

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 9:18 AM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

**CAUTION:**

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### Live Form

Topic Mask mandate for Pinellas county

BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments

We are not near herd immunity and care including masks and social distancing need to be maintained for a bit more. We have a great number of individuals that remain at risk, their ability to return to "normal" depends on others getting vaccinated. Until we reach these numbers we need to continue to follow the CDC recommendations as our own flawed state legislators continue to provide inaccurate information thereby causing more confusion for the citizens of this state. Please continue the mask mandate

Citizen Name Karen Renaud

Address 518 Tangerine Dr  
Oldsmar, Florida 34677  
United States

Phone 727-5156321

Email karenrenaud1@gmail.com

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 9:15 AM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

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### Live Form

Topic Mask mandate

BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments Wearing masks in schools has proven to be most effective in keeping Covid cases low. The vaccines are only available for people 16 years and older. We are fortunate that our schools have been open. This is thanks to following the advice of medical experts. Thank you for protecting our children.

Citizen Name Patricia Cunningham

Address 603 Baldwin Ave., Apt. A  
Safety Harbor, Florida 34695  
United States

Phone 727-430-7953

Email Cunningpat@yahoo.com

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 12:57 AM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

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### Live Form

Topic Continuing Mask Requirement

BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2020

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments With all of the non-maskers showing up, I feel uncomfortable coming to the meeting. But I want to voice my support of continuing the mask regulations. 30% vaccinated in Pinellas is just NOT acceptable to open up again. I truly fear we will see another India in this county and our country if we open up totally. Please do not life the mask rules.

Citizen Name Linda Beaulieu

Address 6970 Versailles  
Pinellas Park, Florida 33781  
United States

Phone 727-280-3300

Email beaulieu48@msn.com

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 2, 2021 5:01 PM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

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### Live Form

Topic	Keep Mask Mandate
BCC Agenda Date	5-11-2021
Your Stand on the Issue	Support
Comments	Please continue to support the mask mandate for indoor activities for all venues.
Citizen Name	Geraldine Goldhammer
Address	915 Woodland Drive PALM HARBOR, 34683-6658 United States
Phone	727-7845504
Email	henger65@yahoo.com

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 1, 2021 9:03 AM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

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### Live Form

Topic mask mandate

BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments

Please keep the mask mandate in place at least through the summer. We need to get rid of this virus, not risk spreading it again. It is not an inconvenience to wear a mask while shopping or walking through a store. This is the same as not smoking in a restaurant or retail location. It's for the good of everyone. Business is picking up again, so keep those spacing restrictions in place too. No shirt, no shoes, no service also does not violate my freedom of speech. Thanks.

Citizen Name Jon H

Address 633 Howell Ct  
Dunedin, FL 34698  
United States

Phone

Email heijojo@outlook.com

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Friday, April 30, 2021 5:51 AM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

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### Live Form

Topic Mask Mandate

BCC Agenda Date

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments

As a bakery/cafe owner, I want to say I greatly appreciate the persistence in the part of the county to continue the mask mandate in keeping with current CDC guidelines. I am at the highest risk of death by this disease due to a physical condition and closing my doors and locking myself in my house is not an option. If I don't keep my business running, then I lose literally everything, including my home and my car, so I have to keep my doors open. The county's willingness to stand up to the bullies who are not willing to look at medical facts and protect others is truly heroic. We all understand how absolutely nasty anti-maskers can be and know you are receiving the brunt of their fury. It takes the pressure off of those of us who need these safeguards in place. You know that if the mandates aren't there these mask protestors aren't going to listen to business owners and they are going to do what they can to close up any business that requires them. So thank you from the bottom of my heart and of the hearts of other Dunedin food establishments for keeping these safeguards in place.

Citizen Name Shelley

Address United States

Phone

Email

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 29, 2021 10:44 PM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

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### Live Form

Topic Mask Mandate

BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Oppose

### Comments

The virus is still not under control. New more dangerous variants are coming into existence entirely because populations are not taking this seriously. Masking is only a small part of the vigilance it takes to keep the worst at bay, and it's minimally intrusive to our lives. We aren't locked down, but the least we can do is act to protect those whose jobs require first person contact. Not to mention the elderly, who are even more at risk than most and which comprise over 20% of our population here. Let's keep it safe for our snowbirds and retirees, and for the tourists, tourist industry and service folks. There's no way to fix it later if we mess this up.

