

Subject	Message	Your Name	Your Street Address	City/Unincorporated County	Zip Code	Your Phone Number	Your Email Address	Date
Maintain Mask Requirement	All wisdom including medical science would direct you to maintain the mask requirement. The current data reflects we are improving and this is very much a direct result of the fact that the public has been operating under the expectation established that required social distancing and mask-wearing. It is difficult to understand why any thought would be given to eliminating this best practice that has resulted in the virus numbers diminishing. The approaching flu season would be another reason to continue to maintain mask-wearing. Please rely on medical advice as you reflect on what is best for the citizens of Pinellas County. Please use good judgment in keeping the mask order in place. Our safety and health are at stake and are of utmost importance. Thank you, Mary Athanson	Mary P Athanson	12934 91st Ave N.	Seminole	33776	7275107135	durbinwv41@gmail.com	2020-09-12 07:11:55
Masking	Please do not drop the mandatory mask wearing policy for Pinellas County. To do so would be a huge mistake. Our numbers are finally down. For Gods sake Let's keep it that way. Without masks illness and deaths will Skyrocket. Please use intelligent judgement. Our lives depend on it.	Cheryl Schwartz	4147 Winding Willow Drive	Palm Harbor	34684		cschwartz@ramapo.edu	2020-09-12 04:42:44
Mask ordinance	I am respectfully requesting that the mask ordinance be kept in place for the safety of our community.	Patrice Murphy	1571 S. FREDRICA ave	Clearwater	33756		p.ephan.murphy@gmail.com	2020-09-12 09:37:04
Please keep the virus mask requirement	The newspaper says that Pinellas County is considering lifting the mask requirement because new infections are down. 1. Infections are down BECAUSE of the mask requirement. If you lift it, infections will go back up. 2. Infections are down from a terrible high, but they are still very high! 3. Many people, including me, will shop less and go out less if you lift the mask requirement. Please show leadership in this time of dangerous illness. Thank you, Linda Todd Pinellas resident	Linda N Todd	5095 Bay St NE, unit 205, building	St Petersburg	33703	7278237413	lintodd01@gmail.com	2020-09-12 09:33:11
Pinellas County Mask Ordinance	Pinellas County has seen a drastic decrease in covid 19 cases since enacting a mask mandate throughout the county. However, we continue to have some of the highest covid death rates in the state, due to our large elderly population. Florida is currently in phase 2 of reopening, with schools restarting 3 weeks ago, and bars opening this Monday. Florida is also seeing a slight uptick in cases as of Saturday 9/11. In the past, major holidays such as the recent Labor Day holiday, have been associated with an increase in cases approximately 3 weeks later. In view of all these statistics, it is clearly not in the best interest of the public to remove the mask mandate at this time. Wearing masks is not an imposition on personal freedoms, but a valid public health measure used to save lives. Please stand with Commissioner Welch and refuse to be bullied into stopping the mask mandate at this time.	Norma Wood, ARNP-C		St. Petersburg	33703		burrellandnorma@verizon.net	2020-09-12 09:24:31
Masks	Please do not rush into an ill-advised curtailment of the mask requirement. We as a nation continue to fool ourselves that if a number drops for a few days, it's safe to go back to "normal." Every time we reopen something or relax something, we are driven back by increasing numbers. It's like we can't learn. One of you remarked that we can't go on with masks until we have a vaccine - yes we can, and we must. Yes, the economy is going to suffer; yes, the schoolkids are going to be deprived. But this rush to normal ignores the reality - the loss of another few thousand lives. Keep the masks. Keep them now and next month and well into next year until we have a real medical solution. Wishful thinking isn't going to do it.	Judy Ellis	1874 Juarez Way S	Saint Petersburg	33712	7274601586	jellis5610@gmail.com	2020-09-12 09:22:35
Face Masks	Hi, I am a 40 year resident of Pinellas County. I implore you to keep the face mask mandate in place until there is no Covid problem at all. Just a few month ago the too soon decision to open bars and beaches was a catastrophe. Are our memories that short? Also, the face mask is not as much of an imposition as keeping businesses closed. That affects our livelihoods, but wearing a face mask does not. Most people I know and come into contact, are happy and willing to wear face masks, its working! We do not want to go backwards once again! Thank You for listening	Patrick Pendola	325 S Bayshore Blvd	Safety Harbor	34695-4053	7277760292	PATRICKPENDOLA@HOTMAIL.COM	2020-09-12 09:00:28

September 10, 2020 Public Hearing	<p>The Pinellas County Commissioners held a Virtual Regular Public Hearing on 9-10-2020. I watched this meeting because I was interested to see how they would address the extension of the state of emergency. This agenda item was addressed by the board revealing some very interesting facts.</p> <p>The Board passed the original state of emergency to last for seven days on March 13, 2020. This seven-day state of emergency is still in effect 181 days later at the time of the meeting. Asked why the order is still in effect there were two very disturbing answers suggested in the meeting. The first, by the county administrator saying that if the commissioners end the emergency order, Pinellas County will no longer have access to FEMA funds. This begs the question, why would Pinellas County need FEMA funds if there is no emergency? Second, the board has no idea what the criteria will be to get us out of the state of emergency, as was evidenced by comments made by all the commissioners. This seven-day state of emergency has been going on for 181 days, why has the board failed to developed criteria to end the seven-day state of emergency.</p> <p>The indecision and lack of real action can be summed up by Dr. Angus Jameson statements attempting to answer when this state of emergency will end. "There's a lot going on, a lot we don't know." When is this statement ever false? Still we move forward every day. Dr. Jameson followed up with this statement, "I would caution against certainty." I really wish the federal, state and local officials would have heeded this caution before plunging this country, state and locality into this state of emergency with all the uncertainty we will certainly face every day.</p>	Kenneth Barnhart	8267 120th Street	Seminole	33772	7272881907	kenneth.barnhart78@gmail.com	2020-09-12 08:48:10
Possibility of Removing Masks	<p>My neighbors and I were extremely dismayed in reading the TBT article yesterday with possibly removing the mask ordinance.</p> <p>Also in yesterday's newspaper there were 4000 new cases in Florida. While our numbers continue to go down we believe now is not the time to even consider removing masks. It should also be noted that this may be one reason why the numbers are lowering, in addition to social distancing and washing hands.</p> <p>We have been watching numbers throughout the states and have noted the Northeast has done it correctly...let's try at least to keep masks on while this seems to be our only defense. Why would we want to go through another round of high numbers when this procedure seems to be working and you as members must know this.</p> <p>To even consider at this time would be extremely risky to your constituents. Please use your good judgement and think of us.</p> <p>Thank you</p>	Mary Giuffreda	644 Island Way, 103	Clearwater Beach	33767	6177975506	giuftrk@comcast.net	2020-09-12 08:29:53
