



**Jennifer Wilson**  
Mayor

June 23, 2020

**Erin Litvack**  
Deputy Mayor  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Darrin Casper**  
Deputy Mayor  
Chief Financial Officer

**Catherine Kanter**  
Deputy Mayor  
Chief Regional Officer

Dear Governor Herbert:

I know you continue to be concerned, as I do, with rising number of cases of COVID-19 in our state. Salt Lake County's increase in cases has the potential to negatively impact our health care system as well as create an operational impact on testing, lab processing capacity, and contact tracing.

Recent studies confirm the effectiveness of face coverings, reducing the transmission risk 75%-82%. A [study](#) conducted by a team of scientists in Hong Kong found the rate of non-contact transmission dropped by as much as 75% when masks were used. In another [study](#) published by The Lancet, transmission of COVID-19 without a face covering or respirator (like an N95 mask) was 17.4%, while that fell to 3.1% with a covering worn, reducing the risk by 82%.

Due to the rise of cases of COVID-19, Salt Lake County is requesting approval to require the public wear face coverings in retail and commercial establishments, restaurants while waiting to be seated and served, and at community gatherings. This requirement would take effect 12:01 a.m. June 27, 2020.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jenny Wilson'.

Mayor Jenny Wilson  
Salt Lake County

Cc: Jefferson Burton, Utah Department of Health  
Justin Harding, Chief of Staff, Governor Gary Herbert  
Gary Edwards, Salt Lake County Health Department