

Resolution No: 13-21

Resolution: Effective November 15, 2021, all City employees will be required to have received the single dose of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine or both doses of the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. Employees approved medical or religious exemptions will be required to submit weekly COVID-19 test results.

WHEREAS, nationally, as of October 3, 2021, there have been more than 700,000 confirmed COVID-19 deaths and over 3 million hospitalizations due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, across the State of Maryland, as of October 3, 2021, there have been 10,260 confirmed deaths associated with the COVID-19 virus, and according to state data, the risk of hospitalization or death among the unvaccinated is about 25 times higher than among the fully vaccinated; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19, including the highly contagious Delta variant, continues to pose a very serious health risk, especially to individuals who are not fully vaccinated, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Maryland Department of Health, and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is now the primary cause of death for some populations and, according to the Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Fund, nationally, COVID-19 is the leading cause of death among Police Officers; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, in a September 15, 2021 science-in-brief publication titled Science Brief: COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccination, "Early evidence for reduced levels of viral mRNA and culturable virus in vaccinated people who acquire SARs-CoV-2 infection, suggest that any associated transmission risk is substantially reduced in vaccinated people: Even for Delta, evidence suggests fully vaccinated people who become infected are infectious for shorter periods of time than unvaccinated people infected with Delta. Fully vaccinated people will likely spread the virus for less time than unvaccinated people."; and

WHEREAS, vaccination remains the most effective way to mitigate COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths among our employees, and employees can get vaccinated at no cost; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City to protect its employees and the public, and the City is committed to doing its part to help end this deadly pandemic.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that all employees, including seasonal, temporary, and part-time employees working for the City of Rockville will be required to have received the single dose of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine or both doses of the Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine by November 15, 2021, and are required to receive any additional doses of the COVID-19 vaccine in a manner and schedule consistent with the current CDC guidelines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that employees will be required to submit weekly COVID-19 test results, if they are approved for a medical or religious exemption.

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council at its meeting of October 4, 2021

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director
of Council Operations