Removal of Mask Requirement	<p>Please do not vote to remove the mask requirement at this time, it is working as a mitigation measure. With school starting recently, and the chance of increased infections, let's leave the mask requirement in place for another month or two so that our infection rate does not rebound. Trust the scientists and health experts and protect the vulnerable citizens of Pinellas Country. Everyone is used to wearing a mask now, let's stay status quo for awhile longer.</p>	Teri Hasbrouck	4212 Holland Dr	St Pete Beach	33706	727-433-2103	tbiomomaz@aol.com	2020-09-12 08:09:36
Pro-mask	<p>It seems only the anti maskers are speaking up, please know that the majority of the population sees the benefits of wearing masks. Myself and many my age will not enter a business that is not enforcing masks, please do not confine us to our homes until the virus is more under control. The positivity ratings by the state have admittedly been manipulated by including only negative retests and are actually twice as high as the state is reporting. At the very least, masks ordinances should stay in place until after the election or you will not have any poll workers or seniors going to vote.</p>	Kyle Kilian	2670 n mcmullen booth rd, Apt 12	Clearwater	33761	7275158167	Kylemkilian@hotmail.com	2020-09-12 08:01:04
Face mask ordinance.	<p>Our have shown great leadership in requiring everyone wear masks indoors and the reduced number of cases proves you have saved lives. For this you should be commended and applauded but now is not the time to capitulate to those that don't take this virus and their civic duty seriously. The virus is still out there just waiting for more and more people to infect. There are plenty of community web sites that list all the businesses that don't wear masks because most of us will not shop there. So, your mask ordinance is good for business. Should you decide to rescind the ordinance, you will be doing so during a pandemic at the start of flu season. So maintain your courage and do what you know will save lives and extend the mask ordinance beyond October.</p>	Jon Poling	1475 Misty Plateau Tr.	Clearwater	33765	7277911012	Myattitude1@msn.com	2020-09-12 07:45:03

Mask mandate	Resident of Dunedin, a snowbird anxious to see our Florida friends when we return next week. Sadly, 4 of the five snowbird families we know have decided not to return for this season. Mostly because of the Covid situation and because there are such varying reports about mask-wearing. And because the governor is clearly mismanaging the pandemic. Great economic impact. My husband and I are retired teachers. Following school openings, and the difficulties for all involved. We fear for the safety of our children and teachers of mask mandate is removed. We also worry about our elderly neighbors, many of whom have to be out in public for grocery shopping, medical appts, etc. Follow the science...and global cultures. Please.	Mary C. Reese	1253 Sutherland Court	Dunedin	34698	207 844 1452	mchrisreese@comcast.net	2020-09-12 07:40:57
Mask Ordinance	Dear Commissioners, I am emailing you begging you to keep the mask ordinance in place for the long term until we get a vaccine. The virus is present in our community and will infect and kill. I am not just worried about the deaths but the long term sequelae of the disease that likely be with people, young and old, for the rest of their lives. I know you are under pressure from the Govenor and others in business to enter a fantasy world where this has gone away. The data that you are following is not consistent with the data published by the Tampa Bay Times and other nongovernmental agencies. We have just been through Labor Day and school openings which will cause more spikes. I am a strong support of businesses and the economy but not at the expense of human health and life. I am begging you to function from a pro life, ethical value system that allows businesses to open but keep the public health measures in place. I am aware of the political pressure being waged by some but the silent majority of people are in favor of the mask ordinance and they are your voters too. DO THE RIGHT THING AND PROTECT THE PEOPLE EVEN IF IT IS THE DIFFICULT THING TO DO. Publix is a critical place wear masks need to be worn. Also churches need to wear masks inside. I am able to do my own shopping, to go to church at a smaller service and shop in stores now because of the mask order. I am spending money I would not spend if the mask order is rescinded. I support restaurants who have outdoor seating. Bars and restaurants indoors are super spreader events and need to have financial support from the government. At this time hospitals can do electives. If you rescind the order you will be stressing these systems. Again I beg you to follow masking and not give in to the people who are making this a political issue. Do the right thing for the people you serve, not necessarily the easy thing and avoid having this decision trouble you for the rest of your lives when the illness and death rate which is still out of control causes the suffering of so many people. Thank you.	Janice K. Wittman	8021 Cranbrook Ct	Largo	33777	17276443539	wittman.jan@tampabay.rr.com	2020-09-12 11:33:26
mask mandate	We read today that you are considering lifting the mask mandate. Please do not lift the mandate until the spring. Requiring masks in stores, schools, and other facilities was one of the best practices for Pinellas County. With our older population it is a necessary protection and it gives them a better sense of security. We have friends and family that are older and/or vulnerable so this allows them to go out with less risk. It is not too much to ask of our community. Jean and David Campbell, Seminole	Jean and David Campbell	6595 BURNING TREE DR	SEMINOLE	337774616	7278710325	dcampy55@gmail.com	2020-09-12 11:30:41
Masks	In today's Tampa Bay Times, I read you are considering ending the mask mandate because covid19 cases are declining. The reason for the decline is the mask wearing. My husband and I STRONGLY urge you to continue the mandate until such time that community spread is a moot point since many of the children returned to "Brick and mortar" schools just a week or so ago. We are senior citizens and have been very cautious by not going anywhere, including the grocery store. We're anxious to get back to our lives, again, but we are patient. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Linda and Gary Tucker.	Linda tucker	2288 Habersham Drive	Clearwater	33764		lindajoj@verizon.net	2020-09-12 11:05:38
Mask ordinance repeal	Please don't repeal the mask ordinance anytime soon. I know cases are down but if people stop wearing masks the numbers will just go right back up. Look what is happening in Europe right now. They had strict measures in place this spring and brought the numbers down. They relaxed them this summer and now cases are increasing again to levels seen this spring. Also soon the bars will reopen which will cause cases to go up. Don't make the mistake of repealing the mask ordinance too soon. If you do you'll only have to reinstate it when numbers increase which they will. Only after widespread vaccination can the mask ordinance be repealed. Listen to science over anti-masker lunacy.	Corey Lust	3165 Grand Avenue, Apt 202	Pinellas Park	33782	4192069585	clust99@gmail.com	2020-09-12 11:02:33
Please keep the Pinellas County mask mandate	Dear County Commissioners, I read about the County Commissioners discussing the potential to lift the mask mandate and I urge you to please consider safety, health of the community, and science and keep the mask mandate. Every day I am so grateful to the essential workers and health care workers who have made so many sacrifices to keep their patients, their family, and themselves COVID-free. We rely so much on these essential and health care workers in our society and we should do everything we can to protect them. During May, my 60 year-old father worked in an ICU in Brooklyn, NY as part of the Marine Reserves. I was worried so much about his health and safety; however, I understood how much he wanted to help people during this difficult time. At the end of each day, to comfort me, he told me the best thing that I could do is stay at home, wear a mask, and protect myself and others. Science has shown us that masks work and our county's positive numbers decreased after the mask mandate. Please keep the mask mandate, for our valuable essential and health care workers and for our community. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Emily Wei, PhD	Emily Wei, PhD	924 1/2 JACKSON ST N	Saint Petersburg	33705-1213	9784604871	emiawei@gmail.com	2020-09-12 10:59:44

