

**STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF DENTON  
CITY OF CORINTH**

On this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2020 the City Council of the City of Corinth, Texas met in Regular Session at the Corinth City Hall at 7:15 P.M., located at 3300 Corinth Parkway, Corinth, Texas. The meeting date, time, place and purpose as required by Title 5, Subtitle A, Chapter 551, Subchapter C, Section 551.041, Government Code, with the following members to wit:

**Members Present:**

Mayor Heidemann  
Sam Burke, Mayor Pro Tem  
Scott Garber, Council Member  
Lowell Johnson, Council Member  
Tina Henderson, Council Member  
Kelly Pickens, Council Member

**Staff Members Present:**

Bob Hart, City Manager  
Patricia Adams, Messer, Fort & McDonald  
Lee Ann Bunselmeyer, Finance, Administration, Communications & Marketing Director  
Cody Collier, Public Works Director  
Jerry Garner, Police Chief  
Michael Ross, Fire Chief  
Brenton Copeland, Technology Services Assistant Manager  
Lana Wylie, Interim City Secretary

**Others Present:**

**CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & TEXAS PLEDGE:**

Mayor Heidemann called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M. City Manager Hart delivered the Invocation, due to the COVID-19, the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge did not take place.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted in one motion. Should the Mayor, a Council Member, or any citizen desire discussion of any Item that Item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.**

1. Consider and act on an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Corinth, Texas and the Town of Shady Shores, Texas for Fire Protection, Emergency Medical and Fire Prevention Services.
2. Consider and act on an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Corinth, Texas and the Town of Hickory Creek, Texas for Fire Protection, Emergency Medical and Fire Prevention Services.
3. Consider and act on an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Corinth, Texas and the City of Lake Dallas, Texas for Fire Protection, Emergency Medical and Fire Prevention Services.
4. Consider and act on the Third Lease Renewal between the City of Corinth and the City of Lake Dallas for Lake Cities Fire House 1.
5. Consider and act on minutes from the May 7, 2020 workshop session.

6. Consider and act on minutes from the May 7, 2020 regular session.
7. Consider and act on minutes from the May 21, 2020 workshop session.
8. Consider and act on minutes from the May 21, 2020 regular session.

**MOTION** made by Council Member Pickens to approve the Consent Agenda and seconded by Council Member Garber.

**AYES:** Burke, Garber, Johnson, Henderson, Pickens  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Council is prohibited from acting on or discussing (other than factual responses to specific questions) any items brought before them at this time. Citizen's comments will be limited to 3 minutes. Comments about any of the Council agenda items are appreciated by the Council and may be taken into consideration at this time or during that agenda item. Please complete a Public Input form if you desire to address the City Council. All remarks and questions addressed to the Council shall be addressed to the Council as a whole and not to any individual member thereof. Section 30.041B Code of Ordinance of the City of Corinth.

Kurt Hyde of 2701 Yellowstone Park Lane, Corinth, Texas stated he is against Item 10, the requirement to wear face masks. He requested the Council not take away his Constitutional right.

Margaret Promisco of 2501 Meadowview Drive, Corinth, Texas spoke against Item 10 stating she should have the right to choose.

**BUSINESS AGENDA:**

9. Consider and act on a Contract with Tanko Street Lighting, Inc., to explore the potential for streetlight infrastructure acquisition.

**City Manager Hart** outlined the details of the contract with Tanko Street Lighting, Inc.

**MOTION** made by Mayor Pro Tem Burke to approve the contract with Tanko Street Lighting, Inc., and seconded Council Member Pickens.

**AYES:** Burke, Garber, Johnson, Henderson, Pickens  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION CARRIED**

10. Consider and take action on an Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 20-05-07- XX adopting the City Council of the City of Corinth Texas Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency and Order for Preparedness and Mitigation of COVID-19 in order to implement Mask and Related Requirements to combat the spread of COVID-19; and providing an effective date.

**City Manager Hart** delivered the COVID-19 presentation to the Council and also noted Governor Abbott issued an executive order today, mandating the wearing of masks. The presentation included CDC recommendations and resident survey results. Mr. Hart stated by adopting the ordinance, it would allow the city to assist the businesses to obtain the signs for their business.

