



Mayor  
**Jerome A. Prince**  
City Of Gary, IN



**For Immediate Release**  
**Jul. 20, 2020**

**Statement on mask mandate from City of Gary Mayor Jerome A. Prince.**

“Last Friday, Jul. 17, after extensive discussions with my team, including City of Gary Health Commissioner Dr. Roland Walker, I announced Gary residents and visitors must wear masks in all public indoor locations effective today. That mandate stands, and it will continue indefinitely.

As we all are aware, our struggle against the COVID-19 pandemic continues. In the City of Gary, after watching our daily number of new positive cases remain in single digits for approximately six weeks, we have seen multiple days of double-digit increases in the last week.

Since the arrival of the COVID-19 virus in Gary and Lake County in early March, I have repeatedly said I will do what is necessary to protect our community. That is why I ordered the mask mandate. I also have instructed my team to prepare an ordinance for the Gary Common Council meeting tomorrow, Jul. 21, that will add enforcement mechanisms to the mask mandate. I encourage the Council to take the extraordinary step of passing the ordinance on three readings to protect the public.

Finally, we are closely monitoring activity at Gary beaches, and, if necessary, I soon will make an additional announcement about our beaches and other public facilities.”

**For more information**, contact Michael Gonzalez, City of Gary Communications Director at (219)617-0796 or at [Mgonzalez@Gary.gov](mailto:Mgonzalez@Gary.gov)