Masks	<p>Hello, great news- our county Covid rates are better since mask wearing became mandatory. Please do not lift this vitally life saving requirement!</p> <p>Our small businesses are barely holding on for dear life and I fear we have lost many forever. We can not afford another spike in cases.</p> <p>What about our school children are they not worth wearing masks for? Science Bars are open, hopefully they will adhere to restrictions otherwise our covid numbers will spike.</p> <p>Dr. Fauci continues to state that masks help STOP THE SPREAD. Be on the side of science and common sense. Please keep the mask mandate, 6' distance and other safety measures. Covid is not something to ignore.</p> <p>Be well, Deborah Schechner St. Pete Beach</p>	Deborah Schechner	710 Boca Ciega Isle dr	St. Pete Beach	33706		paxsez1@tampabay.rr.com	2020-09-12 10:48:41
Mask requirement	<p>Please don't lift the mask mandate when we are only now starting to level off in COVID cases. This is the only thing that has given people in our community confidence in starting to do more than just a bit of grocery shopping. This week the company where my daughter works in Palm Harbor had five new cases of COVID and she now needs to work remotely while she waits for test results. Why would you want to retreat on this when bars are just opening? Please consider keeping the only small protection we currently have in Pinellas County between us and COVID.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>	Carol Macioci	1806 Mariner Drive Apt. 415	Tarpon Springs	34689	914-439-4993	carolmacioci@gmail.com	2020-09-12 10:37:02
Mandatory Face Mask Ordinance	<p>This is my first communication with the Board of County Commissioners:</p> <p>I understand that wearing masks is an inconvenience for some, but this has been the only effective measure to reduce the spread of the Covid-19 virus, together with social distancing. At this time, it would be irresponsible to repeal the requirement to wear masks indoors, in order to mitigate infection spread.</p> <p>Most people will feel MORE comfortable showing up to a commercial/public space if they are assured that others are also wearing masks. It is in the interest of businesses, as well as for the public (including students & parents), to maintain the mandatory face mask ordinance and allow these interactions to take place. Otherwise, people will refrain from as many transactions as possible. We must NOT allow misguided political motives to underscore this very important public health decision. Long-term planning will ultimately benefit the citizens of Pinellas County and restore normality.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to read my message, Mark Mostrom</p>	Mark Mostrom	100 72nd street SOUTH	St. Petersburg	33707	7276874191	markmostrom@gmail.com	2020-09-12 10:36:51
Face Masks	<p>We commend all of you for extending face mask mandate, especially in view of opposition.</p> <p>Please ontinue to do so until either the public health officials recommend otherwise or we have a vaccine.</p>	Robert Westin	850 East Lime Street	Tarpon Springs	34688	7738773686	northwaterford@yahoo.com	2020-09-12 10:35:04

Face masks	<p>EDWARD G. MARKS 1575 EAST LAKE WOODLANDS PARKWAY OLDSMAR, FLORIDA 34677</p> <p>September 12, 2020</p> <p>Board of Pinellas County Commissioners 315 Court Street Clearwater, Florida 33756</p> <p>Re: Face masks</p> <p>Ladies and Gentlemen:</p> <p>I note that you are considering whether to repeal the ordinance that requires the wearing of face masks in public places.</p> <p>I hate face masks. I also hate Novel Coronavirus, illness, social distancing (I am, after all, a confirmed hugger), death, self-quarantine, and the constant fear and isolation that they impose on us.</p> <p>But this is our reality: We are in the midst of a pandemic. We know that wearing masks helps to prevent the spread of this killing organism. At various times and places, institutions have tried to lift mask requirements, and to bring people together again.</p> <p>In every single instance, the result has been the same: people get sick and die. Let's not lose sight of that: when we lift these safety procedures, the disease once again increases its march through our population.</p> <p>If masks were ineffective, doctors and nurses would not bother with them in the operating room.</p>	Edward G Marks	1575 East Lake Woodlands Pkwy.	Oldsmar	34677	15133147074	edmarks1@outlook.com	2020-09-12 10:28:06
Please do not repeal the face mask ordinance	<p>Please do not make me a prisoner again in my home for fear of Covid 19. Please listen to the scientists or even look at other countries. Mask wearing will help us fight the epidemic. It is such an easy thing to do so I can go to the grocery store. Hopefully if politically you feel this is the only way to continue your career, the stores will ignore your stupidity and continue to enforce it. I do not want to die. Thanks. Also Janet Long and Charlie Justice have many supporters. Our vote will count.</p>	Paula Lucas	215 BOCA CIEGA POINT BLVD N	SAINT PETERSBURG	33708	14107268523	plucas410@hotmail.com	2020-09-12 10:26:43
Mask Mandate Vote	<p>My wife and I understand that there may be a vote at your October Commission meeting to remove the Mask Mandate in Pinellas County</p> <p>I will tell you how opposed we are, including our many friends and family, to removing this mandate and ask you to vote no.</p> <p>The reason for our downward trend in Covid 19 cases in Pinellas can be greatly attributed to mask wearing in Malls, stores, restaurants etc. When we are out and about, 99% of people are wearing masks.. protecting themselves and others from the virus</p> <p>Please listen to the very clear and specific direction/advise from the medical experts.. they have the knowledge and expertise. This is not a political issue but one that brings great suffering and death to thousands of Floridians. So don't make this disastrous decision. One that will significantly increase our infection and death rate...so than we will be right back at again.</p> <p>So please vote no !!!!!</p>	ED Cooksley	7069 Key Haven Rd Apt 206	Seminole	33777	17272584632	ncooksley@aol.com	2020-09-12 10:25:56
Masks	<p>Please do NOT rescind the mandate for wearing masks in Pinellas County. We are not out of the woods yet. Our rate of infection is about 2.2%...too high. The past 2 days have seen an increase in number of new cases. Our rate of positivity has risen by 1.5% in the past week. All are indicators that incidence of COVID19 is rising, not lowering. The mask mandate is the only thing saving Pinellas County. Please do not be swayed by anti-science knee-jerk reactors.</p> <p>Thank you,</p>	N Bickner	11353 Tradewinds Blvd	Largo	33773	727-399-9278	nbickner@gmail.com	2020-09-12 12:03:27