**City Attorney Adams** clarified the reason for Corinth adopting the ordinance is to fill the gap of the governor's order. GA-29 allows for cities to impose a penalty for businesses or individuals.



# COVID-19 Safety Measures

July 2, 2020

Should the city exercise the requirement that businesses must require customers wear masks?

## Centers for Disease Control Recommendations for healthy individuals

- Practicing hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette regularly
- Maintaining physical distance when around others
- Utilizing masks or face coverings when around others
- Staying home if you are sick or have recently had close contact to a person with COVID-19



## Centers for Disease Control Effectiveness of Cloth Face Coverings



- Cloth face coverings are recommended as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the cloth face covering coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice. This is called source control.
- This recommendation is based on what CDC knows about the role respiratory droplets play in the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19, paired with emerging evidence from clinical and laboratory studies that shows cloth face coverings reduce the spray of droplets when worn over the nose and mouth.
- COVID-19 spreads mainly among people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet), so the use of cloth face coverings is particularly important in settings where people are close to each other or where social distancing is difficult to maintain.

Source: [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) - cloth-face-cover-guidance

# Who Should Wear a Cloth Face Covering?

- CDC recommends all people 2 years of age and older wear a cloth face covering in public settings when around people outside of their household
- COVID-19 can be spread by people who do not have symptoms and do not know that they are infected. That's why it's important for everyone to wear cloth face coverings in public settings and practice social distancing (staying at least 6 feet away from other people)
- While cloth face coverings are strongly encouraged to reduce the spread of COVID-19, CDC recognizes there are specific instances when wearing a cloth face covering may not be feasible.

Source: [cdc.gov-cloth-face-cover-guidance](https://www.cdc.gov/cloth-face-cover-guidance)

## Feasibility and Adaptions

CDC recognizes that wearing cloth face coverings may not be possible in every situation or for some people. In some situations, wearing a cloth face covering may exacerbate a physical or mental health condition, lead to a medical emergency, or introduce significant safety concerns. Adaptions and alternatives should be considered whenever possible to increase the feasibility of wearing a cloth face covering or to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spreading if it is not possible to wear one.

- Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing – or those who care for or interact with a person who is hearing impaired.
- Individuals with developmental disabilities, sensory integration concerns or tactile sensitivities, certain mental health conditions, or limited cognitive ability may have a negative reaction to wearing a cloth face covering.
- Younger children (e.g., preschool or early elementary aged) may be unable to wear a cloth face covering properly, particularly for an extended period of time. Wearing of cloth face coverings may be prioritized at times when it is difficult to maintain a distance of 6 feet from others.
- Individuals should not wear cloth face coverings while engaged in activities that may cause the cloth face covering to become wet, like when swimming or at the beach.
- Individuals who are engaged in high intensity activities, like running, may not be able to wear a cloth face covering if it causes difficulty breathing.
- Individuals who work in a setting where cloth face coverings may increase the risk of heat related illness or cause safety concerns due to introduction of a hazard (for instance, straps getting caught in machinery)

Source: [cdc.gov-cloth-face-cover-guidance](https://www.cdc.gov/cloth-face-cover-guidance)



