



**Mayoral Proclamation and Executive Orders
Amended February 22, 2022**

WHEREAS: The COVID-19 global pandemic has necessitated special consideration of public health guidelines, resulting in the need for flexibility and quick action relating to public health and related business regulations; and

WHEREAS: In the event of a “... disaster affecting life and property and which substantially impairs the functioning of the City government and its ability to protect the lives and property of the people,” the Mayor is authorized to proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency in the City; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Bexley the acutely hazardous COVID-19 virus continues to threaten our community and Franklin County, where Bexley is located, has been designated by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention as currently having high community transmission levels, characterized by more than 100 new cases per 100,000 persons in the past seven days, and more than 10 percent of positive nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs) tests during the past seven days; and

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 is a disaster that continues to affect and threaten the lives of the citizens of the City of Bexley and substantially impairs the functioning of city government and its ability to protect the lives and property of the citizens of the City of Bexley;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BENJAMIN J. KESSLER, Mayor of the City of Bexley, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Ohio Constitution, the Charter of the City of Bexley, the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bexley, including Section 648.09 (Mayor’s Emergency Powers), and consistent with Section 660.02 (Spreading Contagion), do hereby find and proclaim that the threat of a COVID-19 outbreak in the City of Bexley constitutes a State of Emergency, first declared on March 15, 2020. Pursuant to this amended proclamation, I hereby issue the following executive orders:

Section 1. Prohibition Against Refusing Service on the Basis of Face Coverings

Owners and operators of places of public accommodation may not require the removal of face coverings or masks in public spaces.

Section 2. Restrictions within City Facilities

The City of Bexley, in common with any other property owner, may continue to specify and enforce public health restrictions for visitors to its facilities. Furthermore, the Bexley City School District, when utilizing City property for the purpose of conducting public meetings, may provide for and enforce any public health restrictions which they deem necessary.

Section 3. Duration of orders.

These orders shall be in full force and effect on and after September 10, 2021 and will continue to be in effect until such time as the Proclamation of Emergency is lifted or the order is superseded by ordinance of City Council. This order may be modified or extended at any time if public health conditions warrant.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Bexley, Ohio, to be hereto affixed this 22nd day of February, 2022.



Mayor Benjamin J. Kessler