CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM SIXTH AMENDED DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY LIFTING MASK REQUIREMENTS AND CAPACITY RESTRICTIONS

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is a disease spreading across the globe causing flu-like symptoms, but with a significantly higher rate of death, particularly among those who are elderly or medically vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the Health and Human Services Secretary, Alex M. Azar II, declared COVID-19 to be a public health emergency in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, in order to address and mitigate the threat of COVID-19 to vulnerable populations and to slow the spread of COVID-19 in North Carolina, Governor Roy Cooper declared a state of emergency in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared the COVID-19 pandemic to be a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the undersigned declared a state of emergency in the City of Winston-Salem (“Declaration”) due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned, after consulting with local health care officials about the impact of COVID-19 on the Winston-Salem community, issued an Amended Declaration
referred to as a Stay-At-Home Order on March 25, 2020, which became effective on March 27, 2020, at 5:00p.m; and

**WHEREAS**, the undersigned, after consulting with local health care officials about the continued need to slow the spread of COVID-19, issued a Second Amended Declaration extending the Stay-At-Home Order until May 7, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the undersigned issued a Third Amended Declaration on April 29, 2020 rescinding the Stay-At-Home Order; and

**WHEREAS**, the undersigned issued a Fourth Amended Declaration on July 16, 2020 implementing a mask requirement for city facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, undersigned issued a Fifth Amended Declaration on November 24, 2020 emphasizing enforcement of the Governor’s mask requirements and capacity limits; and


**WHEREAS**, over recent months in North Carolina, due to measures taken to date by the Governor and due to the resilience and persistence of all North Carolinians, there have been improvements in the state’s key COVID-19 metrics; and
WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccines are now widely available at no cost to all eligible North Carolinians who wish to receive one, and all eligible individuals are encouraged to get vaccinated; and

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2021, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") issued new Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People; and

WHEREAS, based on this evidence, the new CDC recommendations advise that "indoor and outdoor activities pose minimal risk to fully vaccinated people," and that in most settings, "fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing face coverings or physically distancing"; and

WHEREAS, the new CDC guidance indicates that the face covering requirements and social distancing requirements can be lifted for fully vaccinated people; and

WHEREAS, the Governor issued Executive Order 215 on May 14, 2021, effective May 24, 2021 at 1:30 p.m., lifting the face covering requirements in most settings and lifting the capacity restrictions and social distancing requirements in all settings; and

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, the undersigned wishes to (1) rescind the Third Amended Declaration issued on April 29, 2020, the Fourth Amended Declaration issued on July 16, 2020, and the Fifth Amended Declaration issued on November 24, 2020, respectively, due to the Governor’s issuance of Executive Order 215, and follow the executive order issued by the Governor with regard to lifting COVID-19 restrictions to reflect new public health recommendations.
NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the City of Winston-Salem under N.C.G.S. § 166A-19.31 and Chapter 18 (formerly Chapter 38) of the Winston-Salem Code of Ordinances, I hereby declare and proclaim the following:

Section 1. Reaffirmation. The Declaration of a State of Emergency issued on March 13, 2020, is hereby reaffirmed, and will continue until rescinded, within the jurisdiction of the City of Winston-Salem.

Section 2. Rescission of Third, Fourth, and Fifth Amended Declarations.

The Third Amended Declaration issued on April 29, 2020, the Fourth Amended Declaration issued on July 16, 2020, and the Fifth Amended Declaration issued on November 24, 2020, respectively, are hereby rescinded, consistent with the language of the Governor’s Executive Order 215 lifting the face covering requirements and capacity restrictions.

Section 3. Incorporation of Governor’s Executive Order 215.

The undersigned hereby incorporates the Governor’s Executive Order 215 herein, lifting face covering requirements in most settings, save and except certain businesses and operations, including, but not limited to, all workers and riders on city buses and all people at bus stations or stops; and lifts capacity restrictions in all settings.

Section 4. Enforcement.

The Manager’s Office is hereby authorized to designate city staff to enforce the Sixth Amended Declaration by: (a) educating individuals, organizations and businesses regarding this Sixth Amended Declaration and the Governor’s Executive Order 215, (b) seeking voluntary compliance, and (c) issuing civil penalties to the appropriate individual(s), organization(s) and business(es) for any and all violations that are not remedied after efforts to educate and seek
voluntary compliance have been made, pursuant to Section 18-21(I) of the Winston-Salem Code of Ordinances.

Section 5. Applicability. This Sixth Amended Declaration shall apply within the City limits of the City of Winston-Salem. The Governor’s executive orders shall prevail in the event of a conflict between this Sixth Amended Declaration and any of the Governor’s executive orders.

Section 6. Distribution. I, hereby, order this Sixth Amended Declaration: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be posted on the City’s website; (c) to be filed with the City Clerk or Deputy City Clerk; and (d) to be distributed to others, as necessary, to ensure proper implementation of this Sixth Amended Declaration.

Section 7. Effective Date and Time. This Sixth Amended Declaration shall take effect at 5:00pm, May 21, 2021 and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded.

DECLARED, this, the 21st day of May 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

Allen Joiner
Mayor, City of Winston-Salem

ATTEST:

City Clerk

[Seal]