



Board of Supervisors Memorandum

February 15, 2022

Single Month Renewal of Masking Resolution

Background

Board of Supervisors [Resolution 2021-87](#), which was approved on December 21, 2021 requiring the use of masks in indoor public settings throughout the Pima County is set to expire on February 28, 2022. This Resolution was in response to the surge of COVID-19 cases related to the Omicron variant and included specific language that this decision should be reconsidered depending on the progress of the pandemic. Board Resolution 20121-87 represented a renewal of the masking resolution first passed by the Board on June 19, 2020 and which expired when the Board lifted its emergency declaration on July 7, 2021.

Although it is clear that the Omicron surge is beginning to recede, community transmission continues to occur at a concerning level and schools, workplaces and hospitals continue to be substantially impacted.

The table below documents the status of a variety of pandemic related markers at the time of Board action as well as the most recently reported data.

Date	Board Action	Weekly Cases	Weekly Deaths	Cases/ 100,000	Weekly Test Volume	Weekly Test Positivity	COVID Hospital Admissions
06/19/20	First Mask Resolution	2,115	55	201	16,864	12%	138
07/07/21	Board Ends Emergency Declaration	369	6	32	10,252	4%	26
12/21/21	Second BOS Mask Resolution	2,413	53	218	30,878	9%	127
02/08/22	Not Applicable	5,443	54	718	41,598	19%	112

The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
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Recommendation

Given the current number of COVID-19 cases (and case rate per 100,000 population), continued elevated test positivity, as well as elevated COVID-19 related hospitalizations, staff recommends the Board continue its mask Resolution for an additional month to expire on March 28, 2022.

Sincerely,



Jan Lesher
Acting County Administrator

JKL/fg – February 8, 2022

c: Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer,
Health and Community Services
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Terry Cullen, MD, MS, Public Health Director, Health Department