

## Coronavirus 2020: Cloth Mask Recommendation

City of Lawrence Employees:

Based on recent studies, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) now knows that many individuals with coronavirus lack symptoms (known as “asymptomatic”) and that even those who eventually develop symptoms (known as “pre-symptomatic”) can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms. This means that the virus can spread between people interacting in close proximity — for example, speaking, coughing, or sneezing — even if those people are not exhibiting symptoms. With this new evidence, as of Friday, April 3, the CDC now recommends that people wear cloth face coverings in public settings, particularly where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. Please remember, the cloth face coverings that are recommended are *not* surgical masks or N-95 respirators, which are only to be used for healthcare workers and other first responders per the CDC.

For everyone’s safety, the City strongly encourages everyone to continue social distancing of *at least* 6 feet, hand washing and wiping down surfaces. A cloth mask — which is a simple cloth face covering — is an additional protection to help slow the spread of the virus, particularly by those who may unknowingly have the virus but are asymptomatic. **The City of Lawrence is working to secure cloth face coverings for our employees.** If you have one available, we are encouraging you to bring it with you to work. If you have any questions regarding this new information, please feel free to contact Risk Management: Shelby Patch, Risk Management – [spatch@lawrenceks.org](mailto:spatch@lawrenceks.org) / C-785-813-2843.

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Remember, you can keep tabs on employee information by going to either of these two web pages:

- Internet: [Lawrenceks.org/hr/coronavirus](http://Lawrenceks.org/hr/coronavirus)
- Intranet: [http://intranet/pandemic\\_flu](http://intranet/pandemic_flu)

Thank you for all you do to serve the City of Lawrence!