



Public Health Emergency Response

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Special Board of Health Meeting to Discuss Proposed Mask Rule in Missoula County

On Thursday, July 9, 2020, there will be a special Board of Health Meeting from 12:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. reviewing a proposed mask rule to reduce the spread of the pandemic disease COVID-19 by increasing the use of face coverings among people in indoor public settings as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. If adopted, the proposed rule would be effective immediately and require that face coverings be worn inside public spaces by individuals 12 years of age and older. The proposal also includes exemptions to the rule indicating specific circumstances in which an individual might be exempt from wearing a face covering, such as while eating or drinking, or during strenuous physical activities when it might be impractical or unsafe.

A draft of the proposed Board Rule and Health Officer Order are included for public review and comment in advance of the special meeting later this week. **We kindly ask that Missoula County residents submit written comment about this proposal through our public feedback portal on our county website by the close of business on Wednesday, July 8th to have their comment accounted for during the public meeting on Thursday. Please use this shortened URL to submit comment to the health department: missoula.co/msocovidfeedback.**

Due to COVID-19, the special Board of Health meeting will be held remotely using Microsoft Teams. Health Department staff and Board Members are making changes to public meetings to encourage physical distancing and promote safe behaviors reducing opportunities for COVID-19 exposure and/or transmission.

Members of the media and the public can tune in to the meeting via a Teams link or call-in via a conference phone line listed below. The Health Department continues exploring additional options for live streaming and recording this special meeting, ensuring that residents have the opportunity to observe, listen, and/or comment. Once connected to the meeting, participants should mute their phones or computers and turn off their webcams reducing noise feedback, while maximizing the network bandwidth required to live stream this meeting.

[Join the Special Board of Health Meeting on Thursday, July 9th, from 12:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.](#)

Link: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Call: +1 406-272-4824 (Conference ID: 455 047 058#)

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