Township of North Brunswick Executive Order 2022-001

WHEREAS, the Omicron variant of COVID-19 has demonstrated a very high rate of spreading through populations; and

WHEREAS, cases of confirmed Omicron infection continue to cause high numbers of infection and over-burden the healthcare systems nationwide, in New Jersey, and in Middlesex County; and

WHEREAS, the Township of North Brunswick seeks to protect its residents while rates of infection remain high by taking steps to mitigate and combat the spread of COVID-19 and its variants; and

WHEREAS, the Township is mindful that many individuals experience only mild symptoms when contracting the disease, it is also mindful that other members of our community have conditions or circumstances that place them at higher risk of serious illness, hospitalization or death should they become infected; and

WHEREAS, the Township of North Brunswick wishes to accomplish said mitigation without negatively impacting businesses and residents in their daily lives, but while affecting persons most at risk; and

WHEREAS, although there are indications that the numbers of infections, hospitalizations and deaths in New Jersey, Middlesex County and North Brunswick are beginning to come down, the overall rates of infections, hospitalizations and deaths remain dangerously high; and

WHEREAS, the medical and scientific community is in agreement that the wearing of appropriate masks when in public is a primary and effective way to combating the spread of COVID-19 and its variants; and

WHEREAS, for most individuals the wearing of a mask is only a minor inconvenience, but helps to protect both the individual wearing the mask and others with whom that person may come into contact;

WHEREAS, there has been in place an Executive Order since December 31, 2021 requiring the following:

- the wearing of masks shall be required in all areas of indoor public accommodation including, but not limited to, government facilities, restaurants, bars, gymnasiums, dance studios, recreation facilities, retail stores, cafes, supermarkets, places of worship, commercial establishments, salons, barbershops, banks, healthcare facilities, and hotels.
- 2. Residents, visitors, and patrons of the above public facilities must wear a face mask at all times except:
 - a. when actively eating or drinking;
 - b. when socially distanced at least six feet apart from all others for an extended period of time, such as in an office setting when seated at desks, when performing for an audience, or when conducting worship services.
- Children under the age of three (3) shall be exempt from the above requirements;

NOW THEREFORE, I, FRANCIS M. WOMACK III, Mayor of the Township of North Brunswick in the County of Middlesex in the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Statutes of this State, do hereby establish that the mask-wearing requirements stated above and previously in effect since December 31, 2021 be continued, effective this 1st day of February, 2022, and shall be in effect until Monday, February 7, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.;

AND FURTHER, to ensure that there be no unnecessary inconvenience to persons hereby affected, this order shall be reviewed prior to its expiration, and a determination of whether it be further extended, amended or terminated shall be made based upon the infection rates, hospitalization rates and death rates existing at that time.

Attest:

Given, under my hand and seal this 1st day of February, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.

Francis M. Womack III Mayor of North Brunswick Lisa R

Municipal Clerk