Citizen Name Desiree Matlock

Address 400 N Missouri Ave  
Clearwater, FL 33755  
United States

Phone 818-9192759

Email desi.matlock@gmail.com

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021 9:05 AM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

**Categories:** UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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### Live Form

Topic Mask Ordinance

BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Support

### Comments

First, I would like to thank all of our Board of County Commissioners for their service during one of the most difficult times in the history of public service. There isn't a playbook for how to handle these situations and regardless of path chosen, it comes with challenges. Thank you for being consistent, measured and thoughtful when it comes to public health. Given we're the most popular tourism destination on the Gulf of Mexico, leading to a constant influx of visitors and a significant number of our residents interacting with these visitors on a constant basis, plateauing vaccine numbers and no state measures in place, I support continuing the mask ordinance. It continues to be one of our only tools in the fight against COVID and is a simple ask for those wanting to be indoors around other people. Thanks again and be well.

Citizen Name Leroy Bridges

Address 12850 93RD AVE N  
SEMINOLE, FL 33776  
United States

Phone 727-421-7432

Email leroy.bridges13@gmail.com



## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 25, 2021 4:35 PM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

**Categories:** UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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### Live Form

Topic Mask Mandate

BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments

I am submitting this comment card early to the BCC and Administrator so that our family's support of the mask mandate is documented well in advance of a potential vote on May 11, 2021. Thank you all for creating the mask mandate for our county and for maintaining the order even when there is so much pressure on each of you to reconsider. Your leadership has already saved countless lives by implementing and maintaining the mask mandate. With COVID deaths in our county continuing to average at least 50 deaths daily and thousands testing positive, please consider staying consistent with best practices to protect our citizens. Our first responders, health care workers, teachers and their families should have the best chance of being protected. Thank you for continuing to keep the mask mandate in place! Bob & Chris Rose

Citizen Name Robert Rose

Address 2564 Anderson Drive West  
Clearwater, FL 33761  
United States

Phone 727-7994420

Email happydays4u@aol.com

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 25, 2021 8:38 AM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

**Categories:** UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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### Live Form

Topic Face Coverings Required

BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments  
The requirement for face coverings inside public places should be continued as it has been proven to slow the spread of Covid-19. This is a fact, not an opinion. I have a right as a citizen to be protected from harm. Other citizens who choose to behave irresponsibly by intentionally spreading their viruses need to be deterred by requiring them to follow rules. This is no different than a requirement not to drink and drive or not to drive recklessly. Please keep the mask mandate in place to ensure the protection of all.

Citizen Name Mary Zuranski

Address  
780 CRESCENT DRIVE  
LARGO, Florida 33770  
United States

Phone 727-8710737

Email m.zuranski@knology.net

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 2:45 PM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

**Categories:** UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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### Live Form

Topic Extending Face Covering Ordinance

BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments I support extending the face covering ordinance because we have not reached herd immunity yet and many people are still at risk for infection regardless of vaccine status. I am one of those people and I vote.

Citizen Name Ellen Oberlin

Address 695 Sunset Drive  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689-2440  
United States

Phone

Email ellenoberlin@gmail.com

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2021 1:27 PM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

**Categories:** UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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### Live Form

Topic Mask mandate

BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments I support the county mask mandate. I believe I caught COVID-19 when eating indoors at a restaurant in a Florida county which did not have a mask mandate, and none of the employees wore masks. We need to keep each other safe.

Citizen Name Lori Palmer

Address 11800 Park Blvd Unit 110  
Seminole , FL 33772  
United States

Phone 813-2307599

Email Lorip625@outlook.com

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Danna Wilson <dfw1981@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 19, 2021 9:18 AM  
**To:** Greenleaf, Kim  
**Subject:** Re: BCC to hold public hearing on May 11th regarding Ordinance 20-14

**Categories:** UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

**CAUTION:**

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Please forward my comments to the PCCC.

