. Before entering City facilities, members of the public shall review the posted COVID-19 Screening Questions regarding their COVID-19 positivity risk. Entry into City buildings is prohibited if the answer to any of the following screening questions is yes:

i. Are you currently experiencing, or have you experienced in the past 14 days, fever of 100.4 degrees or greater, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, chills, body aches, nausea, diarrhea, or vomiting?

ii. Are you unvaccinated, and either

a. In the past 14 days, had close contact with anyone that you know had COVID-19 or COVID-like symptoms? “Close contact” includes being 6 feet or closer for more than 15 minutes with the person. or

b. Been tested for COVID-19 and are waiting to receive test results?

v. In the past 14 days, has a public health or medical professional told you to self-monitor, self-isolate, or self-quarantine because of concerns about COVID-19 infection?

g. Mayor Pro-Tem Signe Lindell, City Manager Jarel LaPan Hill, and Finance Director Mary McCoy are my substitute signatories for emergency obligation of funds during the pendency of the declared emergency;

h. The City Clerk shall accept electronic signatures, including scanned copies of hard-copy signature, on legal documents, including but not limited to contracts, property documents, ordinances, resolutions, etc., and shall attest to electronic signatures of the Mayor and City Manager or their designees, if submitted by the signatory through the signatory's email;

i. Until the New Mexico Supreme Court lifts its injunction and the federal government lifts its moratorium, and to allow time for tenants to apply for and obtain relief funds, landlords are prohibited from taking action towards evicting residential tenants who are unable to pay rent due to COVID-19. In addition, landlords are prohibited from evicting commercial tenants who are unable to pay rent on time because, due to the public health emergency, they have been prohibited from opening to the public. This order does not seek to change the obligation of a tenant to pay rent and strongly encourages tenants to seek relief funds and discussions of payment plans between landlords and tenants;

j. The moratorium on water shut-offs will continue in order to allow customers the opportunity to seek a payment plan and/or relief funds, and to allow the Utilities Department to facilitate customers' access to relief funds, while charges will continue to accrue and be owed;

k. Unless a healthcare provider instructs otherwise,

i. persons in Santa Fe must wear a facial covering as required by federal and state, laws, rules, and regulations and as provided in this Order for City facilities and City employees and agents; and

ii. local businesses and employers may require facial coverings for clients, employees, and customers.

l. Businesses and non-profits shall comply with the State-issued CSPs to the extent applicable, which are accessible online: <https://cv.nmhealth.org/covid-safe-practices/>; and

m. Employers shall not retaliate against employees for seeking to comply with CSPs, advocating that their place of business follow CSPs, or reporting non-

compliance with CSPs.

II. Further, based on the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control, National Institutes of Health, and other governmental, medical, and public health experts, I advise residents and visitors to the City to take the following actions and/or precautions:

- a. Obtain full vaccination against the COVID-19 virus. Available locations are posted on <https://cgvaccine.nmhealth.org>;
- b. Wear a facial covering in close-contact situations with unvaccinated persons and persons whose vaccination status is unknown;
- c. Seek relief funds for overdue rent and utilities payments. Available sources include the following:
 - i. For rent and/or mortgage assistance, from the following sources:
 1. For renters, the Emergency Rental Assistance Program: <https://www.renthelpnm.org/> ; and
 2. For homeowners, the State of New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority: <https://portal.neighborlysoftware.com/NEWMEXICOHOMEOWNERASSISTANCEFUND/Participant>, 505-308-4206, 866-488-0498, or housingassistance@housingnm.org
 - ii. For assistance with utilities payments, the following organizations have resources: Rent Help NM (linked above with rental assistance sources), Adelante Santa Fe Public Schools, Connect, St. Bede's Episcopal Church, St. Vincent de Paul, The Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, Help New Mexico, San Isidro Catholic Church, Life Link, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Income Support Division, Salvation Army, Communities in Schools New Mexico, and Westminster Presbyterian Church;
- d. If utilities payments are overdue to the City, set up a payment plan by calling Utility Billing's main number 505-955-4333 and selecting option "2";
- e. Avoid contact with people who are sick;
- f. If you are unvaccinated,
 - i. practice "social distancing", by maintain six (6) feet between yourself and others;

- ii. Avoid handshaking; and
 - iii. Avoid all non-essential travel, including plane trips and cruise ships.
- g. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing, or having been in a public place;
- h. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least sixty percent (60%) alcohol;
- i. To the extent possible, avoid touching high-touch surfaces in public places, such as elevator buttons, door handles, and handrails;
- j. Use a tissue or your sleeve to cover your hand or finger if you must touch something;
- k. Avoid touching your face, nose, and eyes; and
- l. Clean and disinfect your home to remove germs: practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces (for example, tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, sinks, cell phones, and other electronic devices).

III. I also encourage the following:

- a. To the greatest extent possible, all residents should practice safe and hygienic conduct as the City begins to re-open, as described in Section II of this Order, above;
- b. Landlords should work with their tenants to obtain the maximum relief funds available for past-due rental payments;
- c. Utilities should work with their customers to obtain the maximum relief funds available for past-due utilities bills;
- d. Event planners should seek testing and vaccinations for performers, vendors, and other traveling participants to the greatest extent possible, preferably vaccination before arrival and testing for unvaccinated participants;
- e. Local businesses should offer paid sick leave whenever feasible;
- f. Local businesses should limit non-essential travel for work;
- g. Local businesses should continue to allow employees to work from home where feasible;
- h. Local businesses should, to the extent feasible, respond to requests from the City to contribute to and participate in such activities and efforts as may assist in responding to the current COVID-19 health crisis;

- i. Residents should, to the extent feasible without compromising other advisories, patronize and shop at local businesses, merchants, and vendors;
- j. Residents should sign up for “Alert Santa Fe” at <https://www.santafenm.gov/alertsantafe>;
- k. Residents should register for the COVID-19 vaccine at <https://cvvaccine.nmhealth.org> and update their profile regularly;
- l. Residents and visitors who have symptoms or are unvaccinated and know they have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 should obtain COVID-19 testing, either in person at one of the many local testing sites, searchable on the NMDOH website (<https://cvprovider.nmhealth.org/directory.html>) or at home, using a self-administered saliva test, available at <https://learn.vaulthealth.com/nm/>; and
- m. Residents should call 1-855-NMCRISIS (1-855-662-7474) if they or someone they know is having a behavioral health (substance use disorder or mental health) crisis and need assistance.

IV. Effective Date

I hereby declare that this Proclamation will become effective upon my signature and order the City Manager to disseminate the contents hereof to the public by appropriate news media and any other means at her disposal.

V. Term.

This Proclamation of Emergency may be extended for such additional periods of time as determined necessary by Resolution of the Governing Body of the City of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

DONE at Santa Fe, New Mexico this 12 day of July, 2021 at the hour of 3 o'clock P.M. (MDT).



ALAN M. WEBBER, MAYOR
City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

ATTEST:

Kristine Mihelcic
Kristine Mihelcic (Jul 12, 2021 15:43 MDT)

KRISTINE MIHELICIC, CITY CLERK

(S E A L)