Masks	<p>I am begging you to NOT reverse your current mask rules. The mask rules is most likely the one reasons the County has been seeing a drop in Covid. But if you end the mask rule, you will be doing so just as fall and the flu season are coming into play. Add that to the fact that in a few weeks we will most likely be seeing the results of opening our schools, which is another factor that is almost a guarantee that cases will increase.</p> <p>This is not a political argument. It is nothing less than common sense to at least wait through the upcoming fall and flu season which experts are warning will be a very bad time for Covid before eliminating the masks. To do so now is not only malpractice as community leaders, but just plain stupid. It's like taking off your scuba mask before jumping off the boat because you already wore it the first time you went diving.</p> <p>Please don't listen to the vocal minority. We need a mask rule because regrettably there is a mathematical fact that states that 50% of everybody is below average intelligence. Don't be that in that 50%, and don't be in denial. You have not won the war yet. Covid is not done with us! Not even close! And sadly I suspect the Country will soon find that out.</p>	Glen Getchell	7840 128th Street	Seminole	33776	7273935559	drivea356@gmail.com	2020-09-12 11:57:46

COVID-19 MASK ORDINANCE	<p>It is an indisputable fact that COVID-19 is a lethal, extremely communicable disease that has taken, and continues to take, a staggering human toll and produced horrendous suffering. Absent a safe, effective vaccine, which, God-willing, will become available very soon, there are things that can be done in the meantime to mitigate the spread of this virus, such as wearing a mask, maintaining appropriate social distance, and other scientifically-based practices. Recognizing this, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners wisely adopted a mask ordinance and implemented other sound measures to impede viral spread in the interest of the health and wellbeing of its residents and visitors. It is precisely because of these science-driven measures that this county and other communities that enacted similar strategies have witnessed a meaningful diminution in viral positivity rates, hospitalizations, and mortality.</p> <p>As public health experts continue to emphasize, it is absolutely essential these effective mitigation measures be vigorously maintained, especially as schools reopen, social mobility increases, and the flu season commences. This novel virus has not disappeared, nor has its virulence diminished. According to one well-respected epidemiologic model, the number of deaths from this virus is projected to soar to 400,000 in this country by year's end.</p> <p>This doesn't have to be, though, if we continue to diligently employ proven public health practices, such as the simple act of wearing a mask in public. It's regrettable that this medically and socially responsible act has been politicized and misinterpreted by some as a sign of weakness or an abrogation of one's liberty or freedom of choice. The simple fact is wearing a mask in public is apolitical and shows you care for others, especially the most vulnerable or those with immune compromised loved ones, by thwarting the spread of the virus.</p> <p>I implore the Commission, in the interest of the health and welfare of all of its residents and visitors, to maintain its mask ordinance and continue to employ the best practices set forth by the nation's public health experts in mitigating this virus.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p>	WILLIAM C. FERRIS	1815 MARINER DRIVE #172	TARPON SPRINGS	34689	561-315-4883	williamferris1@me.com	2020-09-12 13:50:33
Please Do Not Repeal Mask Mandate	<p>I have learned that Pinellas County Commission is exploring the option of repealing the mask ordinance in indoor public spaces. As a physician, sub-specialized in ears, nose, and throat where we manage respiratory tract infections regularly, a repeal of the ordinance requiring masks is absolutely wrong thing to do at this time. As you may be aware ears, nose, throat doctors are on the cutting edge of this illness since the very first physician to have passed away is believed to have been otolaryngologist.</p> <p>We know that wearing masks is the single most important protection an individual can use to protect themselves as well as others from spreading this potentially life-threatening malady. While it does not replace self-isolation/quarantine, wearing masks combined with observing social distancing is the next best thing. Requiring masks until there are no more deaths from Covid-19, is essential for the health and safety of the general public as well as for your health care providers.</p>	Donald C. Lanza MD, MS, FA	Sinus & Nasal Inst. of Florida, PA,	Saint Petersburg	33702	7276443998	dclanza@sniflmd.com	2020-09-12 13:46:55
Masks	<p>I realize this has become a partisan issue, but please take a breath! We are doing better but it's due to leadership in St Pete. With flu season complicating the COVID 2nd wave this fall and winter please do not put those of us in the high risk categories at even greater risk.</p> <p>Before the mask rule I had to stop going to grocery stores, not everyone is responsible.</p> <p>At minimum maintain indoor requirements!!</p>	Barry J. Strafacci	4801 Venetian Pl NE	St Petersburg	33703	8135055246	strafaccib@gmail.com	2020-09-12 13:35:59
Covid mask laws	<p>Please do not remove the mask requirements. If you remove the mask requirement, I will not feel safe going into any store. I don't want to have to buy everything from Amazon.</p>	James Archer	2913 Catherine Dr	Clearwater	33759	7278711362	jamesdarcher1@gmail.com	2020-09-12 13:32:05

Pinellas County Mask Mandate	<p>We are residents of Pinellas County and have been very proud of the members of the Pinellas County Board of Commissioners for their wise decision to mandate masks for the safety of all residents and in hopes of controlling the spread of Covid-19. That decision has helped make the incidences of cases, deaths, hospitalizations, etc. begin to decrease.</p> <p>However, yesterday's pandemic updates (Friday, Sept. 11) noted that Pinellas County is one of the only counties in Tampa Bay where the number of cases has leveled off of late instead of continuing the hoped-for downward trajectory., and the reason is unknown! Whatever the reason, now is NOT the time to remove the mask mandate. We just passed the Labor Day weekend (the summer holidays have each resulted in surges), some schools and colleges are in session (more interaction), the regular flu season is about to begin, and there are predictions from the health experts that the Covid-19 pandemic is far from over. Wearing masks and practicing social distancing are small "prices to pay" to be as safe as possible. Mandating the wearing of masks also helps businesses by sharing with them the responsibility of protecting their customers and thus the community.</p> <p>Please continue being the responsible commission that has put Pinellas County residents' health and safety first. Please maintain the mask mandate.</p> <p>Thank you, Herb & Lorraine Freitag</p>	Herb and Lorraine Freitag	50 Coe Rd. #121	Belleair, FL	33756	727 441 8539	larrief@tampabay.rr.com	2020-09-12 13:26:53
Mask mandate	<p>Hello, I would like to voice strong support for continuation of mask requirement in public indoor spaces. I am a physician and a parent of two school age children. Masks work - please keep this going to keep families, people with health issues, medical workers safe! Thank you.</p>	Alla Solyar	7488, 17th Lane NE	St Petersburg	33702	9173067548	allasolyar@gmail.com	2020-09-12 13:00:40
Mask Mandate	<p>I am contacting you regarding your upcoming meeting on the mask mandate. While I certainly understand we can not wear masks FORVER, I am frankly shocked and dismayed that removing the mandate is even a consideration at this time. Medical professionals continue to warn we are still in the "THICK " of COVID, schools just reopened, we are once again reopening bars, and increasing occupancy in many other businesses, while cases are "REPORTEDLY" lower will that downward trend continue if the mandate is lifted at this time? I fear not.</p> <p>There is no doubt our state will soon have it's typical influx of Northern guests for the winter, coming from anywhere and everywhere, bringing with them God knows what.</p> <p>There is really not much more I can say, except that if you do not follow the science, the GOOD science and the warnings that this fall/winter could very well see a resurgence of COVID we may be in sorry shape in a few months. It seems to me keeping the mandate in place will carry far less push back (yes there will be some) than abolishing it and trying to reenstate at a later date.</p> <p>Thank you</p>	Cathi Helm	16 Southwind Drive	Belleair Bluffs	33770	7275092343	cathiahelm@gmail.com	2020-09-12 12:58:21