I feel the mask ordinance and capacity requirements should stay in force for another couple of months. Even if the county starts to have a good immunization percentage, we still have tourists who may not be vaccinated yet. For the protections of both residents and visitors, masks should still be required.

Having the mask ordinance in place makes it much easier for commercial establishments to enforce their own mask requirements. If masks were "voluntary but recommended", the way it is in Sarasota County, mask enforcement is much more difficult for employees. I myself am boycotting Sarasota because of their decision to not protect their citizens and visitors.

Thank you,

Danna Wilson  
Palm Harbor, Fl

On Fri, Apr 16, 2021 at 4:29 PM Greenleaf, Kim <[kgreenleaf@co.pinellas.fl.us](mailto:kgreenleaf@co.pinellas.fl.us)> wrote:

After a thoughtful discussion that included hours of public comment, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday agreed to schedule a public hearing for May 11 to consider repealing or amending the [county ordinance](#) requiring face coverings inside public places and certain restrictions in bars and restaurants.

The public hearing will take place during the Board's regular hybrid in-person and virtual meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am at the Magnolia Room (12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo), and public comment will be taken. The Board could repeal all or part of the ordinance, amend it, or keep the full ordinance in effect. If the Board votes to repeal the ordinance, it could set an effective date.

If you are interested in watching or participating in the meeting, please visit the Public Notice for the meeting date at [http://www.pinellascounty.org/BCC\\_agenda.htm](http://www.pinellascounty.org/BCC_agenda.htm). Should you plan to attend the meeting virtually and wish to speak during the meeting, please make sure to pre-register by 5pm on the day before the meeting so the Chair knows to recognize you during the meeting.

## *Kimberly H. Greenleaf*

Executive Aide to Commissioner Dave Eggers, Chair

Pinellas Board of County Commissioners, District 4

315 Court Street, Clearwater, FL 33756

727-464-3276 office

727-464-3022 fax

[kgreenleaf@pinellascounty.org](mailto:kgreenleaf@pinellascounty.org)

[www.pinellascounty.org](http://www.pinellascounty.org)

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**Johnson, Krista**

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**From:** CB <peacedalegreen@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 18, 2021 3:36 PM  
**To:** anetCLong@pinellascounty.org; Long, Janet C; Gerard, Pat; Justice, Charlie; Eggers, Dave; Seel, Karen; Peters, Kathleen; Welch, Kenneth  
**Subject:** [BULK] PLEASE KEEP MASK MANDATE & KEEP RESIDENTS SAFE  
**Importance:** Low  
**Categories:** UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

**CAUTION:**

This message has originated from **Outside of the Organization**. Do Not Click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.

**Now is NOT the time to lift the mask mandate!!**

**For all those who want to risk their own & other peoples' lives, it is their choice as mislead as they are.**

**For the rest of us, we count on YOU.**

**For your constituents' welfare, please do the right thing & keep the mask mandate in place.**

**THIS PANDEMIC IS NOT OVER. AND WE ARE NOT YET OUT OF THE WOODS.**

**All you need do is read the CDC's advice and epidemiologists' recommendations.**

**PLEASE KEEP PINELLAS COUNTY RESIDENTS SAFE.**

**Common sense & science give us the guidance needed, not falsehoods & those who do not care.**

**The time will come, but it is NOT YET NOW!**

**We depend upon you to safeguard our well-being.**

**My family, friends, & I ask for your conscientious & caring right choice for all of Pinellas County residents.**

**We are several of the number of those in the thousands who support keeping a mask mandate in place until the pandemic is under better control, and more people are vaccinated, with daily numbers going down.**

**Thank you. Please do not let us down.**

## **Pinellas County will vote whether to end its mask mandate May 11**

The Pinellas County Commission could make any changes at a future date, when herd immunity is expected.

The Pinellas County Commission will vote on May 11 whether to rescind or amend its now 10-month-old mask mandate that was enacted to stem the spread of coronavirus.

The commission unanimously agreed on Tuesday to schedule the vote, a necessary logistical step to make the required public notice. But officials also discussed their ability to make any approved changes that go into effect at a later date, like early June as proposed by Commissioner Pat Gerard.

