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For Immediate Release
July 1, 2020

McCall City Council passes an order requiring masks to begin at midnight on July 2nd, 2020

Leaders chose mandatory masks to help businesses stay open while protecting the health and safety of their public.

After community transmission was identified in Valley County on June 25th, McCall City Council began to hear from their constituents. In fact, for tonight's July 1, 2020 emergency meeting, hundreds of comments were received in advance.

With cases continuing to rise in Valley County and the City of McCall by the day, according to the Central District Health Department, it is still not a clear picture for the public on exactly how many positive COVID-19 cases are in McCall. "We are told to assume that everyone has the virus and to protect ourselves accordingly," said Mayor Bob Giles, "and we are advised by leading medical professionals that in addition to proper hygiene, masks are the single most effective way for everyone to stay safe and stop the spread of Coronavirus."

In a presentation from Dr. Gregory Irvine, Chief of staff at St. Luke's McCall Hospital, many questions were addressed such as mask safety, its ability to flatten the curve and stop the spread of Coronavirus and how masks will allow businesses to stay open.

Visitors need to know, that as they make their plans to enjoy McCall over the 4th of July weekend, this new mandate is in place and it begins tonight at midnight. Officials are taking it very seriously and look to local law enforcement and city hall staff to educate the public. Bob Giles continued, "business owners in our little town are looking for guidance and we are here to support them during this busy weekend." McCall Police Chief Justin Williams stated during the meeting, he believes the order having a \$100 fine attached will enable his officers to educate and then enforce when needed.

In McCall, recent COVID developments continue to alarm business owners and their employees resulting in business closures for the holiday weekend. The hope is that mask requirements will enable our public to conduct regular operations in coming weeks, support the economy and keep McCall open in the future.

City of McCall, Idaho's Outdoor Playground, remains open for responsible recreation opportunities any we look forward to sharing our town with our masked visitors. For Frequently asked questions regarding the holiday weekend visit [McCall.id.us/liberty2020](https://mccall.id.us/liberty2020). McCall will have a page available on July 2nd by 10am for FAQ's, find it at [McCall.id.us/maskupmccall](https://mccall.id.us/maskupmccall).

Things to know before you go:

- Masks are required in all indoor facilities in McCall.
- You may receive a fine of \$100 if you do not comply.
- McCall is open to travelers, but mask wearing is now required for all.
- Payette Lake is open as usual for boating, swimming and fishing, etc.
- Businesses may have protective protocols in place, such as mask-wearing or curbside service.
- No alcohol is permitted within Lake front parks during the holiday weekend.

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