



MEMO

To: Needham Board of Health
From: Tara Gurge, Assistant Director and Sainath Palani, Environmental Health Agent
CC: Timothy McDonald, Director, Health and Human Services Department
Date: October 17, 2025
Subject: Adoption of 2022 FDA Food Code and 2024 Food Code Supplement


At its public meeting on August 8, 2025, and following extended discussions at our public meeting in September and a public hearing on October 17, 2025, the Needham Board of Health voted to adopt the document, "Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) 2022 Food Code - and 2024 Food Code Supplement," issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, and Food and Drug Administration, as the basis for regulatory compliance in the Town of Needham.


The 2022 Food Code and 2024 Supplement, in conjunction with state regulation 105 CMR 590.000 State Sanitary Code Chapter X-Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishments (excluding any changes that would supersede or be less conservative than the presently adopted merged state food code), along with the Board of Health approved Food Code Enforcement Policy, will serve as the basis for retail food establishment inspection and enforcement in Needham, MA, effective on April 1, 2026.

Prior to the implementation date, a series of Fall Food Establishment bilingual trainings will be offered on October 8th and 9th, at no cost to Needham's food service industry to improve their understanding of the new standards and changes to facilitate their compliance with those standards. We are also planning to offer two ServSafe Food Establishment Manager subsidized training courses early in the year, on January 6th and 7th, to help decrease the hardship on our food establishments with needing additional trained staff, per FDA 2022 Food Code requirements.


COMMUNITY	DATE OF VOTE	IMPLEMENTATION DATE
Needham	October 17, 2025	April 1, 2026


 Edward Cosgrove, PhD
 Chair


 Stephen Epstein, MD, MPP
 Member


 Tejal K. Gandhi, MD, MPH
 Member


 Robert Partridge, MD, MPH
 Member


 Aarti Sawant-Basak, PhD
 Vice Chair