



April 27, 2020

This is Louis Rigby, mayor of the City of La Porte. This afternoon, Governor Greg Abbott issued an Executive Order that prohibits jurisdictions from imposing a civil or criminal penalty for failure to wear a face covering. This order supersedes the mandatory face covering order issued last week by Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo. Contrary to rumors on social media I was not supportive of the County Judge's order; however, I am thankful to Governor Abbott for taking steps to minimize the potential impact to all Texans, including the city of La Porte.

This is a time for us to remain united and work together to support each other. Unfortunately, there are those in our community who wish to mislead residents and create a sense of distrust between the City and community we serve. I encourage you to have faith that the hardworking men and women of the City of La Porte are dedicated to supporting our residents and businesses during this difficult time. City staff remain committed to ensuring public health and safety, and providing the highest level of service possible at all times. Any statement that suggests City officials or staff are intentionally seeking to mislead our community or place a heavier burden on the residents of La Porte is inaccurate and irresponsible. In all actions, City officials and staff have the best interest of our community at heart.

While not mandatory, I encourage residents to wear a face covering in public for the protection of themselves and others. Please continue following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and public health officials so that we can ensure the residents of La Porte remain healthy and safe. As Texas begins the slow process of reopening, there are still challenges ahead. Let's continue working together to protect each other, especially the most vulnerable in our community.

For factual and verified information, I encourage you to follow the City's social media platforms and website at [LaPorteTX.gov](http://LaPorteTX.gov). I assure you that City staff are working hard to provide you with up-to-date and accurate information. If you have questions, concerns, or wish to receive clarification on actions being taken by the City, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to answer your questions. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "LR", written in a cursive style.

Louis R. Rigby  
Mayor, City of La Porte