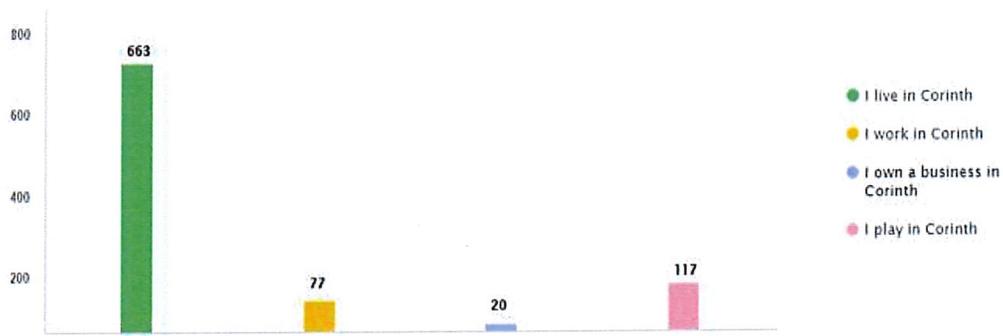
# Safety Measures Survey

Published June 28 – July 1

714 Responses

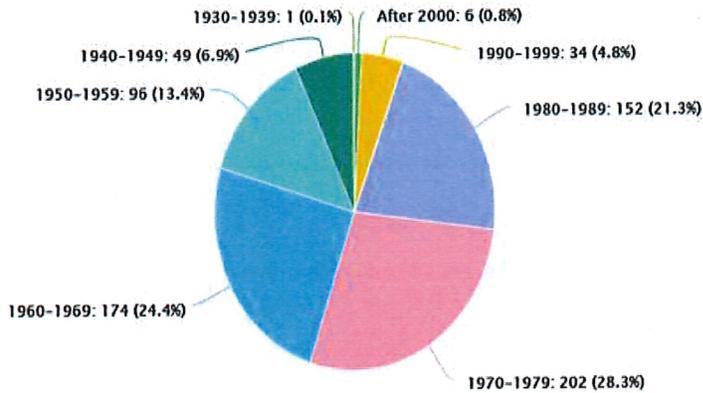
## Survey Participants

Which of the following best describes you?



