

From: [Linda](#)
To: [Bristol Town Administrator](#)
Cc: [Diane Cushman](#); [Ian Albinson](#); [Dave Silberman](#)
Subject: H 537- A proposed state mask mandate bill
Date: Thursday, January 6, 2022 12:49:57 PM

Valerie,

Elizabeth Murrays writes that the state legislators will be introducing a statewide mask mandate-H537! Mari Cordes is one of the sponsors!!
It is interesting to read this bill and maybe the town can use some of the details for our town mandate in the interim.

Best
Linda

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Murray, Elizabeth" <emurray2@freepressmedia.com>
Subject: RE: towns with mask mandates-any updates?
Date: January 6, 2022 at 11:53:00 AM EST
To: Linda <landrews@gmavt.net>

Excellent! Glad you were able to figure it out. It also looks like state legislators are planning to introduce a statewide mask mandate bill now that the session is open (find it here:<https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2022/H.537>).

Thanks again for your interest!

Liz

Elizabeth Murray
(she/her)
Public Safety Reporter



Mobile: 802.310.8585
Office: 802.651.4835
emurray@freepressmedia.com
www.burlingtonfreepress.com

From: Linda <landrews@gmavt.net>
Sent: Thursday, January 6, 2022 11:32 AM
To: Murray, Elizabeth <emurray2@freepressmedia.com>
Subject: Re: towns with mask mandates-any updates?

Dear Elizabeth,

I figured it out and accessed the story. It was perfect and just what our town administrator needed.

Thank you! Thank you!!

Linda Andrews

On Jan 6, 2022, at 11:16 AM, Murray, Elizabeth
<emurray2@freepressmedia.com> wrote:

Hi Linda,

Thanks for the question, and sorry for the delay in getting back to you.

Unfortunately, no, there isn't a link I can send you to the story for free. The story is not behind a hard paywall, so you should be able to access it if you haven't yet hit your five story allotment for the month. Maybe a friend or family member can help provide access for you if you prefer not to subscribe.

Sorry there isn't more I can do. Thanks again for your interest.

Liz

Elizabeth Murray

(she/her)

Public Safety Reporter

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From: Linda <landrews@gmavt.net>

Sent: Tuesday, January 4, 2022 10:49 PM

To: Murray, Elizabeth <emurray2@freepressmedia.com>

Subject: Fwd: towns with mask mandates-any updates?

Hi Elizabeth,

I am unable to open the article because I do not subscribe to the Burlington Free Press...

Would it be too much to ask to send me a link that I can open...

Thank you

Linda Andrews

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Murray, Elizabeth"
<emurray2@freepressmedia.com>
Subject: RE: towns with mask mandates-any updates?
Date: January 4, 2022 at 11:52:24 AM EST
To: Linda <landrews@gmavt.net>

Hi Linda,

Thanks so much for reaching out. I actually updated the mask mandate story today: <https://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/story/news/local/2021/12/08/vermont-mask-mandate-burlington-williston-essex-winooski-town-city-masks/6431250001/>.

All of the towns that have passed full mandates (not just for town offices) have the mandate text linked within the story. There was at least one town where I could not locate the mandate online, so I linked to the Selectboard meeting minutes.

Hope this helps! Please feel free to keep me in the loop on what happens in Bristol.

Thanks again,

Liz

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-----Original Message-----

From: Linda <landrews@gmavt.net>
Sent: Tuesday, January 4, 2022 6:45 AM
To: Murray, Elizabeth <emurray2@freepressmedia.com>
Subject: towns with mask mandates-any updates?

Dear Elizabeth,

Thank you so much for your article on which towns have mask mandates as of Dec 8th. Do you have any updates?

I am a retired public health nurse in Bristol. Last night at the select board meeting I requested that they revisit having a mask mandate in light of the surge of Covid Cases resulting in exhausting our medical staff and patients who cannot get the care they need. The select board said they would reconsider this next meeting but requested that I find out what other towns have a mandate and the wording of the mandate.

I read your most informative article on which towns have mask mandates. I would appreciate any updates you might have.

I have to send this information to our town administrator by Wed,

Thank you so much for your work,
Linda Andrews
802-989-5871
Bristol, VT

LOCAL

Which Vermont towns and cities have passed local mask mandates? The list so far.

Elizabeth Murray, Burlington Free Press

Published 10:54 a.m. ET Dec. 8, 2021 | Updated 9:14 a.m. ET Jan. 5, 2022

A number of municipalities in Vermont have decided to require masks within town or city borders.

Despite a recent surge in COVID-19 cases in Vermont, Republican Gov. Phil Scott has resisted reinstating a statewide mask mandate, saying he does not believe a state of emergency order is appropriate given the wide availability of the COVID-19 vaccine. As a compromise with Democratic legislative leaders, Scott signed a law on Nov. 22 that would temporarily allow municipalities to make their own decisions.

Since then, local elected boards have considered a myriad of mask options: requiring masks in all buildings open to members of the public, including businesses; only requiring masks in town- or city-owned buildings; or keeping with the status quo of encouraging mask use without a mandate.

At least two municipalities, Williston and Burlington, exempt places of worship from its indoor mask rule. Burlington also exempts gyms and theaters where people performing are fully vaccinated.

Some towns impose fines for violating the mandates, while others have opted for a non-enforcement model of the mandate, meaning that people in violation will be educated on the use of facial coverings instead of being ticketed or fined.

Any orders passed locally will be reviewed each month until April 2022, when they expire, per the state law.

Vermont towns with mask mandates for buildings open to the public

Below are the towns that have passed orders requiring masks in indoor public spaces within town or city borders, as of Jan. 4, 2022:

- Brattleboro [\[link\]](#).
- Burlington [\[link\]](#) (with an exemption for places of worship, and gyms and theaters where performers are fully vaccinated).
- Cavendish. [\[link\]](#)

Danville .

East Montpelier.

Essex.

Hartford (with exemption for places of worship).

Ludlow .

Manchester (opt-in: businesses can choose to register with the town to participate in the mandate).

Montpelier.

Norwich (with exemption for places of worship).

Peacham .

Pittsfield.

Richmond .

Rutland Town.

Shelburne.

Waitsfield.

Warren.

Williston (with an exemption for places of worship).

Wilmington.

Winooski.

Note: If a map of the mandates does not appear below, you can view it at this link.

Vermont towns that require masks inside municipal properties

More than five towns have rejected full mask mandates, opting instead for requirements that people wear masks within town- or city-owned properties:

Arlington.

Charlotte.

Johnson.

Middlebury.

South Burlington.

South Hero.

Springfield.

Weathersfield.

This story will be updated as more information becomes available.

Contact Elizabeth Murray at 802-310-8585 or emurray@freepressmedia.com. Follow her on Twitter at [@LizMurrayBFP](https://twitter.com/LizMurrayBFP).