

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

**TOWN OF SHELBURNE**

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

**COVID-19 MANDATORY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR WEARING OF MASKS OR**

**OTHER FACE COVERINGS IN PUBLIC INDOOR SPACES IN THE TOWN OF SHELBURNE**

**Members of the Shelburne Board of Health held an emergency meeting with members of the Shelburne Selectboard on Monday, January 3, 2022 and voted to reinstate the COVID-19 mask mandate effective immediately. The mask mandate will remain in effect until further notice. Members of the Board of Health will review case numbers periodically and notify the public when the mandate is rescinded.**

WHEREAS, the COVID variants are now accounting for the vast majority of positive cases in Massachusetts (source <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#variant-proportions)>, and

WHEREAS, these variants are almost twice as contagious as previous variants; and

WHEREAS, we know that masks slow or prevent transmission of all COVID-19 variants so far; and

WHEREAS, as we see cases rise in surrounding counties and communities, we are committed to preventing transmission, keeping our numbers as low as possible, and preventing our most vulnerable from severe illness with a new mask mandate; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, “Given what we know about the variants, vaccine effectiveness, and current vaccine coverage, layered prevention strategies, including the wearing of masks, are needed to reduce the transmission of these variants.” Please reference: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

NOW, THEREFORE, commencing on **Tuesday, January 4, 2022,** the following Order **MUST** be implemented at all times at all public indoor spaces in the Town of **TOWN OF SHELBURNE**.

**Section 1 Authority:**

This order is promulgated under the authority granted to the Board of Health under Massachusetts

General Law, Chapter 111, Section 31.

**Section 2 Definitions:**

Public Indoor Spaces **-** The term “public indoor spaces” shall include all places into which members of the public are invited or otherwise allowed to enter a building or structure to interact with any persons in order to or transact any public or private business. This includes but is not limited to restaurants, bars, offices, indoor performance and event venues, hotels and motels, gyms, fitness clubs, salons, places of worship.

**Section 3 Order:**

Masks are required in all indoor public places as well as private places open to the public, regardless of vaccination status, for those over the age of five (5) years old or for those that the wearing of a mask is contraindicated for medical reasons.

1. Employees of public indoor spaces must wear masks or other face coverings at all times while on the premises of the business, unless alone in their personal work space.
2. Customers of and visitors to public indoor spaces in the **TOWN OF SHELBURNE** must wear masks or other face coverings at all times while on the premises of the business, unless seated in a restaurant or bar.
3. Employees in office spaces which are enclosed with a barrier between the public and employees are exempt from wearing a mask or face covering when not interacting with the public.

**Section 4 Public Notice:** The person or entity in control of a public indoor space shall have the obligation to notify their employees and the public of the requirements of the mask mandate set forth in this order. Such notification shall include signage affixed to each entrance; the Board of Health upon request will provide such signage.

**Section 5 Effective:**

This order is in effect immediately.

 January 3, 2022

Randy Crochier, As Agent to the Shelburne Board of Health