

IMPORTANT UPDATE ON GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY ORDERS!**Municipal Ordinances Will Remain in Effect Until Modified Through Local Action!**

As announced by the Governor yesterday, the statewide mask mandate will expire today. This includes both the mandate imposed by Emergency Order #74 as well as the prior order, Emergency Order #63.

As the Governor's [Press Release](#) states, "It is important to note that this mandate going away will not limit or prevent the ability of private businesses and local cities and towns from requiring masks." Many municipalities have adopted local ordinances requiring the wearing of masks pursuant to RSA 147:1 and/or RSA 47:17. Those local ordinances will remain in effect until modified through local action.

In addition, we have learned that the "Safer at Home" Orders will remain in effect for three weeks. For reference, "Safer at Home" Emergency Orders include #52, #62, #72, and #82. "Safer at Home" Orders do not apply to local government.

It is important to note that the expiration of the universal mask mandate does **not** relieve all members of the public from wearing masks. The Safer at Home Orders contain provisions requiring the wearing of masks in certain situations, such as in restaurant settings. See, e.g., Exhibit B of Emergency Order #52. Thus, there will continue to be situations mask wearing by the public is required by Emergency Order.

For those concerned about how this will affect remote meetings and other municipal business that has adopted pursuant to Emergency Orders #12 and #23, we have learned that the State of Emergency will be renewed. As such, the Emergency Orders that allow remote meetings and affect other municipal operations will continue to be in place.

Presently, there is no target date for the State of Emergency to expire, but we anticipate advance notice will be given.

Questions?

Please contact us at 603.224.7447 or legalinquiries@nhmunicipal.org.

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