

## Special Council meeting regarding mandatory masks

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Thank you for your email message and sharing your perspective in advance of the July 6, 2020 Special Council meeting regarding mandatory masks.

Regional Council unanimously passed two by-laws that will require residents to wear face coverings on transit and in enclosed public places starting July 13, 2020.

These by-laws:

- Make it mandatory to wear face coverings on Grand River Transit and ION and in enclosed public places including shopping malls and retail shops, restaurants, museums, recreational facilities and more.
- Identify exemptions for children under the age of five and those who are unable to wear a face covering due to a medical condition, hearing impairment, or disability.

The by-laws will be repealed on September 30, 2020 unless extended by Council.

Wearing a mask is another tool to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our community and support our local economy throughout the stages of reopening. Maintaining physical distance where possible, washing your hands often, staying home when sick and getting tested if you think you might have COVID-19 or have been exposed remain key recommendations from Public Health.

It's important we show kindness and understand that there are those in our community who are unable to wear a face covering.

For more details, please visit

[Regionofwaterloo.ca/maskbylaw](https://regionofwaterloo.ca/maskbylaw)

Stay Well,

Karen