ORDER OF THE MISSOULA CITY-COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER
Rescinding Face Covering (Mask) Rule as per Health Board Action of April 15, 2021
Issuing Face Covering Recommendations
May 10, 2021

WHEREAS, the Missoula City-County Health Board on April 15, 2021 took action to rescind the Board’s face covering (mask) rule contingent upon achievement of COVID-19 new case incidence and vaccination metrics:
1) At least 60% of Missoula County residents ages 16 and older have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, and
2) The new case incidence trend has not trended above 25 new cases daily per 100,000 population on a seven-day rolling average, and
3) At a date no sooner than May 11, 2021 (expected date of weekly vaccine data report).

WHEREAS, the percentage of Missoula County residents who are vaccine-eligible have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine reached 60% as reported on May 10;

WHEREAS, the new case incidence has not exceeded 25 per 100,000 population since February 1, 2021;

WHEREAS, all other previously issued community-wide COVID-19 mitigation requirements have been rescinded and reissued as recommendations in three earlier phases to provide a transmission period between reliance on mitigation measures and reliance on vaccines for community protection;

WHEREAS, As of May 10, all Missoula County residents aged 16 and older have had opportunities to receive, at no cost, COVID-19 vaccinations, including booster shots for a full six weeks thereby allowing by maximum immunity to develop;

WHEREAS, the efficacy of single dose and double-dose vaccinations in use provide high levels of individual efficacy, enough that the first dose of a two-dose vaccine affords some protection at the population level;

WHEREAS, numerous no-cost COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination promotion efforts remain available;

WHEREAS, Missoula County is approaching, but has not reached a vaccination rate among the population that may constitute herd immunity;

WHEREAS, children from infancy through age 15 do not, as of this date, have an approved vaccine against COVID-19 available to them and remain at risk for COVID-19 disease and transmission;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Public Health Officer, effective immediately, rescinds the mask rule and issues recommendations for mask use for the following populations and settings:
1) Among children ages 2-15 when in groups or congregate settings such as day camps, daycare, classrooms and at social events;
2) Ages 2 and up at events, gatherings, and places where groups of vaccinated and non-vaccinated people may mix:
   a. At indoor group events such as worship services, ceremonies, parties, receptions, business meetings and conferences,
   b. At large outdoor events such as concerts, dances, markets, and festivals, and
   c. Inside health care facilities, businesses, agencies, classrooms, and government offices where the public is present.

Signed:

Date

Ellen Leahy, RM, MN, MPH
Health Officer