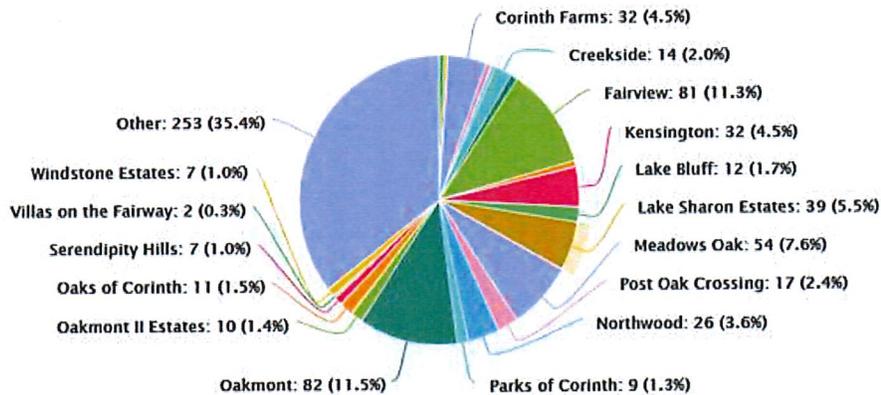
# Survey Participants

*In which decade where you born?*

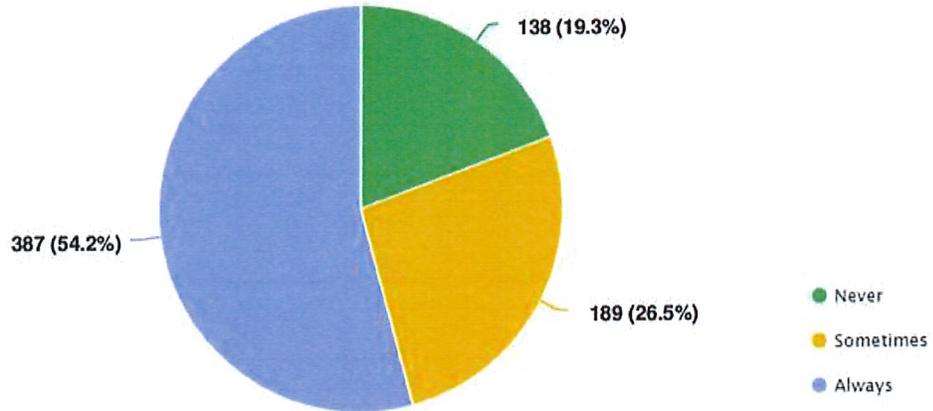


# Survey Participants

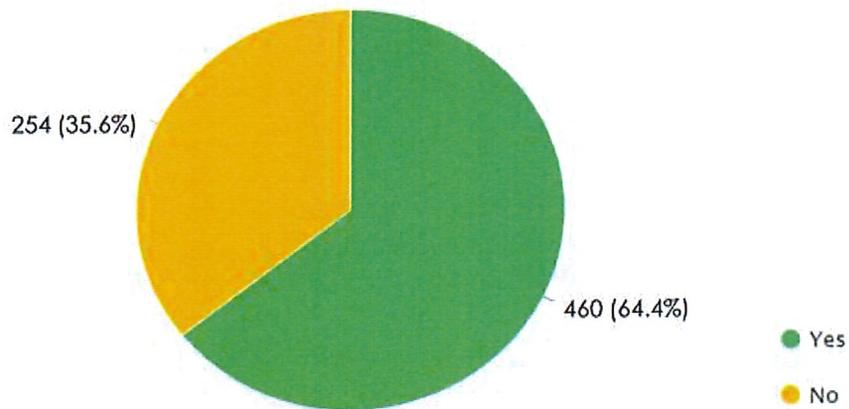
*Where do you live?*



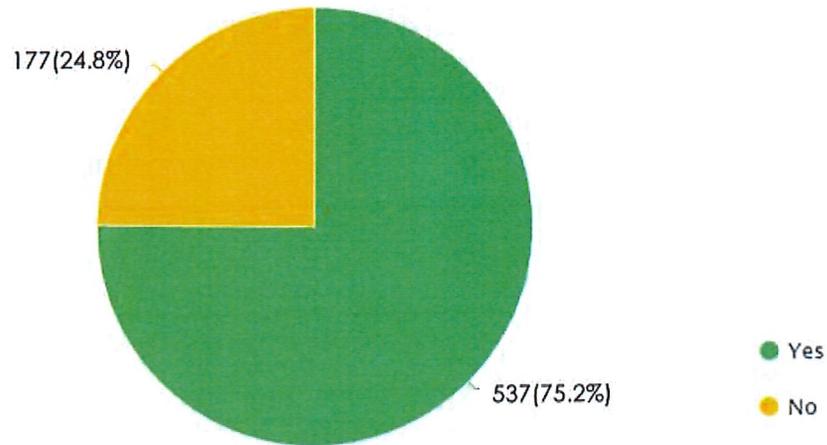
Do you currently wear a mask when going out in public?



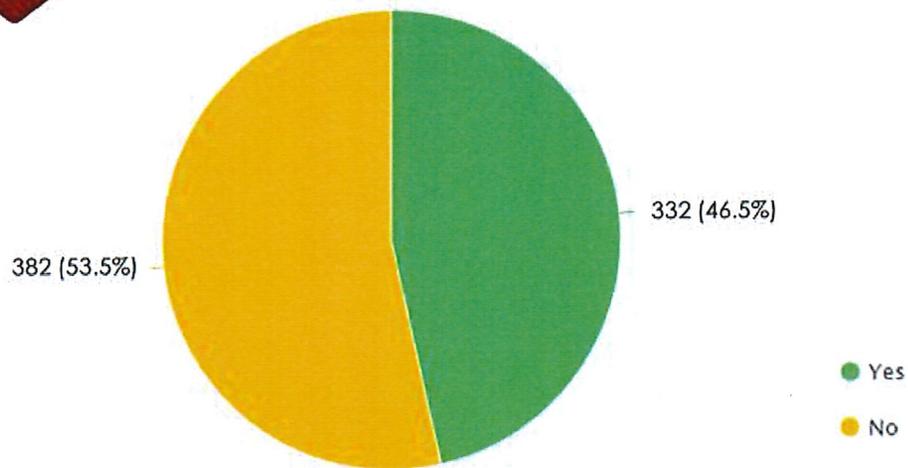
Should the City institute a mask requirement for all customers in businesses in the City of Corinth until COVID-19 statistics indicate the near end of the pandemic locally?



