

**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;
REQUIRING MASKS IN CITY BUILDINGS FOR ANYONE NOT FULLY VACCINATED;
REOPENING COMMUNITY CENTERS;
CONTINUING VAX 4 CASH PROGRAM;
RETURNING TO IN-PERSON MEETINGS;
AND LIMITING BUSINESS TRAVEL TO VACCINATED EMPLOYEES
No. 2021-42**

WHEREAS COVID-19 continues to affect Hamilton County; and

WHEREAS COVID-19 cases in Hamilton County have trended downward since mid September, 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 **All previous CIVIL EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDERS not specifically revised or repealed are hereby extended by and through this order.**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. 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.** Fully vaccinated individuals are no longer required to wear a mask in City Buildings beginning Monday October 25, 2021. **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. **COMMUNITY CENTERS.** Community Centers are authorized to re-open. Planning for safe, phased-in, re-opening of Community Centers is underway. Community Centers will continue to host elections, vaccination clinics, and senior program assistance for property tax freeze and property tax relief.

4. **OTHER CITY FACILITIES REMAIN OPEN.** City facilities 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 RETURN TO IN-PERSON, WITH MASKS REQUIRED FOR ANYONE WHO IS NOT FULLY VACCINATED.

All meetings may be held in-person beginning Monday, October 25, 2021, with masks required for all individuals who are not fully vaccinated. Please email cityattorney@chattanooga.gov or call 423-643-8250 with any questions related to mask requirements.

6. **BUSINESS TRAVEL: Only fully vaccinated employees will be authorized for business travel.** Employees cannot be required to travel for business while COVID cases continue at the current level.

7. **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.

8. **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 22nd 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.

TIM KELLY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA