Ordinance No. 10-23

ORDINANCE TO: Repeal Ordinance No. 3-22 which (i) requires all City contractors who are required to enter a City facility and perform a service or deliver a good that brings them into close proximity with City staff, officials, and members of the public, to provide proof of a COVID-19 vaccination before entering a City facility, (ii) require all members of City boards, commissions, task forces, and committees who enter a City facility in their capacity as a member or commissioner, to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination before entering a City facility; and (iii) permit any party that leases a City facility to require their patrons and guest to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination before entering the leased City facility.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, in early March 2020, the President declared a National Emergency Concerning the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the State of Maryland issued an Emergency Declaration regarding Coronavirus, as well as the Montgomery County Board of Health issued many Health Regulations to address the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, by ordinance No. 3-22, the Mayor and Council of Rockville required proof of COVID-19 vaccination for City contractors, guests, patrons, and members of boards, commissions, task forces, and committees attending meetings and events at City facilities that brought them into close proximity to City employees and the public; and

WHEREAS, The National Emergency Concerning the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic expired as of May 11, 2023, the Emergency Declaration by the State of Maryland terminated as of August 15, 2021, and there are no active COVID-19 orders or regulations for Montgomery County, Md.

WHEREAS, the current state of the COVID-19 Pandemic is vastly different from the peak surges of virus with daily COVID-19 reported cases down 92%, COVID-19 deaths having declined by over 80%, and new COVID-19 hospitalizations being down nearly 80%; and

WHEREAS, After careful consideration of changing conditions, better understanding of the role of the COVID-19 vaccine, the development of effective treatments for the COVID-19 virus, and the expiration of the National Emergency Concerning the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council to repeal Ordinance No. 3-22 requiring proof of vaccination as noted above.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND, that Ordinance No. 3-22 is repealed in its entirety.

The effective date of this Ordinance shall be June 12, 2023.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Mayor and Council of Rockville at its meeting of June 12, 2023.

Sara Taylor-Ferrel

City Clerk/Director of Council Operations