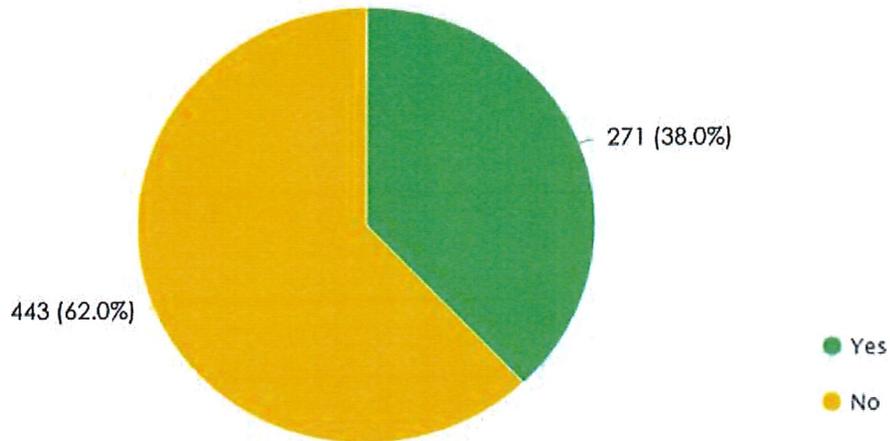
Should the City institute social distancing requirement for all customers in businesses in the City of Corinth until COVID-19 statistics indicate the near end of the pandemic locally?



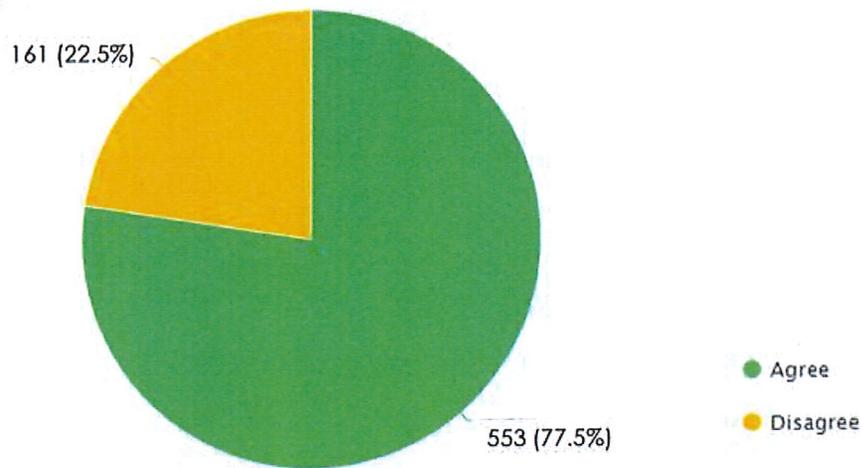
Are you comfortable using the playgrounds with your children?



Is it okay to gather in groups as spectators at ballgames?



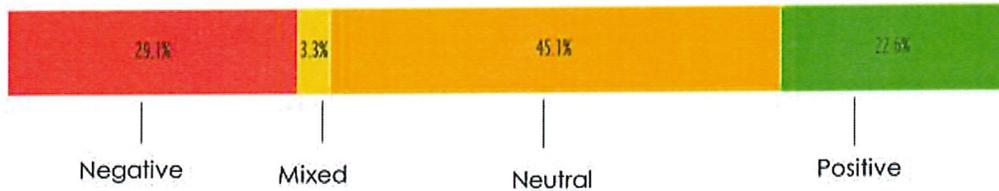
Staying at home, minimizing your social contact with others, and keeping at least 6 feet away from others are essential steps in order to slow the spread of the virus in our community?



## Comments – Received 385 Reponses



### SENTIMENT SUMMARY



## Comments For

As a small business owner that brings tax dollars into the city of Corinth I will do what ever is needed for the community, EXCEPT closing my business. I can not close down again. I need to feed my family. If necessary to keep my business open I will wear a mask and have my customers do so. I am a believer in herd immunity and feel that requiring people to stay home will only slow down the virus and keep this going for months with no end in sight. Immunity needs to be built! Elderly and high risk should be able to understand their need to stay home and take more precautions. Those of us who are not near elderly or have high risks should not have to submit to stay at home requirements.

The individuals that yell I will not wear a mask you will not take away my rights, have only concerns for themselves and no concern for individuals around them who may be compromised and able to contract the disease more easily. I think masks are easy and smart and accessible and a great way to slow the spread of the virus.

Covid -25 Texas – 0. Texas is loosing this! Please be proactive and require masks.

Please be proactive instead of reactive. People will be mad, but we have seen over and over again what this virus does to our communities. We do not even have a local hospital, we must rely on our neighboring cities, some of which are already becoming full.

