

City of Valparaiso
Coronavirus Update, July 20, 2020

Since the outset of the coronavirus, the City of Valparaiso has consistently followed the State of Indiana Department of Health and Governor Eric Holcomb's office guidance on how to best deal with the pandemic. As a city, we have followed this educated guidance, along with that of the Porter County Health Department, which has informed our decisions for the opening of businesses, the safe and successful hosting of 4th of July festivities, the suspension of the 2020 Popcorn Festival and all decisions relating to public health. We also continue to work closely with the Porter County Health Department, monitoring new cases and hospitalization rates especially, which remain low. Our view on the use of masks is consistent with the guidance we are receiving: We support Governor Holcomb's mask recommendation, along with hand washing and social distance guidelines. We encourage the wearing of masks when and where social distancing of six feet is not possible.

The City of Valparaiso respects everyone's viewpoint on masking and otherwise and realizes that we are all working together as Hoosiers to protect our own health and the health of our community. Should a mask mandate be issued by the State of Indiana, Valparaiso will support that mandate in the same way we have supported the informed guidance we have received since March. Currently, Mayor Matt Murphy and the City of Valparaiso continue to remind everyone to maintain distance, wash hands, wear masks where appropriate and continue making the very best decisions for themselves and their community.