



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

BOARD OF HEALTH:
LAW DEPARTMENT:
RECORDS DEPARTMENT:

**EMERGENCY REGULATION RESCINDING THE
APRIL 14, 2022, EMERGENCY ORDER
TEMPORARILY REINSTATING MASKING REQUIREMENTS
IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF
THE 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**

WHEREAS, effective February 25, 2022, the Board of Health adopted the Third Consolidated and Restated Supplemental Emergency Regulation Governing the Control and Prevention of COVID-19 (Consolidated State Measures for Full Reopening and Delegation of Authority) which was amended effective March 11, 2022 (the “Amended Third Consolidated and Restated Emergency Regulation”) which, among other matters, provided for the relaxation of certain masking requirements under certain circumstances, subject to the reinstatement of such requirements by the Health Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, the introductory clauses from the Amended Third Consolidated and Restated Emergency Regulation are incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2022, the Health Commissioner began encouraging Philadelphians to resume wearing masks in indoor locations; and

WHEREAS, on April 14, 2022, the Health Commissioner issued an Emergency Order Temporarily Reinstating the Masking Requirements in Certain Circumstances to Prevent the Spread of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) (“April Emergency Masking Order”), effective April 18, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the April Emergency Masking Order was issued because COVID-19 rates and numbers hit certain metrics that the City had previously publicly stated would trigger the need to require the use of masks in order to slow the spread of COVID-19 related to a rise in COVID-19 case counts, the average number of new COVID-19 cases, and the number of hospitalizations; and

WHEREAS, the introductory clauses from the April Emergency Masking Order are incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, as throughout the course of the pandemic, Philadelphians responded to the call by masking up to once again slow the spread of COVID-19, despite a rise in cases outside the City limits; and

WHEREAS, as of April 21, 2022, after increasing for the last few weeks, the average daily case count for reported COVID-19 cases plateaued; and after a steady increase, COVID-19-related hospitalizations have fallen from a high of approximately 82 on Sunday April 17, 2022, to approximately 65 as of today, a nearly 25% percent decline in the last four days alone;

and

WHEREAS, at this time the Board has determined it is appropriate to once again strongly encourage, but not require, mask use in public indoor locations; and

WHEREAS, the ability to both impose and relax disease control and prevention measures quickly to best protect the public health remains critical during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the foregoing, the Board promulgates this regulation, as an emergency regulation effective immediately upon delivery to the Department of Records, while the remaining procedures and formalities of Section 8-407 are followed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Health hereby adopts the following regulation:

The Health Commissioner's April 14, 2022, Emergency Order Temporarily Reinstating the Masking Requirements in Certain Circumstances to Prevent the Spread of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is hereby rescinded.