Wear a mask we can beat this

I own a suite rental salon here in Corinth. I would much rather have to enforce masks than have to shut my salon down again. I can only ask my tenants to wear masks in the main areas of the salon. If it were enforced by the city there wouldn't be any push back on this issue. Shutting my business down will be more harmful than wearing my mask. As a stylist I alone come into contact with 100+ people a month so wearing a mask and having my clients wear masks is what is best given the Covid situation.

The city should follow CDC recommendations. This should not be a political issue, and science should be given deference.

I would hate to see my misinformed friends and neighbors die just because they didn't want to wear a mask in public for a few months. Making it a requirement protects everyone.

This is a tough situation without a clear cut "correct" answer. Individuals have strong feelings on both sides of the debate. I believe that in this type of situation, it is best to err on the side of caution and putting others before self. Allowing businesses and community to continue running [with some health related requirements] allows the economy to continue and lives to be lived as normal as possible while still looking out for the overall health of our community. You are in a tough spot, making tough decisions, and I hope that you make a decision that serves the interests of all.

We all need to do our part to keep our community safe. If this includes wearing a mask and not gathering in large groups so our local hospitals are not overloaded, then we need to put aside our personal preferences for the overall good.

I wear a seat belt. I wear shirt and shoes when at a restaurant. Wearing a mask is not any more of a loss if independence. So little to ask to protect my family and others. It's all part of public safety, not a loss of freedom.

Support opening up economy at same time enforcing pandemic safeguards. Can't depend on people following voluntary rules. They need to be enforced.

I definitely wish everyone would wear masks and social distance in public and would like to see the rules reflect this. However, I'm not clear on how this would be enforced.

Please be responsible & mandate the wearing of face masks.

I know that Corinth is mostly conservative but please require masks. I think we should listen to the CDC and WHO.

It may be unpopular but the city needs to protect its citizens from themselves.

Businesses that require masks are the ones that will get my business. Not wearing masks is irresponsible.

I hope the City leaders will treat this as a solely a critical health issue and institute a mask policy for businesses. The folks that work to serve us in our business community deserve to be protected. I answered "yes" to the ballgame question. However, if social distancing rules are not required or observed, my answer would be "no".

I was trained in the Military for this sort of thing, and I observe that people do not take this seriously at all. Politics should play no part in this, for this is a public safety issue.

Put science over feelings. Wear the mask!!

It is time for government leaders to step up and put requirements in place to end this pandemic. We have seatbelt laws to protect us in crashes. We have speed limit laws for the same reason. Signs on restaurants say "No shirt, no shoes no service". Why not add "No face masks" no service. There are many laws that have been passed to help protect "all lives". Adding a law to protect against COVID-19 until it has been eradicated should be among them.

Restaurant employees MUST wear masks AND gloves

Stop being selfish, do it for others and yourself. Has nothing to do with freedom or rights.

This is about protecting each other. Asking our neighbors to wear a mask isn't "living in fear," it's just the least we can do to keep each other safe. The more proactive we are now, the less hardships we will suffer later. "Love one another as I have loved you."

Add the mask mandate. It is a minor inconvenience that helps keeps people from getting sick. Numbers are climbing fast so not wait until it's too late! It is essential to beat this and get back to normal and as our local government I would hope you would take the necessary steps to help keep your citizens

For the safety of others, people should wear mask

I think the City should institute a requirement to wear masks in public gatherings. While some people say government shouldn't mandate things that affect personal liberty's the greater good applies here. Once someone is in public not wearing a mask affects us all.

# Comments Against

People need to be allowed to decide what they are comfortable with. Killing business through unproven methods of prevention is criminal.

Covid isn't going to magically disappear. We shouldn't all be living in fear. Covid death stats are low and this has all been blown out of proportion.

The city should be taking leadership in establishing policies based upon the best possible medical advice, not internet surveys

Nobody has proven that wearing masks actually works. Half the people don't wear them properly. People are socially distancing without having to be told. If people want to stay home they should but the rest of us shouldn't be forced to. The kids need to be able to play outside. It was the riots and protests that have caused the spike. Our hospitals can handle this surge. Don't take away our freedoms safe!

