



## **Emergency Order of the Holliston Board of Health Regarding Practices to Prevent Spread of Infectious Respiratory Droplets**

In light of the recent increase in the COVID-19 Virus Omicron Variant, which has been proven to be significantly more transmissible, the Holliston Board of Health is issuing the following Emergency Order Regarding Practices to Prevent the Spread of Infectious Respiratory Droplets, pursuant to its authority under M.G.L. c. 111, §104:

1. **Masking Indoors**
  - a. All persons shall wear a mask or approved face covering that covers their nose and mouth whenever they are indoors on the premises of a business, club, place of assembly or other place that is open to members of the public, including but not limited to retail establishments, restaurants, bars, performance venues, social clubs, event spaces, and municipal buildings.
  - b. Restaurant and indoor bar customers may only remove face coverings when they are actively eating or drinking. Patrons standing or ordering at the bar, or checkout area, must be masked.
2. **Posting**
  - a. All open businesses and indoor spaces on the premises of a business, club or places of assembly, must also display signs reminding anyone entering that they need to be wearing a face covering.
3. **Exceptions**

The mask requirement shall not apply in the following circumstances:

  - a. This Order shall not apply to informal gatherings at private residences.
  - b. Face coverings are not required for children under two years of age, anyone who has trouble breathing, anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance, or anyone who due to disability is unable to wear a mask.
  - c. The mask requirement shall not apply to performers, while performing, provided that they are at least six feet away from any customers.
4. **Term and Termination**
  - a. This order shall go into effect as of January 6, 2022 at 8:00 am. It shall remain in effect until notice is given, pursuant to the Board of Health's judgment that the public health emergency no longer exists.
5. **Enforcement**
  - a. To the extent necessary, the Board of Health, or its designated agent pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111, §30, are authorized to enforce this Order.
6. **Effective Date of Order: January 6, 2022.**

Agreed and Accepted:

Thomas Ellis, Chair, Board of Health

Date 1/4/2022