FINAL
6.20.08

HEALTH OFFICER GUIDANCE
MASK USE AND SOCIAL DISTANCING DURING INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

Jurisdiction:_____
Date:_____

TO: (e.g. Media, Community Based Organizations, Public Venues, All Citizens, others)

CC: City Managers
Emergency Managers
Human Resource Managers

A new, severe strain of influenza, which can spread rapidly from person-to-person and cause widespread illness and death, has been detected in California. In order to limit the spread of disease, contact with infected or exposed individuals must be reduced as much as possible.

Pursuant to § 120175[*] of the California Health and Safety Code, the Health Officer of _____ recommends the following measures for all citizens, effective immediately:

- **Stay at home if you are ill.**
- **Keep a distance of at least 6 feet from others.**
- **Wear a mask over your nose and mouth whenever you go out of your house.**
  - **Expect and encourage others to wear a mask and to keep their distance.**
- **Wash your hands frequently with soap and water, or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Always clean hands <u>before and after</u> eating, drinking, touching eyes/nose/mouth, or physical contact with others.**

The duration of this guidance will be determined by the spread of disease in the community, in consultation with California Department of Public Health and regional public health partners. **This recommendation will remain in effect until further notice from the Health Officer.** *This guidance will be reviewed at least weekly*. It is anticipated that these measures may be necessary for a period of 6 to 12 weeks or more.

_____
Health Officer

_____
Date

[*] **H&S Code § 120175, et seq. (2001),** ***Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Act***. Each health officer knowing or having reason to believe that any case of the diseases made reportable by regulation of the department, or any other contagious, infectious or communicable disease exists, or has recently existed, within the territory under his or her jurisdiction, shall take measures as may be necessary to prevent the spread of the disease or occurrence of additional cases.