



Essex County Board of Supervisors

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DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

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Date: Thursday, January 6, 2022

A State of Emergency is hereby declared within the jurisdiction of the County of Essex, State of New York, for the period beginning at 12:00 a.m., Thursday, January 6, 2022, and will continue to remain in effect for thirty (30) days or until 11 :59 p.m., Friday, February 4, 2022. This declaration will be reviewed prior to its expiration to determine if an extension should be considered.

The Declaration of a State of Emergency has been authorized to address the concerns associated with the impacts of COVID-19 in Essex County. As of December 8, 2021, there are 3,375 confirmed cases and the County continues to be in a period of HIGH Transmission as categorized by New York State. Essex County is now experiencing the highest COVID-19 transmission rates since the pandemic began, and our rate of new COVID-19 hospital admissions has been increasing over the past month, presently at the highest sustained rate since the pandemic began. This declaration is at the recommendation of the Board of Health and the Essex County Health Department (ECHD) to maintain consistency with the collective efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19.

The Essex County Board of Health, along with ECHD required indoor masking for county employees and visitors and urged other businesses to do the same in a previous press release issued August 11, 2021, which still remains in effect.

Local Emergency Orders may be promulgated by the Chair of the Board of Supervisors in accordance with Article 2-B of the New York State Executive Law during this State of Emergency. Emergency orders may be issued in order to protect life, property, and to allow emergency and municipal personnel time to bring the emergency conditions under control.

On November 26, 2021, New York State Governor Kathy Hochul declared a Disaster Emergency in the State of New York by issuing Executive Order 11 which identifies, "that this declaration allows the State to utilize the Surge and Flex System, which may include, but is not limited to, postponement of non-essential elective procedures ...".

Shaun Gilliland, Chairman
Essex County Board of Supervisors

cc: Office of the Essex County Clerk
Office of the Secretary of State
Essex County Board of Supervisors
Essex County Emergency Services