Mask requirement	<p>I read with horror that the Commission will be considering lifting the mask requirement. I am truly in shock. How can you even fathom such an utterly foolish, deadly idea? Sadly, the "anti maskers" can only be considered selfish and stupid. It is such a small sacrifice to protect ourselves and our neighbors. The only conclusion that can logically be deduced is that they care not about their neighbors or their community. Please have the courage and moral responsibility as leaders and reject such a foolish and dangerous decision. Thank you.</p>	Dr. Constance Gross	55 Rogers Street	Clearwater	33756		bubigoose@gmail.com	2020-09-12 12:55:23
Please Continue Mask Mandate	<p>Dear Pinellas County Commissioners,</p> <p>I write this message to implore you to extend the mask wearing mandate indefinitely, or at least until we have an effective vaccine. There has been improvement in the Pinellas County numbers. I believe that the improvement is due in large measure to your county wide mask mandate in conjunction with social distancing. Let us continue to improve Our Covid-19 numbers by continuing to do what science and healthcare professionals advise. Wear a mask!</p> <p>I write this as a citizen of pinellas county but also as a nurse who cares about each person living in Pinellas County. I am Dr. Jean M Wortock, retired Dean of the College of Nursing at SPC! I only include this information to provide my background in healthcare. Thank you!</p>	Jean Wortock	9978, Lake Seminole Drive West	Largo	33773	7274343739	jwortock@tampabay.rr.com	2020-09-12 14:18:47
DO NOT repeal the mask mandate	<p>Please DO NOT rescind the mask mandate. Of course Kathleen Peters wants to rescind the mandate in order to throw red meat to the Trumpers in Pinellas County. No one on the commission should be worried about losing their seat for doing the right thing and continuing to ask Pinellas County residents to wear a mask in public. As a leukemia survivor, my immune system is compromised. Since the mask mandate was passed I've seen the vast majority of the Pinellas residents I come into contact wearing a mask. By rescinding the order the commission would be sending the message that not wearing a mask to prevent the spread of the coronavirus is acceptable. Furthermore, as we head into cold and flu season we're undoubtedly going to see a spike in coronavirus infections. How many dead Pinellas residents will it take to convince Peters and the other Trumpers that masks are effective?</p>	Bob Croslin	811 23RD AVE	SAINT PETERSBURG	33704	7275802560	CROSLIN@MAC.COM	2020-09-12 16:45:03
Indoor wearing of mask ordinance	<p>The single most effective way of preventing the passage of SARS-Cov-2 infection is the wearing of masks in indoor spaces. Other than spread through families in place, the major vector to infection is in indoor spaces without mask wearing. As a practicing immunologist in Largo and at All Children's Hospital for over 35 years, I implore that this ordinance be maintained.</p>	Mandel Sher MD	11200 Seminole Blvd	Largo	33778	727 397 8557	drmrsher@aol.com	2020-09-12 16:44:11

Mask mandate	I just read in today's Tampa Bay Times about the possibility of discontinuing the Pinellas Co. mask mandate. I know that masks are not popular or comfortable. I would urge all of you to continue the mask mandate until such a time when the MEDICAL EXPERTS deem it is safe to do so. Bowing to the political whims of some will not in any way, shape or form protect our residents. The point (really a threat) made by one of the constituents in the article was that they could vote an opposing commission member off the board. That pendulum could swing both ways. Please, just do the right thing. Follow the science and keep politics out of this very important issue. Sincerely,	Madelyn Kehrer	3517 9th Avenue North	St. Petersburg	33713	727-327-9912	mskehrer@juno.com	2020-09-12 15:44:47
Mask ordinance 20-14	September 12, 2020 The Pinellas County mask ordinance should stay in place with no expiration date set. This county has the highest numbers of vulnerable people in the state of Florida. The requirement to wear masks inside public spaces in Pinellas County has helped reduce the infection rate and served to keep the people of this county safer from contracting COVID-19. Dr. Francis Collins, director of the National Institutes of Health stated that a "new study shows face coverings—even those that are far from perfect—really can and do save lives. In fact, IHME (Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation) data also show that consistent mask-wearing—starting today—could save close to 70,000 lives in the months to come." That's a huge number. The medical director for the Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services, Dr. Angus Johnson, has stated that masks are valuable in reducing spread of this deadly virus. Repealing the mask requirement is premature for many reasons. The mask requirement slows the spread of the virus, keeps vulnerable people safer, and regulates the behavior of people who callously resist wearing masks to keep others safe. This is not a political issue, and it never should have been made one. Medical science is not an opinion, it is verifiable with data and facts. People not wanting to wear masks in public spaces can stay home. Rescinding the order will abridge the rights of the rest of us who assume the personal responsibility to wear masks, practice social distancing and use proper hand hygiene to keep from spreading disease to others in our community and families. The Governor recently approved controlled visits to elder care facilities. You shouldn't need to be reminded of the horrible death statistics and infection rates we had just a few months ago before a mask mandate was imposed in this county. Imagine if the mandate is removed and people abandon their responsibility to self-regulate and wear masks to keep infection from spreading in public places. Consider what will happen to those residents in care facilities, who have no choice in the matter with whom they come into contact. I am asking that the Commission vote to keep the Pinellas County Ordinance 20-14 in place with no expiration date. I am asking that review of the Ordinance be done at such time as recommended by non-political sources, such as medical advisors, the CDC, FDA and the NHI. Sincerely, Marj Lorand - South Pasadena	Marj Lorand	1445 Corey Way South	South Pasadena	33707	7272043822	mjlrand54@gmail.com	2020-09-12 15:43:59
Mask ordinance	I urge you to continue the mask ordinance in Pinellas County. Listen to science and not antimakers! We are finally getting ahead of the curve. However, with the opening of bars the cases will most likely increase. Stay the course do what's right. Stop listening to the science deniers. Thank you.	Carole Laviana	406 Richmond St	Dunedin	34698	727-738-2850	dunedingal406@gmail.com	2020-09-12 15:20:01
COVID-19 MASK MANDATE	I thank and commend the Pinellas County Board of Commissioners for initiating sound, science-based measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. These measures - most notably the simple act of wearing a mask in public - have had a material impact on controlling the spread of this highly communicable disease, which is still present and as lethal and contagious as ever. Wearing a mask in public can and does thwart the spread of this disease. That's not an opinion, but a scientifically - based fact. Consequently, I urge the Commission to maintain the face mask ordinance and to continue to follow the lead of the nation's public health experts when it comes to developing policies and practices to address this horrific pandemic. Thank you. Sincerely, Phyllis Kennedy	Phyllis Kennedy	1815 Mariner Drive #172	Tarpon Springs	34689	561-719-2385	phylliskennedy1@me.com	2020-09-12 15:06:15

