

**CIVIL EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER
CONTINUING THE DECLARATION OF A PUBLIC EMERGENCY DUE TO COVID-19 AND
FOR RESIDENTS DISPLACED BY THE FIRE AT PATTEN TOWERS;
CONTINUING MASKS IN MOTION MANDATE IN CITY BUILDINGS;
CONTINUING CLOSURE OF COMMUNITY CENTERS;
CONTINUING VAX 4 CASH PROGRAM; AND
RETURNING TO IN-PERSON MEETINGS WITH MASKS AND 6 FEET OF DISTANCE
No. 2021-39**

WHEREAS COVID-19 continues to affect Hamilton County; and

WHEREAS Hamilton County has seen a trend of reduction of new cases of Covid-19 since September 14, 2021; and

WHEREAS vaccination rates in Hamilton continue to increase; and

WHEREAS the previously declared states of emergency caused by COVID -19 and the Patten Towers fire continue;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority invested in the Mayor under Tennessee Code Annotated § 38-9-101, et seq. and 58-8-104 and 58-2-110 (3) and City of Chattanooga Code § 20-41, et. seq.;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM KELLY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, by virtue of the powers vested in me, hereby proclaim that a local public health civil emergency continues to exist in the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee based on COVID-19. I further proclaim that the displaced residents of Patten Towers continue to face a public health civil emergency. **All previous CIVIL EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDERS not specifically revised or repealed are hereby extended by and through this order.**

1. **VAX 4 CASH.** The City of Chattanooga has partnered with the Chattanooga Chamber Foundation, CARTA, and American Airlines to commence the VAX 4 CASH SWEEPSTAKES INCENTIVE PROGRAM (“Incentive Program”). Beginning on Thursday, Aug 5, and ending on the date set by a future executive order (the “Incentive Program Period”), the City of Chattanooga is offering Hamilton County residents the chance to win \$1,000 each week for the duration of the incentive program. As part of a public health initiative, the City of Chattanooga will conduct weekly random drawings to identify one (1) vaccinated Hamilton County resident per drawing to win a \$1,000 cash prize, and other prizes that may be announced. Unvaccinated residents may become eligible for the sweepstakes first by becoming fully vaccinated, then submitting an entry during the Incentive Program Period.

2. **MASKS.** The City of Chattanooga continues to follow the “Masks in Motion” mandate, which requires all all employees and visitors to wear a facial covering any time they are moving about in City Buildings, such as walking to their desks or visiting common spaces - even for those who are fully vaccinated from COVID-19 and previously were able to move about mask-free.

Unvaccinated individuals must continue to wear masks at all times while in City buildings. If you are medically unable to wear a mask, you will be required to provide proof of medical exemption and provide alternate PPE, such as a face shield, at your own cost.

3. **CLOSURE OF COMMUNITY CENTERS.** Effective immediately, all community centers are closed, except to host elections, vaccination clinics, and senior program assistance for property tax freeze and property tax relief. Outdoor pools and parks remain open.

4. **OTHER CITY FACILITIES REMAIN OPEN.** City facilities, except for Community Centers, shall remain open. City employees will continue to receive 100% of employee time off for COVID related absences as determined by HR for up to 80 hours of missed time from work; and also 2/3rds of their employee time off for family related COVID illness or quarantine time after 80 hours as part of this Executive Order which continues during this period of emergency. City employees with a positive COVID test should call the COVID Hotline at 423-643-7990 for instructions on quarantine and contact tracing.

5. MEETINGS MAY BE HELD IN-PERSON, WITH MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCE.

Meetings may be held in-person effective Monday, October 4, 2021, with masks and 6 feet of distance between individuals. If social distance is not possible, the meeting must be held virtually, except for Board and Commissions which are required to be held in-person by the Tennessee Open Meetings Act (TOMA). Meetings subject to TOMA, including City Council meetings, will continue to meet in person and open to the public. For questions about TOMA, please email cityattorney@chattanooga.gov or call 423-643-8250.

6. **CDC GUIDELINES.** I urge all people and entities not covered by this Executive Order to follow the CDC Guidelines, which can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/workplaces-businesses/index.html>. Given the local surge of cases, I also urge unvaccinated individuals to avoid large gatherings, wear masks indoors and outdoors and maintain safe social distance.

7. **PATTEN TOWERS RESIDENTS.** This Order requests continued assistance for the displaced residents of Patten Towers, who need food, shelter, and provisions for their health and safety during this period of emergency.

Please visit www.chattanooga.gov for any changing departmental communications during this period of this Order.

Issued this 1st day of October, 2021, pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 38-9-101, et seq. and 58-8-104 and 58-2-110 (3) by the Mayor of the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Kelly', written in a cursive style.

TIM KELLY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA