

MAYOR LUMUMBA MANDATES CITYWIDE USE OF FACIAL COVERINGS FOR INDIVIDUALS; BUSINESSES



(Jackson, MS) - On June 30th, Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba issued an executive order requiring all residents and visitors in the City of Jackson to wear a face covering while out in public. The second amended Stay Safe Jackson executive order further requires business owners to require all employees and patrons to wear a facial covering while on the premises.

“As we contemplated the steps forward, we identified that far too many of our residents have been taking a lackadaisical approach to wearing facial coverings in our city. Far too many people have not taken this very critical, deadly virus seriously.

So, we stand here with you, not in an effort to over-govern, but in an effort to protect our residents to the best our ability,” said Mayor Lumumba during the press conference. “We are a business-friendly city. We’re grateful for the businesses that reside in our city. We’re grateful for the employment and economic development that their enterprise provides to our city, but when faced with the concern of a global pandemic and the death of our residents, we have to take the measures which are necessary to protect them. And so, we had the option of [placing] restrictive policies and citations on residents and businesses or the option to shutting the City down completely.”



Inside this Issue

- Mayor Lumumba Issues Citywide Face Cover Policy
- City Council Votes to Relocate Andrew Jackson Statue
- Mayor Lumumba Amends JPD Use of Force Policy
- Gov. Reeves Blocks Bill to Help Jackson Water Customers
- Progress Report on Russell C. Davis Planetarium
- Museum to Market Trail Groundbreaking
- Paving Season 2020: McDowell Rd
- Movies in the Park Summer Series!

Continued from Page 1

Penalties for violating the City's mandatory face cover wearing policy include a \$300.00 citation for individuals and the immediate 24-hour shutdown of any business found in violation. Business owners must also submit an attestation of compliance with the Mayor's executive order prior to reopening.

City Attorney, Tim Howard gave a breakdown of the order's stipulations. He stressed that the intent of the new mandate is not to be punitive in nature, but to save lives. "We know face coverings save lives and we feel it is very necessary to attach consequences when individuals and businesses don't comply," said Attorney Howard.

The second amended Stay Safe Jackson executive order can be found in its entirety on the City of Jackson website, www.jacksonms.gov.

CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZES MAYOR LUMUMBA TO RELOCATE ANDREW JACKSON STATUE FROM GROUNDS OF CITY HALL



(JACKSON, Miss.) – City Council made history during their July 7th meeting when they voted 5-1 to authorize Mayor Lumumba to remove the Andrew Jackson statue from the grounds of City Hall, with Ward 1 Councilman Ashby Foote holding the sole opposing vote on the matter.

"Statues do not only reflect history, they are meant to be monuments demonstrating that a society reveres the person for which the likeness represents. Andrew Jackson is guilty of one of the most heinous acts of genocide that this nation has ever seen. He was also known as one of the most brutal slave owners throughout slavery. And so, as we build a city focused on progress and unity we must make certain that we display images which reflect those aspirations," said Mayor Lumumba his statement to reporters.

The vote comes as localities nationwide have taken steps to remove statues and monuments dedicated to figures with a history of racism and oppression,



following a national outcry for an end to police brutality and systemic racism. A possible replacement for the Andrew Jackson statue could be an effigy of Medgar Evers. No word yet on when or where the statue of Jackson will be relocated.

GOV. REEVES BLOCKS BILL TO HELP JACKSON WATER CUSTOMERS DESPITE UNANIMOUS VOTE IN STATE LEGISLATURE



(JACKSON, Miss.) – During a press conference on Monday, June 22nd, Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba announced new water bill legislation designed to help Jackson water/sewer customers avoid delinquency. Senate Bill 2856, authored by State Senator John Horhn, would create a program to ensure access to water and sewer services to customers who have experienced difficulty with paying their water bills due to financial hardship.

"As you all are aware, we have been significantly challenged with our Water Sewer Business Administration as it pertains to water billing in the erroneous and sometimes difficult bills that residents have been tasked with. And so, it has been a part of our legislative agenda for three years now to provide relief to our residents, now that the State Legislature has passed a measure that enables us to adjust bills for our customers," said Mayor Lumumba of the bill which passed unanimously in the State Senate and House.

