TOWN OF WARREN, RHODE ISLAND
EMERGENCY TEMPORARY MASKING POLICY FOR TOWN OWNED & OPERATED BUILDINGS
January 5, 2022

I.   Purpose. The Town of Warren (the "Town") is experiencing a high rate of community transmission of the COVID-19 virus, including the Delta and Omicron variants. This emergency temporary masking policy for town owned and operated buildings within the Town of Warren is being implemented for the purpose of reducing the spread of COVID-19 and limiting the risk of transmission by and to employees and visitors.

II.   General Provisions:

   A.   This policy is in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 21-116, which was implemented on December 16, 2021.
   B.   This policy shall apply to all town owned and operated buildings, including Town Hall, Government Center, Mary V. Quirk Community Center, Warren Animal Shelter and the Department of Public Works facility (indoors only).
   C.   All staff and visitors to town owned and operated buildings within the Town of Warren will be required to wear a face covering while indoors.
   D.   This policy shall remain in effect until such time that the rate of community transmission is reduced below the State's target of >5% positivity rate, the Governor's Executive Order is rescinded, or this order is rescinded by the Warren Town Manager; whichever occurs first.

III.   Exceptions

   Masking is not required for any person when:

   • A face covering would impede communication by or with a person who has a hearing impediment;
   • Working alone in an office or at a job site, provided if a worker can reasonably expect to interact with or to be approached by customers, coworkers or visitors, the worker must wear a mask or face covering;
   • Working in an environment where masking would create a safety hazard;
   • Speaking to a broadcast, webcast or audience when no person is within six feet of the person speaking;
   • Consuming food or drink; or
   • Officiating, or participating as a legal party in, a marriage or civil union ceremony.

_____   January 5, 2022_____
Kate Michaud, Town Manager   (Date)