We will not shop in Corinth if the city requires masks.

Mask requirements will only cause me to take my business and money to other cities that do not impose draconian rules and ordinances.

I believe strongly in the freedom to choose. Businesses can choose whether or not to require masks and individuals can choose whether or not and where/where not to wear masks.

Since this whole thing started, we as a family have taken the precautions we feel are best for us. We don't need the city leaders to nanny us by mandating we do things like stay home or wear a mask everywhere you go. Many many experts have said that masks are only necessary when a well person is in close/confined contact with a sick person. The idea that we should all be wearing masks in order to protect all of those around us... well, I do not hold others responsible for my health and do not expect to be held responsible for the health of others. Isolate and help those who are immune suppressed, while keeping the economy going and allowing the healthy to move about life as normal as possible.

If everyone wears a mask every time we are at a store of business, then it protects our neighbors. Please make it mandatory.

Wearing a mask in public is the very least anyone can do to help stop the spread of the virus. If my daughter can wear one during the birth of her child or my nephew can wear one for a 12 hour hospital shift then I can wear one for a couple of hours to buy groceries

The balance between safety and liberty is tough here. If there was an effective incentive to motivate without having to penalize that would be preferable. Also, I'm generally always in favor of people keeping a healthy distance.

I am strongly supportive of wearing masks and will no longer patronize businesses that do not require them. If Corinth does not have a mask policy, I will simply drive a few miles down the street, to Denton, to buy anything that we need. It's vitally important that everyone look out for the welfare of others. This is not about politics. It's about health and looking out for our neighbors.

We have a special needs child and need our community's help to lessen the risk of our child getting Covid-19. The more safety measures we as a community do now, the quicker we can get back to normal life and less impact it will have on our local businesses long term. We can help take care of our neighbors by simply wearing a mask and staying 6 feet away.

# Communities that have passed a Mask Requirement Ordinance

## COUNTIES

- Bexar
- Brazos
- Bryan
- Cameron
- Chambers
- Dallas
- El Paso
- Fort Bend
- Harris
- Hays
- Hidalgo
- Jefferson
- Tarrant
- Travis

## CITIES

- Austin
- Bryan
- Cedar Park
- Clute
- College Station
- Denton
- Dickinson
- Fredericksburg
- Freeport
- Galveston
- Georgetown
- Hutto
- Katy
- Lake Jackson
- Leander
- Manvel
- Marble Falls
- McKinney
- Missouri City
- Pearland
- Round Rock
- Sugar Land
- Taylor
- Waco

## Summary

### ○ Political Environment

-Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order on Thursday, July 2 requiring all Texans to wear face coverings in counties with 20 or more positive COVID cases.