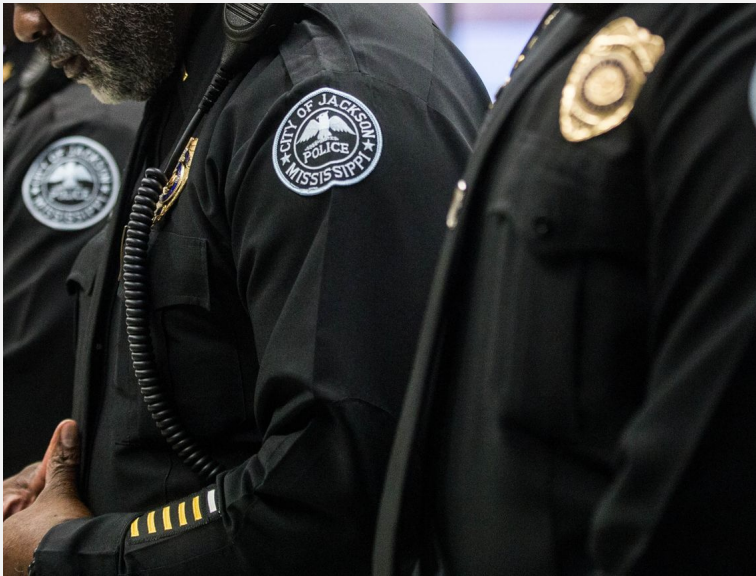
"We have every expectation that the Governor will sign the bill. There were a couple of efforts to amend the bill where it could apply to everybody because Jackson is not alone. A lot of people have different problems in different communities," said Sen. Horhn.

Despite unanimous support for the legislation, Governor Tate Reeves vetoed the measure citing years of Mississippi politicians giving taxpayer-funded services away as political gifts. In a Facebook post, the governor stated, "It's a bill that only applies to the city of Jackson. It allows politicians to say that individuals are not responsible for paying their water bill. It's supposed to be for the impoverished or needy, but there are no safeguards in place to make sure that's the case."

During the announcement, Deputy Public Works Director, Carla Dazet spoke of heartbreaking stories that have flooded her office from families struggling to afford their water bills. The new legislation would have allowed the City to create new policy that would place a cap on monthly bills for customers who can't afford to pay their water bill, lessen restrictions on the current Leak Adjustment Policy, provide support to leak repair, and provide credit for consistent payment against delinquent balances.

According to City Lobbyist, Quincy Mukuro, a new version of the bill will be introduced in January 2021.

MAYOR LUMUMBA ENACTS AMENDMENTS TO JPD USE OF FORCE POLICY ON JUNETEENTH



(JACKSON, Miss.) – On June 19th, Jackson became the latest city in the nation to make changes to its police department's use of force policy. This significant action occurred as protests and calls for defunding police departments nationwide reached a fever pitch in the aftermath of the killings of Rayshard Brooks, George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and other unarmed Black people at the hands of police. Mayor Lumumba signed the executive order updating the Jackson Police Department's nearly 20-year-old Use of Force Policy on Juneteenth- a day commemorating the liberation of Black people from the horrors of slavery in the United States. In a Facebook post, Mayor Lumumba said, "As a Black man, I am deeply familiar with the struggles of our communities. I have always been and will continue to be fully committed to total liberation for all oppressed people so long as the sun shines, the water flows, and the grass grows."

The amended policy now requires officers to de-escalate situations where possible, bans the use of chokeholds and like-manuevers, requires officers to intervene and stop excessive force, restricts officers from shooting into moving vehicles, requires officers to exhaust all other reasonable means before using deadly force, officers must give a verbal warning before discharging their firearm, and a comprehensive report is required by officers each time they use or threaten to use force. The executive order also calls for the development of a Use of Force Continuum that will limit the kinds of force that can be used to respond to specific types of resistance.

Historically, the Lumumba administration has taken steps to reform public safety and preserve the dignity of citizens. Such measures have included the implementation of a Credible Messenger/ Violence Interruption program, referring all cases of officer involved deaths to the District Attorney's Office, releasing the identities of officers involved in Officer Involved Shootings, banning the release of mugshots of persons killed by police, and banning "perp walks" of juveniles by law enforcement.

