

For Immediate Release **March 3, 2022** Contact: Lauren Santillana, Public Information Coordinator (424) 331-2386

LA County Department of Public Health Modifies Health Officer Order Masks to be Recommended Indoors but Not Required

Beverly Hills, CA – Today, LA County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) officials announced that it will modify its Health Officer Order that will take effect Friday, March 4, 2022, in which indoor masking will be strongly recommended, but not required, for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals, except in high-risk settings where federal and state regulations continue to require masking.

High-risk settings that will continue to require masking include public transit, emergency shelters, health care settings, correctional and detention facilities, homeless shelters and long-term care facilities.

This decision comes as a result of reduced COVID-19 spread, allowing the county to move into a lower risk tier.

Masks will still be required indoors at schools and childcare facilities until March 11 when masks will be strongly recommended for students, children, teachers, and staff regardless of vaccination status. School districts in LA County may continue to require masking at schools and during school activities, along with other appropriate safety protections for their school community.

At all sites where masking indoors is no longer mandatory, businesses may still choose to require customers and/or employees continue to wear masks or show proof of vaccination/negative test as a business practice.

Employers are also being mandated to follow the CalOSHA Temporary ETS until further notice. Employers will be required to offer, for voluntary use, medical grade masks and respirators to employees working indoors in close contact with other workers and/or customers.

Additionally, the order emphasizes that residents and workers are asked to continue adhering to masking requirements when indoors or at crowded outdoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status and to remain home when sick or in close contact with someone with COVID-19.

For additional information or questions about the Health Officer Order, please email <u>businessrecovery@beverlyhills.org.</u>

To stay updated on the latest COVID-19 news, visit <u>beverlyhills.org/coronavirus</u> or call the City's COVID-19 Hotline Monday-Friday from 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. at 310-550-4680.