

## **Amended Board of Health regulation to prevent the spread of COVID-19 & indoor mask guidance**

I am writing to voice my opposition to delaying the reinstatement of the mask mandate. Masks have been shown to save lives and help slow the spread of COVID. It is irresponsible to delay protecting the lives of others.

Under the proposed amendment, the COVID cases would need to be above 50 for seven consecutive days and a four-day grace period, which means that you would be putting people at an increased risk for 11 days before taking any action to implement a mask mandate. The individuals who work directly with the public do not receive a grace period from catching COVID.

If you want to avoid the back and forth of reinstating and lifting the mask policy, then enforce the mask mandate until COVID is no longer a risk. Even moderate transmission is still a risk. If COVID is a risk, your moral obligation should be to protect others.

By not reinstating the mask mandate immediately, you will put the most vulnerable in our county in jeopardy - the people who cannot work remotely, the people who are in public facing roles. It is reckless, negligent, and cruel that you would even consider delaying reinstating the mask mandate which helps save lives.