To view the executive order in its entirety, visit the Jackson Police Department webpage under the City of Jackson website, www.jacksonms.gov.

CITY OF JACKSON GIVES PROGRESS REPORT ON RUSSELL C. DAVIS PLANETARIUM



Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba along with Deputy Director of Cultural Services, David Lewis, and Planetarium Manager, Mike Williams gave a full progress report on the restoration of the Russell C. Davis Planetarium during their June 25th announcement.

"The Planetarium has been closed since April 2018 due to a roof leak and interior damage. Now that the leak is fixed and we have a dry building, there is an opportunity for the Planetarium to have its first full renovation in the last 40 years. While we are excited about the history of this Planetarium, we are even more excited about the next 40 years," said Mayor Lumumba.

During his remarks, Planetarium Manager, Mike Williams explained how iconic the Planetarium has been as part of the downtown landscape. "From school field trips to medical teleconferences, concert performances and comedy shows, to legislative panel discussions, the Planetarium has been unique among Jackson venues in our ability to serve a wide range of our citizens' needs," said Williams.

Deputy Director of Cultural Services, David Lewis said that the process of renovating the Planetarium will take time and money. "Over the past several months, we have been reaching out



to various funding sources at the federal, state, and local level to gauge interest and the response has been remarkable. The City of Jackson has identified around \$2.4 million in various funds to allocate for this project. Part of this includes the funds we have saved from the Planetarium's annual endowment from the Marie R. Hoerner Foundation, previously planned improvements to HVAC/lighting upgrades, and an interior demolition," said Lewis.

The Planetarium was also recently awarded a \$1-million-dollar grant from the Mississippi State Legislature for the renovation project and launched its first Virtual Summer Camp in partnership with JPS Physics teacher, Kendrick Walker and local extended reality company, Lobaki.

From now until the end of August, the Planetarium will be running a fundraising campaign, offering limited edition merchandise for sale to raise money for design work, exhibition design, and exhibition build-out. The Planetarium is projected to reopen in April of 2022.

For more information, visit: www.yourplanetarium.com.

CITY OF JACKSON & MDOT ANNOUNCE GROUNDBREAKING FOR MIXED USE TRAIL FROM FONDREN TO BELHAVEN



The City of Jackson and the Mississippi Department of Transportation held a groundbreaking ceremony at the Mississippi Farmer's Market on the corner of Jefferson Street and Mississippi Street to commemorate the beginning of City's construction on the multi-use Museum Trail. The two-and-a-half-mile trail is expected to be complete by the end of October 2020 and will connect the Mississippi Farmers Market and downtown museums to three public parks and the Mississippi Children's Museum. The trail follows the abandoned GM&O Railroad which travels through Greater Belhaven and along the eastern border of LeFleur's Bluff State Park.

"We are grateful to MDOT, the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District, and all of the partners who helped to bring this long-awaited project to fruition. We are excited to break ground on this Museum Trail, which will undoubtedly help to increase the quality of life for our citizens," said Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba. "Constructed specifically for exercise and non-motorized transportation, this trail will connect our city to its rich history while positively impacting the health of our citizens and the economic development of our community."

Projects like the Museum Trail average a return of three dollars for every dollar invested. Similar projects in Hattiesburg and Memphis, TN have contributed to a significant economic boon for those cities, including new business development, revenue growth for existing businesses, and an increase in tourism dollars. And, studies have shown that real estate values increase within walking distance of multi-use trails.

In addition to the expected increase in revenue for the City, multi-use trails such as this also help to promote a healthier lifestyle. The Museum Trail is a core segment in a planned network of trails that will eventually provide safe bicycle and pedestrian travel throughout Greater Jackson.

This project is made possible through federal grants in conjunction with the Mississippi Department of Transportation and the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District, with grant dollars matched by generous financial contributions from the private sector. Additionally, organizations like the Greater Jackson Chamber of Commerce and the Jackson Heart Foundation, along with numerous individuals and volunteers, contributed time and energy over the ten-plus year effort to reach the groundbreaking. More information on the Museum Trail may be found on the Jxn Trailblazers website or on Facebook @museumtrail.

