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|  | TRAVIS COUNTY ESD #5 MANCHACA FIRE RESCUE Department Directive | D2020-006 |
| | | Effective: 4/15/2020 |
| | Use of Cloth Masks | Rescinds: |
| | | From: C. Poole |

Austin and Travis County has extended their stay home orders until May 8th. Additionally, an order has been issued mandating the use of cloth face coverings when in a public building, using public transportation or ride shares, pumping gas and while outside when six feet of physical distancing cannot be consistently maintained. A face covering is not required when eating, riding in a personal vehicle, alone in a separate single space, or in the presence of other members of your residence. This order is due to the ability of the coronavirus to spread via asymptomatic persons.

Cloth masks have been made available for all ESD5 personnel, staff, Board, FT, PT, and Volunteer members. They are currently on the day room table at station 501. The mask is yours to keep and is washable. ESD5 personnel shall wear a cloth mask:

- When in public
- When in the station in the same space with other personnel and unable to maintain 6 foot distancing
- When in an apparatus with other personnel (the driver may elect to not wear the mask if it creates a fogging issue with glasses)

The cloth masks are not intended for use with patient care when an N95 is appropriate.

Additionally, crews should continue to maintain social distancing including at meal times and social activities such as hanging out in the bay and watching TV.

Take care to continue to show vigilance during this pandemic. As time goes on, it gets easier to drop our guard. Cases continue to be on the rise in the central Texas area. Continuing to faithfully adhere to these precautions will help keep us as safe as we serve our public and go home to our families.