

*City of Taunton*

*Office of the Mayor*



For Immediate Release

05/05/2020

Contact: Radka Barter- 508-821-1000

### **FACE COVERING REQUIRED BEGINNING MAY 6**

Taunton, MA...Mayor Shaunna O’Connell issued a reminder that beginning May 6 the Commonwealth is requiring face coverings in public places when social distancing is not possible. People with respiratory and other health issues are exempt from Governor Baker’s Executive Order.

The order requires all residents over the age of two to use a face covering or mask in public places, indoors and outdoors, where people cannot socially distance from others. It also requires the use of face coverings for employees and customers at all times in any business open to the public and when using public or private transportation services.

The City of Taunton’s Public Health Department has issued an order formalizing local enforcement of requiring face masks/coverings.

“To protect the public health and safety, I encourage everyone to use a mask so we can stop the spread of this deadly virus. Many people do not show symptoms, so the mask will help prevent further spreading. This is especially important for the vulnerable seniors in our city,” said O’Connell.

Looking toward a recovery for Taunton, O’Connell has assembled a working group to begin planning for the re-opening of businesses and city government. “We want to get input from local businesses so we are prepared for a phased-in re-opening,” said O’Connell. “It is important that we get people back to work as soon and safely as possible.”

###