

From: [SH County Executive](#)
To: [SH County Executive](#)
Subject: Changes to Universal Face Mask Order
Date: Thursday, May 20, 2021 1:21:18 PM



Dear Employees,

Since the pandemic began, Milwaukee County has made a careful, measured and intentional effort to protect the health and well-being of our more than 4,000 County employees and the community members who reside in Milwaukee County. Our commitment to data-driven decisions remains.

With these considerations in mind, we will be publicly announcing today that as of June 1, 2021, Milwaukee County's Universal Face Mask Administrative Order will be amended:

- COVID-protocols, including masking and social distancing, will continue to be required indoors at all County facilities - for both members of the public and County employees. This includes masking at private, indoor events.
- Members of the public will no longer be required to wear masks while outdoors at County-owned areas.
- County employees will be required to wear masks outdoors at times when they cannot maintain 6 feet of distance with other people. When distance can be maintained outdoors, Milwaukee County employees may remove their masks when outdoors.

In outdoor settings, the risk of transmission of COVID-19 is much lower than indoors, which is why we feel confident about removing face mask requirements for the public when outside, and for employees outdoors when social distancing is possible. The risk of transmission indoors, however, is significantly higher and we want to ensure our services remain accessible and safe to all employees and members of the public.

While we have made great progress in our fight against COVID-19, we continue to see a high burden of disease throughout Milwaukee County and our vaccination rates are not yet where they need to be. We believe continued diligence and adherence to existing guidelines is critical to our desire to reach herd immunity.

We are committed to continually reviewing and evaluating policies based on the best public health information available, including community disease burden, vaccination

rates, and CDC and DHS guidance. Ultimately, we will let transmission levels and vaccination rates be our guide. The best path forward for Milwaukee County is for as many members of our community to be vaccinated as soon as possible. Visit healthymke.com or text your zip code to 438829 to find a vaccination site near you.

If you have any questions, please email COVID-19@milwaukeecountywi.gov.

Respectfully,

The Office of the County Executive

county.milwaukee.gov