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PRESS RELEASE

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City to follow state and county guidance for wearing face coverings in public

WESTMINSTER, Calif. - The City of Westminster is following recommendations from the California Department of Public Health and the County of Orange regarding the use of face coverings or masks in public. Residents who must conduct essential activities outside the home, such as shopping for groceries, and community members who work in Westminster are encouraged to wear cloth face coverings in addition to practicing social distancing and frequently washing hands.

The City is asking anyone who is comfortable with wearing a face covering to wear one made of cloth instead of wearing N-95 and surgical masks, as those should be reserved for healthcare workers and first responders.

A cloth face covering is material that covers the nose and mouth and can be made from materials including cotton, silk, or linen. A face covering may be factory-made or homemade from everyday items such as scarfs, bandanas, t-shirts, or towels.

Wearing a face covering may help reduce the transmission of infectious coronavirus (COVID-19) particles, but it is not a substitute for social distancing and frequently washing hands. The following practices are still recommended as the best defense against COVID-19:

- Stay at home and practice physical or social distancing
- Wash hands frequently
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid being around sick people
- Stay home if you are sick

The State of California "stay at home" order remains in effect to promote social distancing and the City has implemented measures to adhere to the guidelines, including closures of city facilities and park amenities. Residents who are concerned about businesses in Westminster that are non-essential and currently open or restaurants that are allowing dine-in services are encouraged to contact the <u>City</u> via the online reporting form.

For additional information and the latest updates, visit the City's dedicated coronavirus webpage at https://projectwestminster.com/coronavirus-updates.

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