

RESOLUTION 10212021A OF THE

Larimer County Department of Health and Environment

BOARD OF HEALTH

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER
ISSUED OCTOBER 15, 2021
REQUIRING COUNTYWIDE FACE COVERINGS IN INDOOR SETTINGS**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes 25-1-508(5)(a), (f), and (h) the Board of Health develops and promotes the public policies needed to secure the conditions necessary for a health community; determines the general policies to be followed by the public health director in administering and enforcing public health laws, orders and rules of the county or district board, and orders, rules, and standards of the state board; and acts in an advisory capacity to the public health director on all matters pertaining to public health; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic requires a continued and ongoing response; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health seeks to apply scientific evidence and best practices regarding the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically; and

WHEREAS, the virus that causes Coronavirus 2019 ("COVID-19") Delta variant is easily transmitted, especially in group settings, and it is essential that the spread of the virus be slowed to protect the ability of public and private health care providers to handle the influx of patients and safeguard public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2021, the Larimer County Board of Health issued a resolution affirming policies regarding response to COVID-19 pandemic and supported the Public Health Director in issuing the Amended Eighth Public Health Order to control the spread of COVID-19 in Larimer County; and

WHEREAS, on July 27, 2021, the CDC updated its guidance and recommended that fully vaccinated people wear a mask in all public indoor settings in areas of substantial or high transmission in addition to recommending that all unvaccinated persons aged 2 or older wear masks in public indoor settings; and

WHEREAS, unvaccinated people remain the greatest concern; and over 26% of the eligible population of individuals 12 years and older remains unvaccinated, over 35% of



the total population remains unvaccinated, and only 110 individuals are receiving a first dose each day on average; and

WHEREAS, Larimer County's seven-day average of new cases has been rising since June 16, 2021, and as of October 14, 2021, is currently at 282 cases per 100,000 residents, 12 times higher than the low on June 16, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the number of patients hospitalized with COVID-19 in our local hospital facilities serving Larimer County residents, has been rising since July 15, 2021, and as of October 14, 2021, there are 84 COVID-19 patients hospitalized in Larimer County facilities, a sevenfold increase from a low of 12 patients; and

WHEREAS, the hospital intensive care units in Larimer County have met or exceeded 100% of usual and customary care most days since August 20, 2021, and overburdened intensive care units and hospitals are associated with worse patient outcomes; and

WHEREAS, on August 11, 2021, the Public Health Director strongly recommended that all community members wear face coverings in public indoor settings to prevent the spread of COVID-19 due to the rapidly increasing threat of the Delta variant, primarily among unvaccinated people; and

WHEREAS, there exist two primary strategies, masking and vaccination, for mitigating the risk of transmission associated with gatherings of individuals in enclosed spaces that can be supplemented by additional prevention strategies including ventilation and filtration while universal adoption of face coverings has demonstrable efficacy in reducing the number and density of aerosolized particles that may carry the SARS-CoV-2 virus which reduces transmission; and

WHEREAS, The Public Health Director continues to call on unvaccinated, eligible residents to make the decision to get vaccinated without delay to protect themselves and others, reduce the spread of COVID-19, and mitigate many of the serious health impacts unvaccinated patients face when they contract COVID-19; and


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Larimer County Board of Health wishes to express support for the Larimer County Public Health Director and his decision to implement a countywide face covering requirement in Larimer County; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Larimer County Board of Health joins the Public Health Director in encouraging eligible Larimer County residents to get vaccinated.

MOVED, SECONDED AND ADOPTED BY THE LARIMER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH AT ITS REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2021.



LARIMER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

BY: 
PRESIDENT


ATTEST: _____
SECRETARY

