## **ORDINANCE NO. 11-21**

## AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 17-20 (AMENDED) WHICH REQUIRES THE WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

WHEREAS, this Council passed Ordinance No. 17-20 (Amended) on September 10, 2020 (Mask Ordinance), which was based upon Executive Order 2020-01 which was signed by Mayor John R. Dennis on July 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of West Lafayette as well as people visiting West Lafayette have complied with the Mask Ordinance to a very high degree; and

WHEREAS, in recent months, the increase in vaccinations against COVID-19 as well as compliance with social distancing guidelines, masking and other protective measures have shown favorable results for Tippecanoe County in preventing infections from COVID-19, and reducing morbidity and mortality rates; and

WHEREAS, the enforcement of the Mask Ordinance by the issuance of fines has not been necessary in the City of West Lafayette due to the high degree of voluntary compliance by citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control issued new guidelines on May 13, 2021 which provide fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask; and

WHEREAS, on May 14, 2021 the Mayor issued Executive Order No. 2021-01 which orders the existing Mask Order not be enforced due to the forgoing; and

WHEREAS, if the Mask Ordinance is repealed, owners of residences, businesses and institutions of all kinds in West Lafayette are free to impose masking, social distancing and other protective measures in and about their premises; and

WHEREAS, due to the forgoing, the Mask Ordinance has served its purpose of protecting citizens and visitors from COVID-19 during the darkest and most uncertain days of the pandemic;

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:

- 1. Ordinance No. 17-20 (Amended) passed by the West Lafayette Common Council on September 8, 2020 and made part of the City Code on September 14, 2020 is hereby repealed in its entirety.
- 2. All citizens and visitors of the City are strongly encouraged to continue maintaining their high degree of voluntary compliance with masking, social distancing and other protective measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

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