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3
4 **AN ENGROSSED RESOLUTION**

5
6 Mandating the use of facemasks or face coverings by all passengers and operators on
7 Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) buses to mitigate the spread and infection
8 rate of COVID-19
9

10 ~~**WHEREAS, according to data from the United States Centers for Disease**~~
11 ~~**Control and Prevention (CDC), as of June 29, 2020, the COVID-19 Pandemic has**~~
12 ~~**killed more than 126,000 Americans, double the loss of American life in Vietnam**~~
13 ~~**and more than double the average annual U.S. influenza deaths; and**~~
14

15 ~~**WHEREAS, as of June 29, 2020, according to the Wisconsin Department of**~~
16 ~~**Health Services, there have been at least 777 confirmed COVID-19 deaths in**~~
17 ~~**Wisconsin; and according to the Office of Emergency Management, there have**~~
18 ~~**been at least 354 confirmed COVID-19 deaths in Milwaukee County; and**~~
19

20 ~~**WHEREAS, according to data from the United States Centers for Disease**~~
21 ~~**Control and Prevention (CDC), as of July 21, 2020, COVID-19 has caused more**~~
22 ~~**than 140,000 deaths in the United States in half a year, more than double US**~~
23 ~~**average annual influenza deaths and the US death toll in Vietnam, greater than 44**~~
24 ~~**times the nearly 3,000 dead from the September 11 Terrorist Attacks, and more**~~
25 ~~**than 56 times the more than 2,000 servicemen dead at Pearl Harbor on December**~~
26 ~~**7, 1941; and**~~
27

28 ~~**WHEREAS, as of July 21, 2020, according to the Wisconsin Department of**~~
29 ~~**Health Services, there have been at least 859 confirmed COVID-19 deaths in**~~
30 ~~**Wisconsin; and according to the Office of Emergency Management, there have**~~
31 ~~**been at least 367 confirmed COVID-19 deaths in Milwaukee County; and**~~
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33 WHEREAS, the CDC reports older adults and people with certain preexisting
34 medical conditions are at increased risk for complications and severe illness from
35 COVID; while minorities, due to preexisting socioeconomic health disparities, are
36 predisposed and suffering disproportionately from COVID-19; and
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38 WHEREAS, COVID-19 transmits from person to person primarily from individuals
39 in close proximity to each other via airborne water droplets and therefore the County
40 Executive ordered a universal face mask policy in Administrative Order 20-14v1 in and
41 on County premises to protect the health and safety of the public and County
42 employees (File No. 20-26); and
43

44 WHEREAS, even with capacity limitations, individuals riding Milwaukee County
45 Transit System (MCTS) buses, **patronizing Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport,**
46 **and other County facilities,** remain enclosed in relatively close proximity to each
47 other, sharing the same air which may carry the COVID-19 virus; and
48

49 WHEREAS, according to an April 3, 2020 National Public Radio article titled,
50 “‘Take This Serious’: Bus Driver Dies of COVID-19 After Calling Out Coughing Rider”,
51 Detroit bus operator Jason Hargrove died of COVID-19 approximately two weeks after
52 he posted a viral video on YouTube criticizing a rider who coughed multiple times
53 without covering her mouth and calling for everyone to be considerate of the health of
54 others; and
55

56 **WHEREAS, Article 14 of the Chicago Convention on Civil Aviation of 1944,**
57 **ratified by the United States Senate on August 9, 1946 states, “Each contracting**
58 **State agrees to take effective measures to prevent the spread by means of air**
59 **navigation of...communicable diseases as the contracting States shall from time**
60 **to time decide to designate...”**, and it is the duty of Milwaukee County to ensure
61 **Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport does not serve as a COVID-19 vector;**
62 **and**

63 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization and the CDC recommend everyone
64 wear cloth face coverings, particularly indoors in public settings, as it may mitigate the
65 person-to-person spread of airborne water droplets from breathing, coughing, and
66 sneezing, as healthcare workers do in medical clinics and hospitals to protect others by
67 not spreading one’s own germs; and
68

69 **WHEREAS, the County Executive has drafted a revised Administrative Order**
70 **20-14v2, heretofore attached with this file, creating a County universal facemask**
71 **policy which would among other things:**
72

- 73 • **Require any person aged three or older, with limited exceptions, visiting or**
74 **utilizing an indoor Milwaukee County facility or indoor service area, shall**
75 **be required to wear a facemask, covering the mouth and nose, upon entry**
76 **to that facility or area, including on MCTS buses at the point of fare**
77 **collection and at Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport**
- 78
- 79 • **Mandate MCTS and Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport provide a**
80 **limited number of masks to the public for those without access to a mask**
81

- 82 • Require any person aged three or older, with limited exceptions, visiting or
83 utilizing an outdoor Milwaukee County property, shall be required to wear a
84 facemask, covering the mouth and nose, whenever the person is or is likely
85 to be within six feet of any other person who is not a member of that
86 person’s family or household
87
88 • Provide facemasks to members of the public at all indoor County facilities
89 and service areas and the Milwaukee County Zoo

90
91 ; and
92

93 WHEREAS, the Committee on Transportation, Public Works, and Transit, at its
94 meeting of July 8, 2020, recommended adoption of File No. 20-528 (vote 5-0); ~~now,~~
95 ~~therefore,~~ and
96

97 WHEREAS, the Committee on Finance, at its meeting of July 21, 2020,
98 recommended adoption of File No. 20-571 (vote 6-0), supporting all Milwaukee
99 County municipalities creating public health ordinances akin to those adopted by
100 the Village of Shorewood and City of Milwaukee legislatures and encouraging the
101 Wisconsin Governor and Secretary-Designee of the Wisconsin Department of
102 Health Services to enact a Statewide facemask policy; and Milwaukee County will
103 do its part to promote public health, ensure the safety of those at greater risk of
104 acquiring complications from COVID-19, and hasten the COVID-19 Pandemic’s
105 end; now, therefore,
106

107 ~~BE IT RESOLVED, effective August 1, 2020, the Milwaukee County Board of~~
108 ~~Supervisors hereby amends the County Executive’s Administrative Order 20-14v1~~
109 ~~to require all passengers and operators, excepting persons with medical~~
110 ~~conditions and children under age six, to wear some form of face covering while~~
111 ~~on Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) buses to mitigate the spread of~~
112 ~~COVID-19 and ensure the safety of those at greater risk of acquiring~~
113 ~~complications from COVID-19; and~~
114

115 BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, hereby
116 endorses the County Executive’s revised Administrative Order 20-14v2 requiring
117 a universal facemask policy for all persons aged three or older with limited
118 exceptions, covering the mouth and nose: 1) in all Milwaukee County facilities or
119 indoor service areas, including on Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS)
120 buses, at Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport, and the Milwaukee County
121 Zoo, and 2) in all outdoor County facilities or on County grounds for all persons
122 who are, or who are likely to be, within six feet of any person who is not a
123 member of the person’s household.
124

125 ~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, bus operators shall enforce the policy at the~~
126 ~~same time and manner as fare collection is made; and~~

127
128 ~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, MCTS shall provide a limited number of~~
129 ~~disposable, single-use masks to the public for those without access to a mask.~~

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132 07/23/20

133 S:\County Board Files\County Board 2020\Engrossed Resolutions & Ordinances\July 23\20-528 mcts facemask

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