

# COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for the Martin County Veteran's Memorial Dedication & Parade

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## **Purpose:**

In response to the community spread of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, Martin County has declared a local emergency. In order to assist volunteers, attendees and the public with health concerns and issues related to the current public health environment, this Event Preparedness Policy will be in place for the Martin County Veteran's Memorial Dedication Ceremony and Parade scheduled for August 1, 2020. *This event is endorsed and accommodated by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs with acting Deputy Secretary Pamela Powers officiating.*

All members of the Veteran's Memorial Dedication Committee along with event volunteers are responsible for implementing this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 in our community, and that requires full cooperation among our volunteers and constituents for the Martin County Veteran's Memorial Dedication Ceremony and Parade.

This COVID-19 Preparedness Plan follows the industry guidance developed by the state of Minnesota, which is based upon Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines for COVID-19, Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MNOSHA) statutes, rules and standards, and Minnesota's relevant and current executive orders. It addresses the following items for each event:

- ensuring sick members of the public stay home;
- social distancing – workers must be at least six-feet apart;
- volunteer and public hygiene and source controls;
- Communication and training practices and protocol.

We recognize that the evolving nature of the pandemic may create the need for this plan to be amended, updated, and replaced.

## **Screening and Displaying Contagious Symptoms**

Volunteers and attendees of the event are expected to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Symptoms of COVID-19 can include fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, headache, muscle pain, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell. Other less common symptoms include gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.

Any volunteer or member of the public anticipating attending the event who is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 is expected to stay home. If a volunteer or attendee is displaying symptoms of contagious disease, it is advised they leave the event immediately.



## **Implementation of Prevention Measures**

### **Handwashing & Hygiene**

All volunteers are instructed to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water when able to throughout the event. Hand-sanitizer dispensers and sanitizing wipes will be placed at entrances and communal areas of the event to be used for hand hygiene in place of soap and water.

### **Face-coverings & Respiratory Etiquette**

In compliance with Executive Order 20-81, the Martin County Veteran's Memorial Dedication Committee strongly encourages face-coverings throughout the event when social distancing is difficult to maintain during the parade portion of the dedication events.

Face coverings will be required by both volunteers and attendees of the Memorial Dedication Ceremony.

Utilization of a personal cloth mask is recommended. Face coverings can include a paper or disposable face mask, a cloth face mask, a scarf, a bandanna, a neck gaiter, or a religious face covering. Face coverings must be worn to cover the nose and mouth completely. Disposable masks will be available for those in need at the event site.

Volunteers and visitors are being instructed to cover their mouth and nose with their sleeve or a tissue when coughing or sneezing and to avoid touching their face, in particular their mouth, nose and eyes, with their hands. They should dispose of tissues in the trash and wash or sanitize their hands immediately afterward. Respiratory etiquette will be supported by making tissues and trash receptacles available to all workers and visitors.

### **Social Distancing**

Social distancing measures are being implemented through the following engineering and administrative controls:

- Ensure physical distancing maintained throughout the event to ensure 6 feet spacing per household.
  - Social distancing signage will be placed throughout the parade route and Memorial Park as a reminder of distancing guidance for volunteers and attendees.
- Volunteers, attendees and public are discouraged from gathering in groups.
- In compliance to Executive Order 20-74, this outdoor gathering will not exceed 250 individuals per zoned area of events.
- In alliance to COVID-19 Guidance for Parades, no parade unit is to distribute hand-outs of any kind (including candy, pamphlets, merchandise, etc.)

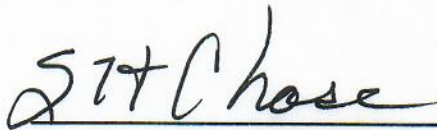
## **Communication & Training**

This COVID-19 Preparedness Plan was communicated to all committee members, volunteers and the public on Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> on the Martin County Veteran's Memorial Website and Facebook page. Additional communication and training will be ongoing as needed.

All members of the Martin County Veterans Memorial Committee, volunteers and attendees of the event are to take an active role and collaborate in carrying out the various aspects of this plan, and update the protections, protocols, work-practices and training as necessary. This COVID-19 Preparedness Plan has been certified and approved by the Martin County Veterans Memorial Committee and will be posted and made readily available to volunteers.

In the event of inclement weather, the Veteran's Memorial Dedication Ceremony will be held at the Martin County Fairgrounds arena located at 1300 North Bixby Road in Fairmont, MN. This facility has a fire code capacity of 1500 people, which meets the capacity to accommodate requirements under Executive Order 20-74.

Certified by:



**Steve Chase, Chairman**  
Martin County Veteran's Memorial Committee – Dedication

7-27-2020

Date