

PRESS RELEASE: IMMEDIATE "INDOOR MASK RESOLUTION"

BEAUTIFUL

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## **INDOOR MASK RESOLUTION**

The City of Brevard's mission is to promote a high quality of life and support economic prosperity. The CDC has identified the Delta Variant as the most dominant strain of the COVID-19 virus, accounting for the

overwhelming majority of new cases. When compared to COVID-19, the Delta Variant is two times more infectious and has a more violent impact on children and adolescents. According to Transylvania County (TC) Health, there was a 34% increase in cases between August 4<sup>th</sup> — August 11<sup>th</sup> with 23% of those cases being children between the ages of 0-17, and half of them being under the age of 12 and unvaccinated. The Delta variant has demonstrated how quickly things can change in this pandemic and how the emergence of a variant can quickly become a global issue. It is critical to promote the effectiveness of vaccines as we continue to proceed in this pandemic.

The City of Brevard formally supports the Center for Disease Control (CDC), North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), and TC Health guidelines to combat the variant and passed a resolution on August 16th that urges all of its residents, employees, and visitors to wear masks when indoors in crowded settings while also maintaining social distancing and proper hand hygiene whenever possible. Effective August 5th, the city is requiring all employees and visitors to wear masks when visiting City Hall and all other city-owned locations and buildings. The City of Brevard's Mayor and City Council have pledged to serve as a role model in responding quickly as the disease continues to develop and spread.

The city has pledged to use social media and other marketing channels to advertise and encourage residents, employees, and tourists to wear masks indoors, receive their vaccination, and maintain social distancing in order to combat the spread of the Delta Variant within the community. The City of Brevard strongly encourages all organizations, places of work, worship, as well as schools, to abide by the CDC guidelines to help protect our community.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! The City of Brevard strongly encourages residents to wear face masks and, if they haven't already, to get vaccinated. We must overcome this pandemic and return to our normal, quality way of life. However, we can only do so if we all work together to wear masks in crowded settings, receive the COVID-19 vaccine, maintain social distancing, practice proper hand hygiene, and, most importantly, encourage one another to do the same for the community. To overcome this pandemic, we must join together as a community, work together, and look forward to brighter days ahead.