About 37 percent of the population in Pinellas County had received at least one dose of the vaccine [as of Tuesday](#). Dr. Ulyee Choe, director of the Florida Department of Health in Pinellas, said he expects 50 percent of the county to have completed vaccinations by May 25, a sign towards herd immunity.

The Commission is evaluating its mask mandate amid strong pressure from anti-mask advocates, who spent two hours speaking against the ordinance during the public comment portion of Tuesday's discussion.

"I think people just want an end date; they've been asking for an end date," Commissioner Kathleen Peters said. "I think if we give them a date of May 11, that we're going to put it on the agenda to be serious about talking about it, then that helps get them to where they want to be."

**The elected officials reviewed a report from University of South Florida scientists Edwin Michael and Ken Newcomb that stated social measures like masks "are highly effective in protecting against infection." While they prevent transmission, masks also slow the development of herd immunity, and lifting the measure would result in the pandemic's resurgence.**



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The scientists predicted that accelerating vaccination rates by five times will allow for a full release of social measures by July 1.

**"I don't think it's too much to ask that we err on the side of caution," Commissioner Janet Long said.**

The mandate, enacted June 23, requires masks in most indoor public places, including in restaurants while not eating or drinking.

But Gerard also pointed to some of the data shared Tuesday to justify beginning to look for an end date for the mandate.

Counties with a mask ordinance showed a spike in cases in June and July of 2020, followed by a steady decline, then another spike in December and January followed by another decline, according to Burton's data. Counties with no mask requirement followed a similar pattern.

Commissioner Karen Seel noted that those numbers did not indicate how many residents in counties without a mask mandate were wearing face coverings anyway, therefore skewing the data.

The Florida Department of Health and Centers for Disease and Prevention showed coronavirus cases were higher in school districts that did not require masks, a more reliable figure, Seel said.

In February, 18 medical professionals from Tampa Bay hospitals, health centers and university programs [provided a joint letter of advice](#) urging local governments maintain the mask requirements



until Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties hit a seven-day average positivity rate of 3 percent or less for four consecutive weeks.

**On Tuesday, Pinellas had a 6.8 percent seven-day average, compared to 4.5 percent last month,** according to Choe.

While Hillsborough county still has its mask requirement in place, Pasco County administrator Dan Biles [ended that government's mask mandate on](#) April 5. Pinellas County Schools Superintendent Mike Grego said Tuesday the district's mask requirement will remain, despite loud opposition because his medical advisors have recommended continuing the health safety protocol.

“We did not vote you in to manage our health or dictate what we do with our bodies and what we put on our bodies or what we put in our bodies,” Yvette Gaugh, president of Welllife Health told the Commission Tuesday. “I am appalled .... that you're telling me to put a face covering over my face to protect my health.”

**But Commissioner Rene Flowers reminded her colleagues that for all of the loud comments they heard Tuesday – many she said were factually inaccurate and distasteful – there were thousands of other residents who supported the safeguard.**

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 18, 2021 1:52 PM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

**Categories:** UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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### Live Form

Topic amending face mask requirements ORDINANCE 20-14

BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2021

Your Stand on the Issue Oppose

Comments I am a senior citizen over 65. I have been eating in restaurants in Pinellas County since they have reopened ONLY because all employees must wear face coverings. I wear my own mask at all times in public except when I am eating. If the face mask requirement in restaurants were lifted I will NOT be able to eat out. I cannot risk my health. Regardless of being vaccinated I would not feel safe. This would deprive me of contact with others and deprive the restaurant of income. I am sure I am not the only person who feels this way. Please do not remove the face mask requirement in public places.

Citizen Name Geraldine Gould

Address PO Box 906  
Oldsmar, Florida 3467  
United States

Phone 813-8187202

Email gouldg@netzero.com

## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** jaysolutions@verizon.net  
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2021 9:34 PM  
**To:** Greenleaf, Kim  
**Subject:** Re: BCC to hold public hearing on May 11th regarding Ordinance 20-14

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

**Categories:** UPLOADED, DOWNLOADED

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Whether we can attend the May 11th soiree or not, here are two votes from our house: keep the mask ordinance intact until we have better Covid vaccination coverage.

