

**CITY OF NEWTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**EMERGENCY PROTOCOL ANNOUNCEMENT
TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF USE OF
PLASTIC BAGS AND FOAM POLYSTYRENE**

On March 10, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts declared a State of Emergency in the Commonwealth to respond to the spread of COVID-19.

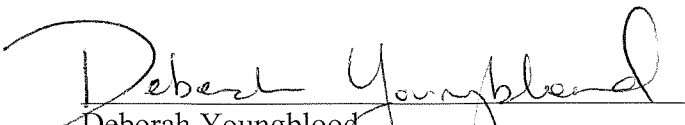
On March 17, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Newton and the Commissioner of Health and Human Services declared a State of Emergency in the City of Newton related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

On March 19, 2020, in order to prevent, minimize and mitigate damage to public health in connection with the COVID-19 outbreak, the Newton Commissioner of Health and Human Services announced a suspension of the enforcement of City of Newton Ordinances Sec. 12-71, Plastic Bag Reduction Ordinance, and Sec. 12-72, Sustainable Food Containers and Packaging Ordinance.

On May 18, 2020, Governor Baker announced Reopening Massachusetts, a phased plan to reopen nonessential businesses and programs closed to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The Commissioner of Health and Human Services recognizes the challenges that businesses and residents continue to face during the phased Reopening of the Commonwealth and hereby extends the suspension of enforcement of City of Newton Ordinances Sec. 12-71, Plastic Bag Reduction Ordinance, and Sec. 12-72, Sustainable Food Containers and Packaging Ordinance until September 1, 2020.

This order is effective immediately upon signing and supersedes any similar, prior actions concerning Ordinances Sec. 12-71 and 12-72. This order may be rescinded or extended at any time by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services in connection with the State of Emergency.


Deborah Youngblood
Commissioner of Health and Human Services
City of Newton

Date: July 13, 2020