

MEDIA RELEASE

Sahuarita Will Not Mandate Face Coverings

SAHUARITA, Ariz. — The Town of Sahuarita continues to ask that residents follow the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in regard to curbing the spread of COVID-19, according to Mayor Tom Murphy. This reminder comes on the heels of Wednesday’s executive order (2020-40) issued by Governor Doug Ducey. “We want people to take the recommended precautions for protecting the health of their families, and others,” Murphy said.

“We trust that our community members will make responsible choices, and we won’t be making any new laws concerning face coverings at this time.” Murphy noted that the town has sought to follow the guidance of the Governor and the CDC from the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak, and that the CDC recommends that persons wear face coverings when in public settings where physical distance is difficult to maintain from others.

Insofar as it concerns businesses, Executive Order 2020-40 says that businesses “shall assist in efforts to ‘Contain the Spread,’ by updating and enforcing written policies in accordance with Executive Order 2020-36, *Stay Healthy, Return Smarter, Return Stronger*, that adopt guidance from the CDC, Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) to limit and mitigate the spread of COVID-19.” Murphy said that the town would be asking businesses to revise their policies in cooperation with the governor’s orders.

“We will be doubling our efforts to educate the public,” Murphy said. “It’s crucial that we make sure people are not confused by what they’ve read or heard. For example, today’s Resolution adopted by the Pima County Board of Supervisors says that it ‘applies throughout Pima County, including within incorporated areas,’ but state law is clear that it does not apply in cities and towns.”

Murphy noted that education needs to address the public trust and help to unite people. “We work best as Americans when we come together and cooperate with each other toward a common goal. Our goal is to mitigate the threat to public health, and also to help our businesses survive.”

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