Neel-Schaffer serves as the city's engineering consultant and Hemphill Construction is the general contractor.

THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION ANNOUNCES ANNUAL MOVIES IN THE PARK SUMMER SERIES

(JACKSON, Miss.) – The Department of Parks and Recreation will host its 3rd Annual Movies in the Park Summer Series. Come out and enjoy a night under the stars, featuring a movie shown on our Jumbo-Tron outdoor movie screen. Bring the family out on Friday nights for a family-themed movie and on Saturday nights for an adult-themed movie. Admission is \$5.00 per vehicle, cash only.

No grills or glass containers are allowed. Parking will be limited, and in an effort to protect our staff, we will practice social distancing to help decrease the spread of COVID-19.

Everyone must remain in or near their vehicles and wear a facial covering at all times. Security will be provided by the Jackson Police Department. Please see times and dates below:

Friday, July 24th

Movie Title: Spider Man, Far From Home

Location: Forest Hill High School Parking Lot
(2607 Raymond Road Jackson, MS 39212)

Time: Pre-show 6:30 p.m. Movie starts at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 25th

Movie Title: Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw

Location: Smith-Wills Stadium Parking Lot
(1200 Lakeland Drive, Jackson, MS 39216)

Time: Pre-show 6:30 p.m.

1st Movie Showing – 7:30 p.m.

2nd Movie Showing – 10:00 p.m.

For more information, please call 601-960-0655.

PAVING SEASON: MCDOWELL ROAD



(JACKSON, Miss.) – Paving Season 2020 continues with road resurfacing on McDowell Road from Belvedere Drive to I-20.

"We're excited to stand before you as we embrace and announce the paving of McDowell Road, right here in front of Key Elementary. This is one of three roads in the Ward 6 area during this year's paving season campaign- a contract totaling \$5,275,000.00. We're excited for this work and we're grateful for constituents who have been very patient as we have dealt with the decaying infrastructure across the City. This is long overdue and we are grateful that our residents have entrusted us with the resources us to accomplish this work," said Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba during a press conference on Monday, June 29th. Public Works crews are also completing ADA sidewalk work along the corridor near Key Elementary School. There will be a total of 13 streets paved during this year's paving season.

How to Wear a Face Cover CORRECTLY



Please stay safe by wearing your face covering correctly. It is mandatory to wear a face covering in public in the City of Jackson.



EMPLOYEE SHOUT OUTS!



Terrance Byrd for being featured in Treatment Plant Operator Magazine for his role as Operations Supervisor at the J.H. Fewell Water Treatment Plant.



Alexis McGrigg for being selected as one of the artists featured in the online exhibition "Say It Loud" presented by Christie's Auction House in NY. The exhibit will run July 31st - Aug. 18th

Jackson City Hall

219 S. President St. Jackson, MS 39205
Monday - Friday • 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
www.jacksonms.gov

Elected Officials

Mayor

Chokwe Antar Lumumba.....601.960.1084

City Council

Ward 1, Ashby Foote.....601.960.2051
Ward 2, Melvin Priester, Jr.....601.960.1091
Ward 3, Kenneth I. Stokes.....601.960.1090
Ward 4, De'Keither Stamps.....601.960.2052
Ward 5, Charles Tillman.....601.960.1092
Ward 6, Aaron Banks.....601.960.1089
Ward 7, Virgi Lindsay.....601.960.1063

Public Safety

Non-Emergency (24-7).....601.960.1234
311 Action Line.....3-1-1
Jackson City Hall Security.....601.960.1037
Warren Hood Bldg. Security.....601.960.1175
Jackson Police Precinct 1.....601.960.0001
Jackson Police Precinct 2.....601.960.0002
Jackson Police Precinct 3.....601.960.0003
Jackson Police Precinct 4.....601.960.0004

Departments

Administration.....601.960.1005
Human & Cultural Services.....601.960.0383
Jackson Fire.....601.960.1392
Jackson Police.....601.960.1217
Municipal Clerk.....601.960.1035
Parks & Recreation.....601.960.0471
Personnel Management.....601.960.1053
Planning & Development.....601.960.1993
Public Works.....601.960.2091