

## Ordinance 0018-20 – 2019 Novel Coronavirus Response Extension

An ordinance to amend Chapter 54 of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine, Wisconsin.

Whereas, the United States of America and the State of Wisconsin have been affected by the worldwide pandemic of the 2019 novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), which is a dangerous respiratory illness that can spread from person to person; and

Whereas, since well before March 2020, City of Racine public health officials have been working to minimize the risk and threat of contagion related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic while enhancing the safety and health of city residents; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 pandemic and its prevalence in the southeastern Wisconsin region and throughout the United States continues to constitute a public health emergency; and

Whereas, the City of Racine area continues to be a hot spot for COVID-19 infection. As of November 25, 2020, the total number of cases within the jurisdiction of the Racine Public Health Department is 5,734, including 649 current active cases. Thus far, 55 local residents have passed away from COVID-19; and

Whereas, the latest surge in COVID-19 positive cases is currently more than double what this jurisdiction experienced in the beginning surge from May to early June of this year. The five-day rolling positivity rate as of today is 30%. Over the fourteen days preceding November 25, 2020, the case rate per 100,000 residents was 1,355; and

Whereas, there exists a critical level of community spread; and

Whereas, in a study published by the American Institute of Physics on November 24, 2020, researchers determined that the COVID-19 pandemic could be eradicated if seventy percent of the public consistently used surgical masks in public and the consistent use of cloth masks could also lead to a significant reduction of COVID-19 burden; and

Whereas, the City of Racine continues to deal with this unprecedented threat to City residents, as well as the healthcare systems in place to respond. This time represents the most significant threat to public health that has occurred in the past 100 years; and

Whereas, response to public health crises is within the indisputable authority of local governments in the United States, and in Wisconsin, as part of the exercise of their police power; and

Whereas, there exists a continuing public health emergency within the City of Racine as contemplated by Wisconsin Statutes sections 323.11 and 323.14(4) and Racine Ordinance section 34-1.

NOW THEREFORE, the Common Council of the City of Racine, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

Part 1: Chapter 54, Article II, section 54-33(c) (Safer Racine) of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine, Wisconsin, is repealed and recreated as follows:

(c) Sunset. This ordinance shall remain in effect until 11:59 p.m., June 30, 2021, unless extended or earlier terminated or modified by the common council.

Part 2: Chapter 54, Article II, section 54-35(5) (Wear of Face Coverings) of the Municipal Code of the City of Racine, Wisconsin, is repealed and recreated as follows:

(5) Sunset. This ordinance shall remain in effect until 11:59 p.m., June 30, 2021, unless extended or earlier terminated or modified by the common council.

Part 3: This ordinance shall take effect upon passage by a majority vote of the members-elect of the City of Racine Common Council and publication or posting as required by law.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes section 62.09(8)(c), the mayor shall have the veto power as to all acts of the common council, except such as to which it is expressly or by necessary implication otherwise provided. All such acts shall be submitted to the mayor by the clerk and shall be in force upon approval evidenced by the mayor's signature, or upon failing to approve or disapprove within 5 days, which fact shall be certified thereon by the clerk. If the mayor disapproves the mayor's objections shall be filed with the clerk, who shall present them to the council at its next meeting. A two-thirds vote of all the members of the council shall then make the act effective notwithstanding the objections of the mayor.