

City of Jefferson

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mayor Carrie Tergin endorses State Public Health Warning and calls for action

Jefferson City, Mo. — On November 19, 2020, the State of Missouri issued the attached “Public Health Warning” providing guidance for individuals, businesses, and local governments to slow down the spread of COVID-19. The Public Health Warning also set forth three levels of “risk categories” and gives related guidance for each risk category. Based on the current positivity rate and case rate, Cole County falls into the highest risk category: the “Extreme Risk” level.

The State Public Health Warning advises business to adopt “occupancy limits reflective of social distancing.” In other words, business should limit occupancy of the business to amounts that allow for social distancing throughout the facility. The State Public Health Warning also advises that social group sizes be limited to 10 or less people. Finally, the State Public Health Warning “strongly advise[s]” that masks be worn in all offices and businesses where social distancing is not possible.”

Mayor Carrie Tergin fully endorses the State Public Warning and calls for all citizens and businesses of Jefferson City to carefully and vigilantly follow the guidance set forth in the State Public Health Warning.

“Not since the early days of the pandemic has the need to ‘flatten the curve’ and prevent COVID-19 from overwhelming our hospitals and medical facilities been so critical,” said Mayor Carrie Tergin. “The capacity of our community’s medical infrastructure, especially the capacity of our medical staff, is at a breaking point. It is up to each and every person and business within Jefferson City to heed the warning and help ensure that every person in need of medical care, COVID or not, will have access to the facilities and professionals necessary to provide that care.”

“In addition to thinking about protecting themselves and their families, everyone needs to also think about how they can take the necessary steps to protect their friends, co-workers, customers, and even the strangers they interact with while out in the community.” Mayor Tergin said. “I believe the State Public Health Warning provides the necessary tools to protect each other; it’s up to each of us to put those tools to use in our everyday lives.”

Mayor Tergin also stresses that the recommendations highlighted in the State Public Health Warning are in addition to, and do not replace, the long-standing recommendations of social distancing whenever possible, wearing masks in all public settings where social distancing is not possible, staying home if sick, frequent hand washing, and generally avoiding gathering whenever possible.

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