

## Valparaiso Extends Restrictions for City Facilities and Events

The City of Valparaiso is extending the mask requirement and COVID social-distancing guidelines for City buildings, services and meetings, announced Mayor Matt Murphy. “To get us to the finish line, the City of Valparaiso supports Porter County Health Department guidelines of continued vigilance,” said Mayor Matt Murphy.

The Porter County Health Department has just released recommendations to continue the wearing of face coverings in public indoor spaces, encouraging social distancing and reinforcing the guidance of staying home when ill. In support of these guidelines, the City of Valparaiso reminds the community that the following guidelines remain in place:

- Masks are required in public spaces of all City of Valparaiso facilities.
- Masks are required on all City of Valparaiso transit, including V-Line, ChicaGo Dash and Transit Connect. Buses continue to be cleaned vigilantly, including the use of hospital-grade disinfecting.
- Public meetings will be live streamed and available later via video, using the “Watch Public Meetings” button on Valpo.us. The public may attend meetings in person by reserving a spot in advance, in order to maintain distancing requirements.
- Many conveniences created during COVID-19 will continue indefinitely as they were found to be a service to residents, including remote payment options for utilities, remote meetings, and the “Voice a Concern” button on Valpo.us where residents may alert city departments and request service.

The Porter County Health Department is working closely with the Indiana Department of Health to vaccinate residents 16 and older. “If a third surge can be prevented in the intervening time, the risk of large numbers of additional hospitalizations and deaths can also be prevented. Preventing transmission also decreases opportunities for variants to develop and propagate,” said Maria Stamp, Porter County Health Officer.

Valparaiso Events is working to create a calendar of events for 2021, using guidance from the Porter County Health Department. To learn about events, such as Chocolate Walk, Valparaiso Market (with online options), Summer Movies and the Summer Concert Series, visit [ValparaisoEvents.com](http://ValparaisoEvents.com).

To learn more about City of Valparaiso services and news, visit the city’s website at [Valpo.us](http://Valpo.us) and follow Valparaiso Now on Facebook.