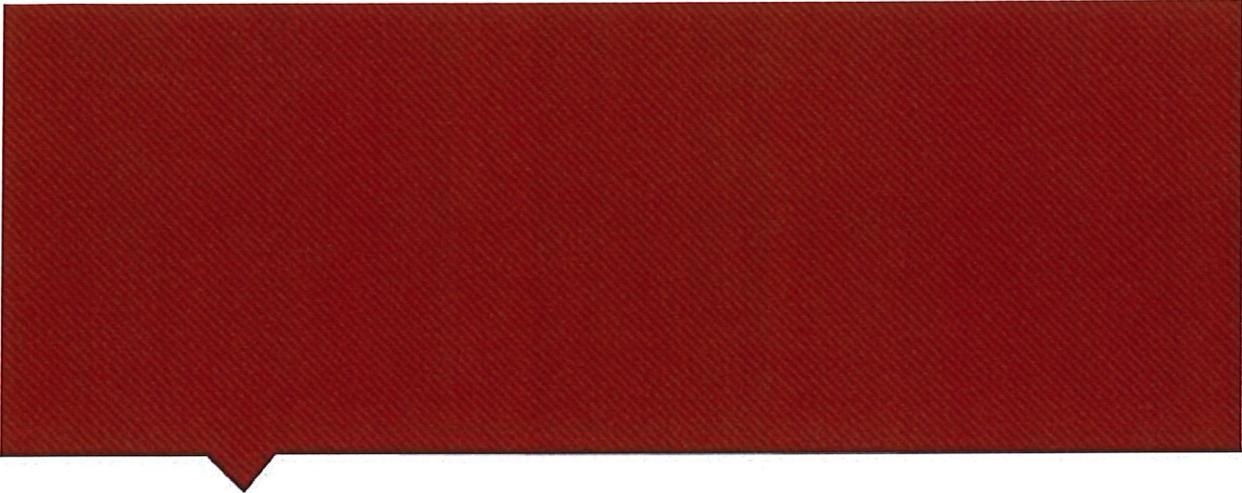
### ○ Effectiveness of masks

### ○ Similar issues from past

-Seat belts

-No smoking Ordinance

### ○ Enforcement



## Questions?

**MOTION** made by Council Member Pickens to amend the ordinance adopting the City of Corinth, Texas, Third Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency by amending Section 2, Health and Safety Policy – Commercial Entities, Section 3, Face Coverings – General Public, Section 4, Face Coverings – Do not need to be worn in the following circumstances and Section 9, Penalty to incorporate Governor Abbott’s Executive Order 29 and to the extent of a conflict between this ordinance and GA-29, the provisions of GA-29 will supersede the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Council Member Garber.

**AYES:** Burke, Garber, Johnson, Henderson, Pickens  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

### **MOTION CARRIED**

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The purpose of this section is to allow each Council Member the opportunity to provide general updates and/or comments to fellow Council Members, the public, and/or staff on any issues or future events. Also, in accordance with Section 30.085 of the Code of Ordinances, at this time, any Council Member may direct that an item be added as a business item to any future agenda.

**Mayor Heidemann** thanked the Council and staff for their effort on the fire contract this evening.

**Closed session convened at 8:05 p.m.**

## **CLOSED SESSION**

The City Council will convene in closed session to consider any matters regarding matters pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

**Section 551.071.** (1) Private consultation with its attorney to seek advice about pending or contemplated litigation; and/or settlement offer; and/or (2) a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the government body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

- a. **Linda Creagh v. Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc., Michael Landers and City of Corinth to Cause No. 19-1864-431 (Denton County)**
- b. **Police procedures and potential claim**

**Section 551.072.** To deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person.

- a. **Right-of-way consisting of .198 acres located at 6801 S I-35E and 3404 Dobbs Road along Dobbs Road within the H. Garrison Survey, Abstract No. 507, within the City of Corinth, Denton County, Texas**
- b. **Right-of-way consisting of 1.56 acres located at 6881 South I-35E and along Dobbs Road within the H. Garrison Survey, Abstract No. 507, within the City of Corinth, Denton County, Texas**
- c. **3.792 acres, Tract 13H, out of the J.P. Walton Survey, Abstract 1389, within the City of Corinth, Denton County, Texas**

**Section 551.074.** To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee; or to hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.

**Section 551.087.** To deliberate or discuss regarding commercial or financial information that the governmental body has received from a business prospect that the governmental body seeks to have locate, stay, or expand in or near the territory of the governmental body and with which the governmental body is conducting economic development negotiations; or to deliberate the offer of a financial or other incentive to a business prospect.

### **a. Project Agora**

After discussion of any matters in closed session, any final action or vote taken will be in public by the City Council. City Council shall have the right at any time to seek legal advice in Closed Session from its Attorney on any agenda item, whether posted for Closed Session or not.

**Reconvene into Regular Session at 8:32 p.m.**

**RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION TO TAKE ACTION, IF NECESSARY, ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS.**

**MOTION** made by Mayor Pro Tem Burke to approve the settlement as proposed in closed session with Linda Creagh and would like to convey to her, our regrets for the accident. The motion was seconded by Council Member Henderson.

**AYES:** Burke, Garber, Johnson, Henderson, Pickens  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** None

**MOTION CARRIED**

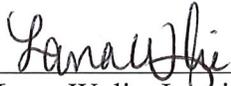
**ADJOURN:**

**Mayor Heidemann adjourned the Regular meeting at 8:34 p.m.**

**AYES:** All

Meeting adjourned.

Approved by Council on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of July August 2020.



Lana Wylie, Interim City Secretary  
City of Corinth, Texas