Rescinding the Pinellas County Mask Ordinance	<p>Dear Commissioner, The Pinellas County mask ordinance requirement to wear masks inside public spaces in Pinellas County has helped reduce the spread of Covid-19 and should stay in place with no expiration date set.</p> <p>This county has the highest numbers of vulnerable people in the state of Florida. The requirement to wear masks inside public spaces in Pinellas County has helped reduce the infection rate and served to keep the people of this county safer from contracting Covid-19.</p> <p>Dr. Francis Collins, director of the National Institutes of Health stated that a "new study shows face coverings—even those that are far from perfect—really can and do save lives. In fact, IHME (Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation) data also show that consistent mask-wearing—starting today—could save close to 70,000 lives in the months to come." That's a huge number.</p> <p>The masks reduce the viral load for both the wearer and those around them which can result in less positive cases and less serious covid19 symptoms if infected.</p> <p>Rescinding the mask ordinance too early may result in more people falsely believing the virus is under control and fading away.</p> <p>More people may feel comfortable not wearing masks which could result in citizens of Pinellas County being subjected to herd immunity as a "solution" and could bring about a second wave during the peak of flu season.</p> <p>Americans made great sacrifices during WW2 to protect our Country. Asking people to wear a mask in a public space is such a minimal sacrifice in comparison.</p> <p>Pinellas County Commissioners have a fiduciary duty to protect ALL the citizens of Pinellas County.</p> <p>Keeping the mask order in place is the best and easiest way to protect us. Please vote no to rescinding the Pinellas County Mask Ordinance.</p>	Sandra Chiappette	7235 14th Avenue South	St Petersburg	33707	7273455837	seadreamer5@aol.com	2020-09-12 14:45:24
Retain the Mask Ordinance	<p>Our residents have accepted the importance of using masks when in public or other close situations. Compliance is good and this is the reason new cases are down. Please wait until the evidence shows clearly that transmission is under control. If you remove the ordinance and later have to re-instate it, compliance will be reduced, people more confused and regaining credibility difficult. We have had terrible examples set by our state and federal leadership, so please demonstrate that there are at least some parts of our government that work. Do what is right and not the expedient pandering demonstrated by others. This is a medical issue not a political one.</p> <p>David C Bassett, DMD</p>	David C Bassett, DMD	1303 Norwood Ave, Clearwater	FL	33756	7274420818	bassettdavidc@gmail.com	2020-09-12 18:49:29
Mask Mandate needs to continue	<p>Good Evening Honored Commissioners,</p> <p>I am writing to express a request for you to please vote to continue the mask mandate for Pinellas County. As schools have now reopened, the covid cases are starting to rise again. Bars are opening on Monday, which will also add to the spread of the virus, even with masks in place. However, if the mask ordinance is dropped, it will allow for a must faster transmission and a exponential rise in cases.</p> <p>Please continue the ordinance. Thank you for your consideration, Melissa Yates</p>	Melissa Yates	1731 Joshua Court	Palm Harbor	34683	727-415-1427	missy.yates@verizon.net	2020-09-12 18:33:27

Mask Coverage	<p>If y'all drop the requirement, guess what will not happen?</p> <p>We were considering a visit to Pinellas to check out the new pier and stop in at a few downtown shops and breweries. However, if y'all drop the mask ordinance then we will not hop from Tampa to visit Pinellas. This is not the time to stop doing what works. Masking is the cheapest form of health maintenance, and much less expensive than getting sick. It also will keep the economy moving as it gives us peace of mind as we move about and SHOP.</p> <p>We should have been masking since March to be honest.</p> <p>Masks work and we are headed to flu season, do you really want to worry about which on you might be coming down with?</p> <p>Science , Evidence for Effectiveness of Masks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Masks may help prevent people who have COVID-19 from spreading the virus to others. •Masks are most likely to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when they are widely used by people in public settings. • The more people wearing masks, the better. <p>https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2020/09/10/wearing-masks-could-become-part-of-troops-standard-operating-procedure/?fbclid=IwAR1e135xiA-VutMDYtQV_-vD25daT2PUAeG9yM7QGm_QZHnVAQJY-pD2dg</p> <p>We just need to be prudent and hunker down ...I am not stopping, will continue to wear my mask everywhere. My money will be spent to support businesses and communities that are</p>	Ingrid Smith	5605 N Suwanee Ave	Tampa	33604	8132322444	Ingrid.Jacoba@verizon.net	2020-09-12 18:00:39
Masks	<p>Thank you for your commitment to ameliorating the affect of the Coronavirus in Pinellas County. I appreciate your efforts to help business with the CARES program, as well requiring masks be worn inside public places. From what I read about other other counties, states and countries, it seems that the simple wearing of masks protects others and the wearer, and is a large part of the reason that the percentage of positive test is below 4%. Both my husband and I are in our late 60s, and I can't tell you how comforting it is for me to know that I can go to the grocery store and that most of not all other shoppers will be wearing masks. I ask that you take the conservative approach to requiring masks inside public places. While there is more information regarding the treatment of the Coronavirus, it is still spreading, and there are still many unknowns about nonsymptomatic spreaders, how the virus affects different people and how long immunity lasts. What we do know is that masks prevent its spread. And, the safer we feel, the more likely we will go to places where masks are worn. To keep economy coming back, the majority of citizens need to feel safe... Thank you for your consideration of my thoughts.</p>	Georgia Earp	3140 7th Ave N	St Petersburg	33713	7273174242	paintsonedges@gmail.com	2020-09-12 17:23:33
Pinellas County Ordinance 20-14	<p>Dear Commissioners,</p> <p>I hope you will vote to maintain the ordinance indefinitely. There are those who are quite vociferous concerning their rights not wear a mask. The science, however, demonstrates that masks and safe distancing has an impact on the health of the wearers. Some say that covid is nothing more than a serious cold. Tell that to the family members who have lost loved ones.</p> <p>Please vote to continue the ordinance. It truly is a matter of life and death.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Barbara J. High</p>	Barbara J. High	9700 Starkey Rd Apt 318	Largo	33777	7275152850	jhigh37@tampabay.rr.com	2020-09-12 17:21:06
