

Masks mandated in Athens



The Athena Cinema reminded passersby to "wash hands, wear masks and watch movies." Photo by Sarah Donaldson.

City council passes ordinance in emergency meeting

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In an emergency meeting Monday night, Athens City Council unanimously passed an ordinance mandating face masks as the city grapples with a recent rise in coronavirus (COVID-19) cases.

The city-wide mandate, which was first introduced at an emergency committee meeting Friday,

requires face coverings in public spaces in the city of Athens, including inside of businesses that are open to the public and at outdoor spaces where social distancing is not possible.

Under the ordinance, face masks must cover an individual's nose, mouth and chin, and must be worn when entering and exiting as well as inside of businesses open to the public and buildings operated by the city of Athens.

Face coverings are also required on all methods

of public transportation in the city, including buses, public transits, taxis and rideshares.

When outside, face masks are only required where physical separation of six feet or more in between individuals is not possible.

During the meeting, the council suspended the rules and expedited the voting process on the ordinance, which went into effect immediately after it was passed.

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Businesses close

Area businesses respond to a rise in coronavirus cases
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Separation agreement

OU professor found in violation of sexual misconduct policy
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Brew Week canceled

Ohio Brew Week will proceed virtually
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Free meals and art events galore.
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