

Office of the

# Board of Health

City Hall

718 Main Street

Fitchburg, MA 01420

978-829-1870



## ORDER REQUIRING FACE COVERINGS IN MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

### COVID-19 Order #2021-2

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Centers for Disease Control have determined that COVID-19 is spread mainly by person to person contact and that the best means of slowing the spread of the virus is through practicing social distancing and by minimizing personal contact with environments where the virus may be spread;

**WHEREAS**, the Center for Disease Control has updated information for fully vaccinated people given new evidence on the B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant currently circulating in the United States and recommends fully vaccinated people to wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission.

**WHEREAS**, the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 continues to rise in the Commonwealth and the City of Fitchburg and the Center for Disease Control has identified Worcester County in a high transmission area;

**WHEREAS**, the CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to schools, regardless of vaccination status.

**WHEREAS**, public health experts have determined that it is possible for an infected individual to transmit COVID-19 even when the individual does not exhibit symptoms of the virus;

**NOW, THEREFORE THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE CITY OF FITCHBURG,**

**HEREBY ORDERS THE FOLLOWING:**

Effective Monday, August 23, 2021:

1. All persons are required to wear masks or cloth face coverings at all times when inside all areas of City of Fitchburg Municipal Buildings (including but not limited to City Hall), and schools without a vaccination mandate (public, private, parochial, and vocational).

2. This Order shall also include Fitchburg Housing Authority Buildings.
3. All persons are also required to wear masks or cloth face coverings when providing or using the services of any taxi, car, livery, ride-sharing, or similar service or any means of mass public transit, or while within an enclosed or semi- enclosed transit stop or waiting area.
4. It is further adopted anyone failing to follow said order is subject to a \$300 fine for each offense.
5. All municipal buildings and schools that are open to the public shall post a sign on their main entrance doors advising consumers that they are required to wear a face covering upon entering;
6. This order shall apply to all persons over age two whom are indoors in a municipal building within the City of Fitchburg, except where a person is unable to wear a mask or face covering due to a medical condition or the person is otherwise exempted by Department of Public Health guidance. A person who declines to wear a mask or cloth face covering because of a medical condition shall not be required to produce documentation verifying the condition;
7. To the extent necessary, this order shall be enforced by the Board of Health officials, Fitchburg Police and the Massachusetts State Police.
8. Whoever violates any provision of this Order may be penalized in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 21D and a \$300.00 fine in accordance with this Order from the City of Fitchburg for non-criminal disposition.
9. If non-criminal disposition is elected, then any person who violates any provision of this Regulation is subject to a penalty in the amount of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) for each violation. Each day or portion thereof shall constitute a separate offense. If more than one, each condition violated shall constitute a separate offense.

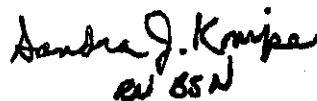
**This Order is effective Monday, August 23, 2021, and shall remain in effect until rescinded by the Board of Health of the City of Fitchburg.**

Dated: August 13, 2021, and adopted at its regular meeting held on August 5, 2021

So Ordered,



John Bogdasarian, M.D.  
Chairman



Sandra Knipe, R.N., B.S.N  
Member



Ian J. Murray  
Member