Mask Mandate - Local Physician	<p>Hi. It's my understanding the Pinellas County Commission is entertaining the idea of repealing the local mask mandate. As a local physician (Ear, Nose, and Throat), I feel this is the wrong move. The numbers are trending in the proper direction, which is great. But that is partly due to the mask mandate. As restaurants expand capacity, bars reopen, and schools are underway we are going to start to see a rise again. We can have all these things but should still require masks. We can't reopen AND drop masks. Not yet. Too soon. Especially with flu season approaching. Everyone has adjusted to life wearing masks. People will be ok to continue this for now. It will be MUCH tougher to repeal masks then have to reconstitute the mandate when numbers rise. I don't feel it should even be a discussion right now and I'm appalled to hear that it is. Please, please, please listen to the local healthcare community on this and keep the mask mandate. Thanks.</p> <p>Keith Basler</p>	Keith Basler	185 28th Ave N	St. Petersburg	33704	5738836430	kbasler@floridaentandallergy.com	2020-09-12 19:13:45

Please do not resend the county wide mask order.	It is my understanding that there is a small group of vocal anti-maskers who are pressuring you to drop the mask ordinance in Pinellas County. Their logic is based on the fact that the numbers are down. We all surely know that this is solely due to the fact that the mask order is in place. Please remember that there really are far more people who believe in and understand science. Do not fall for the we'll vote you out line. Hold firm and help protect us. My wife is a teacher with the PCSB. She and all the teachers have been betrayed by the state and are being exposed to the COVID-19 virus everyday. They are not quarantining anyone regardless of the positive cases. Do not do this to all of the residents of Pinellas.	David Galvin	2183 Santa Paula Dr.	Dunedin	34698	727-709-5934	netgeeker@hotmail.com	2020-09-12 19:45:37
Masks in pinellas	Please do NOT lift the mask requirement here in pinellas! We have just begun going back to school, tourist will continue to come in and we are not over this, why risk another spike or uncontrollable surge right as we're forcing students back into the class and now with nursing homes opening up! Let us get a grip on this and maintain before you put us at risk again!	Nicole	9782 50th ave north	St. Petersburg	33708	7274204804	nicoleshaffer323@gmail.com	2020-09-12 19:42:35
Support of mask ordinance	I support the mask ordinance, do not bow to a small group of radicals. We are finally getting the numbers down. Schools are in session and that is going to cause a rise in cases. If you life the mask ordinance many people will die.	Susan King-Galvin	8068 Country Club Rd. N.	St. Petersburg	33710		jandsfossils@gmail.com	2020-09-12 19:32:27
Ordinance	According to the FDA face mask when intended for medical purposes such as source control including used related to COVID-19 that surgical mask are medical devices. The Florida constitution article 1 section 23 states that a competent individual has the right to refuse medical treatment. Its a law unlike your mandate that you can not force a individual to wear a medical device. Wearing a mask should be a choice that the residence of Pinellas County can make on their own. We are down under 3000 current hospitalized Covid patients in all of Florida. My question to you is what will it take to remove the mandate? Please remember the job of the government is to protect the freedom of its citizens not to try to protect us from the virus and take our medical freedoms away.	Dixie Ross		Dunedin			sk8dixie@gmail.com	2020-09-12 19:18:16
MASKING!	Please retain masking on the Pier!!! Why on earth NOT? What is WRONG with this country?! Don't you Ever want to get out of this predicament? WE are making no progress! My family had planned to visit the Pier next weekend because we figured the crowds were down and we heard it was "safe". Not now. Nor our friends. You are not doing the City any favors.	Jessica Bergman	704 W Hiawatha st	Tampa	33604	813-3599830	jtb350@hotmail.com	2020-09-12 19:17:52
End Mask Mandate	Good Evening, I am asking that you please consider ending the mask mandate. It is an individual choice if we want to wear masks or not. People that are afraid can wear masks, have items delivered to their homes, or have relatives go out and get things for them. I should not be forced to wear a mask every single time I enter a building. This is an over reach of the government. It is also unsafe in terms of crime. How are criminals going to be identified when everyone is wearing masks? As a woman I feel less safe with this mandate. Stop the insanity and remove the mask mandate.	Robyn Johnson	2725 Summit St	Palm Harbor	34683		robynjohnson@aol.com	2020-09-12 23:51:22
Masks	Please do not lift the ban on masks. I am a teacher and children in schools are getting the virus. We can not start being lax on the rules as it is still not safe. We need to be strict in regards to these protocols. My son has a severe heart condition and attends school online. If we start lifting the ban on masks everyone else will think it's ok and that there's nothing to worry about. I am terribly scared of getting the virus and passing it on to my son. Please keep the mask ordinance in place. People are already irresponsible as it is.	Cynthia	527 East Lake Club Dr.	Oldsmar	34677	7274816931	cyal15@yahoo.com	2020-09-12 23:35:56
Mask Ordinance	With all due respect I have major concerns about possibly dropping the mask ordinance!! I am a teacher and we already have cases in the schools with all wearing masks. Bars will be opening, nursing homes will start having visitors soon. This is not the time! No new cases at all for 14 days at least before this should even be considered. I appreciate you taking the time to read my email. Please continue to help keep us all safe.	Dina Hensley	7700 Ridge Rd	Seminole	33772	727-410-2234	dhteachus2002@yahoo.com	2020-09-12 23:32:33
Covid Mask Mandate	I beg you please do not lift the mask mandate at this time! Before the mandate was in place, hardly anyone wore a mask, but once you did the right thing and mandated mask wearing, everyone everywhere is wearing them. It is proven to be effective in fighting this awful virus. The health experts all agree that if everyone would wear a mask and social distance, this virus would be very manageable! I beg you, please keep this mandate at this time! I have Multiple Sclerosis and once the mask mandate went into effect, I felt it was safe for me to go out to do my grocery shopping, banking and other necessary errands. Please keep the masks mandatory for the health of all citizens.	Jill Iacopelli	5248 61st Way North	Kenneth Cty	33709	7277760128	iacopelli@aol.com	2020-09-12 23:07:08
Unconstitutional Mask mandate	Please be advised that Pinellas county has mandated an unconstitutional mask mandate. Even the corrupt CDC states that masks are ineffective in combating the "virus." What it does do is traumatize children and dehumanize all of us. Science does not back mask wearing. It does promote Globalist's agenda of control. You are nearby now warned that any and all commissioners will be and are now completely warned, responsible for joining in with the globalist's agenda and will be judged as co-conspirators with the enemy of humanity if this mask mandate is continued. THERE WILL BE A PEACEFUL, YET, POWERFUL REVOLT if this continues.	Linda Wolff	14130 Rosemary Lane	Pinellas	33774	7273668112	lindablue22@live.com	2020-09-12 22:52:19

Mask ordinance	Please keep the mask ordinance in place while there are still positive cases in Pinellas county. The numbers are looking much better now, because of the ordinance. If this is lifted, one asymptomatic case can result in a multitude of deaths. Please protect our community and our people!!! Thank you for your consideration. Mrs. Rebecca Sampson	Rebecca Sampson	8791 Oakdale Rd.	Seminole	33777		sampsonreb@gmail.com	2020-09-12 22:43:05
teachers and students	Please don't lift the mask requirement. There were 3 cases of covid on my school week one. So many schools have Covid.	judy aucoin	7257 danbury way	clearwater fl	33764	727 2040623	judyaucoin1@yahoo.com	2020-09-12 22:32:23
Maintain mask ordinance	It is imperative that you utilize sound scientific evidence to support your decisions. Continue to maintain the mask ordinance for Pinellas County. As of yesterday, positive cases increase and there have been a number of positive cases and quarantined in public schools even with the mask ordinance in place. I fear, as a public school teacher who is simultaneously teaching in a secondary education classroom, that the lives of myself, my students, and our families will be at a higher risk if the county ordinance is lifted. The oath you hold promises to keep the health and well being of Pinellas County residents your priority. Vote with that oath in mind. I know I will keep that in mind on the day I vote.	Teresa B.		Palm Harbor			cadigmchik@yahoo.com	2020-09-12 22:22:16
Please keep the mark order in place	We are on the right path here in Pinellas. Please stay on this path. Keep the mark order for just a little while longer.	Doug Morris	501 Lewis Blvd se	St. Petersburg	33705	816-547-7447	dmor13@yahoo.com	2020-09-12 21:57:46
Masks	I urge you to continue the mask ordinance. Cases of covid are spreading in schools, bars are reopening, and flu season is coming. I am just now comfortable going to stores when needed and getting my 88 year old mom out of the house occasionally. We are both high risk. Allowing people to go out in public without masks will only cause a surge in cases again and prolong this virus in our county and surrounding area. We are doing a good job right now at leveling cases due to the safety guidelines in place. In my opinion, they need to stay in place through the winter season or until there are no new cases for two weeks. We cannot afford to get careless at this time. I urge you all to please keep the mask ordinance in place for the health and welfare of all of the citizens of Pinellas County. Thank you.	Robin Robertson	10490 118th Strert	Seminole	33778	7275045002	robino38@aol.com	2020-09-12 21:55:05
Mask Ordinance	Hello, Please consider keeping the mask ordinance for another month, I work in a public library and it has helped so much.			Pinellas Park			hbrenle@yahoo.com	2020-09-12 21:42:19
Mask requirement	I understand you will be considering a change in the requirement to wear masks. I implore you to keep the mask ordinance in place. I am a Pinellas County teacher and I strongly believe we are not ready for this, not until a greater reduction of positive cases and an effective vaccine is in place.	Cynthia Borland	1974 Redcliffe Dr East	Clearwater	33763		borlandcm@hotmail.com	2020-09-12 21:40:52
Mask ordinance	Please keep the mask ordinance! Numbers are improving BECAUSE more people are wearing masks. We are about to enter flu season, COVID is still very much around. For public health and safety, keep the mask ordinance in place.	Maryellen Mariani	2621 11 th St., N	St. Petersburg	33704	7274181224	stacy_mariani@yahoo.com	2020-09-12 21:15:38
Face masks	Please continue face mask requirements for the safety of our community.	Mary Beth Wiggers	8092 27th Ave N	St. Petersburg	33710	727-687-3576	mewiggers4@gmail.com	2020-09-12 21:02:33
Mask Mandate Must Stay	I have heard that our County is considering lifting the mask mandate. We are on the right path, why would we stop now? I am worried about the impact lifting the ban will have especially now that schools are open. Please side with caution.	Ashley Scavino	2240 Wilshire Dr	Dunedin/Pinellas	34698		ashleyscavino@yahoo.com	2020-09-12 20:57:06
Mask ordinance	I understand you all may be considering dropping the mask ordinance. Please don't. We have cases in schools and dropping the ordinance would allow the schools leeway to follow suit. It's too soon. Please wait until we have had 14 days with no new cases before considering any lessening of the order. Thank you.	Kathryn Curry	1082 Withlacoochee St.	Safety Harbor	34695	727-410-2158	kathryncurry63@gmail.com	2020-09-12 20:51:46
Continuation of mask ordinance	As a mother and physician I find it absolutely vital to continue the mask ordinance. The public is comfortable with wearing masks and it sends the wrong message with dangerous consequences to our community to abandon this ordinance. Please keep our kids in school and our public safe by continuing mandatory masks!	Catherine Kubiak	108 Wimbledon Ct	Redington Shores	33708		cath1erine@hotmail.com	2020-09-12 20:39:19
Masks	Please keep the mask requirement when indoors. Schools started 3 weeks ago and bars open Monday 9-14-20. It takes 4 to 5 weeks to get reliable data to safely rescind the mask policy. PLEASE keep masks for atleast another 6 wks. I work in healthcare and want to protect my community.			St. Petersburg	33704		runjenn@tampabay.rr.com	2020-09-12 20:38:55
Mask Mandate	Pinellas County has been able to bring our COVID infection rate down. The lower numbers means the mask mandate is WORKING! Why would you even consider revoking the mandate? It's because people are wearing masks that the spread of Covid is abating. Wearing a mask is a necessary step to protect everyone! DO NOT RECIND THE MASK MANDATE! Science is important. Dr. Fauci has stated as that winter will see an uptick if corona virus cases. Follow the science!!! Now that schools have reopened the number of positive cases are sure to go up again. I implore you to vote to keep the mandatory mask rule in place until there is a vaccine that has proven effective.	Colleen Howard-Wahls	6227 4th Street S	St. Petersburg	33705	727-867-7018	chwahls@aol.com	2020-09-12 20:27:42
Continue Mask Ordinance	As a public school teacher I urge you to continue to keep the mask ordinance. The simultaneous teaching issues in Pinellas County Schools is a tenuous situation already with teachers resigning. We, as teachers, do not need this added problem of students going home to Covid positive homes and bringing it back to their teachers and classmates. If you want the schools to stay open keep the mask ordinance.	Melissa Traber	3542 Ridge Blvd	Palm Harbor	34684	7272210033	melissa.k.traber@gmail.com	2020-09-12 20:26:57
Keep Mask Ordinance	As a resident of Pinellas County, a public school teacher, someone who has a significant health issue I believe it is too early to lift the mask ordinance. We know masks work. That is why our positivity rate is low. However, with schools opening and other restrictions loosening, why not give masks a little more time to keep everyone safe. No one enjoys wearing the masks, however I will gladly keep wearing to help keep others safe.	Stacie Bruce	7343 36th Avenue N	st. Petersburg	33710	727-560-3599	Pstaciebruce@yahoo.com	2020-09-12 20:25:03

Retain mask ordinance	Greetings, Those loud voices at your last meeting do not represent the majority of your stakeholders in Pinellas County. We want the policy requiring masks in public places to continue until the outcomes of Labor Day weekend and the reopening the bars and sporting events are realized. At this point, citizens are accustomed to wearing masks, some even making them quite fashionable. It would be much more difficult to reinstate this policy at a later date. We also fear that ending this mandate would create a false sense of security and many would assume it is safe to end social distancing, sanititation procedures, etc. It is because of this ruling that we have kept our numbers low! It would be a fatal mistake to end the mask policy too soon. Thank you for protecting us, Ginger Brengle and family	Ginger Brengle	2935 164th Ave N	Clearwater	33760		pphsalumni@hotmail.com	2020-09-12 20:21:42
Mask Ordinance	Please do not lift the ordinance yet, we are not even remotely within safe numbers for this to be done and we are dealing with many kids coming to school sick and with the District's new surgical quarantine process we really have no idea who's sick, which teachers that child has had or what our exposure time was. This is setting everyone up for a catastrophe with cold & flu season coming up.	Lori Moore	562 Brookfield Dr.	Largo	33771	9412246453	sciencrules1123@yahoo.com	2020-09-12 19:58:38