We both are 3 weeks + past our 2nd Pfizer vaccinations, and we still are taking the CDC recommendations seriously. While I know people want to get back to normal, that is history. We are living through the Spanish Flu redux and I know why people "forgot about it" after it was over back then: it was so painful, all they wanted to do was leave it in the past,

Then they had the mini-bust in the early 20s, the crash of 1929, the Great Depression (that came back 2 weeks after WWII ended where I lived), WWII and the recovery from the worst war ever in the history of mankind. The 20th century was not a fun time in which to live from 1914 to 1954, because we also had Polio with which to deal just after WWII.

From 1950 onwards it was not too bad, probably was as good a 50 year span as mankind has had in the past 500 years. But what Trump inflicted on us during his time of Chaos, will take decades to repair, if ever. He resurrected all of the worst things of our nation's history in 4 years. Whatever "normal" is going to be will have little relationship to what the prior 66 years were like before Trump.

Just remember that a healthy CDC & its related infrastructure combated Zika, Ebola, the first SARS epidemic, several versions of the flu (to include the first revival of the Spanish Flu of 1915-1922), polio, and even HIV. The CDC infrastructure Trump destroyed is the "gift" that will keep on giving for at least another 30 years.

I am sorry that is what your future is going to be. It will not be mine.

I almost died 3 times in 2019 from a Streptococcus Bovis (old name) infection, that attacked my spine, spinal cord, plus the aortic & mitral valves of my heart, concurrently, I also ended up with 18 fewer inches in my colon. I have been in medical lockdown & limbo since March 2019, so if I can ever get back on cruises, that is where you will find me evading reality until I croak. If I have ten more years, I will be lucky, so losing the past 2-3 years has eaten up 25 % of what time I might have left, perhaps more.

I first learned about the etiquette of wearing a mask in public in 1962 when I was homeported in Yokosuka Japan where anyone with an infection wears one as a courtesy to their fellow citizens. And we view it as an infringement upon our "rights" instead of treating our fellow citizens with kindness, consideration, and empathy. I guess MAGA only means to me MCPs in charge & white ones at that.

This male caucasian Viet Nam vet left the Far West to get away from the macho crap espoused by pseudo-men. I am pro-mask, social distancing, vaccines, and anything else the CDC recommends. My wife agrees.

Thanks again for helping us find shots and the Pfizer ones too. Thanks, we appreciated your help & guidance. I hope the Commissioners have the courage to do the right thing, but I am not holding my breath.....

Stay healthy & wise, you are the kind of staff person I always valued when I worked in the Federal Bureaucracy: you have no idea how much people like you have influence on the course of the ship of state for the good of that ship. I served my

country in uniform, in mufti, in government service, and as a defense contractor (I still served the government first & my employer second, because the government was the customer),

Jay Brown

-----Original Message-----

From: Greenleaf, Kim <[kgreenleaf@co.pinellas.fl.us](mailto:kgreenleaf@co.pinellas.fl.us)>

To: Eggers, Dave <[deggers@co.pinellas.fl.us](mailto:deggers@co.pinellas.fl.us)>

Cc: Greenleaf, Kim <[kgreenleaf@co.pinellas.fl.us](mailto:kgreenleaf@co.pinellas.fl.us)>

Sent: Fri, Apr 16, 2021 3:59 pm

Subject: BCC to hold public hearing on May 11th regarding Ordinance 20-14

After a thoughtful discussion that included hours of public comment, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday agreed to schedule a public hearing for May 11<sup>th</sup> to consider repealing or amending the [county ordinance](#) requiring face coverings inside public places and certain restrictions in bars and restaurants.

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## **Kimberly H. Greenleaf**

Executive Aide to Commissioner Dave Eggers, Chair

Pinellas Board of County Commissioners, District 4

315 Court Street, Clearwater, FL 33756

727-464-3276 office

727-464-3022 fax

[kgreenleaf@pinellascounty.org](mailto:kgreenleaf@pinellascounty.org)

[www.pinellascounty.org](http://www.pinellascounty.org)

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## Johnson, Krista

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**From:** Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller <noreply@mypinellasclerk.org> on behalf of noreply@mypinellasclerk.org  
**Sent:** Friday, April 16, 2021 3:07 PM  
**To:** Comments, BCC Agenda

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### Live Form

Topic Mask Mandate  
BCC Agenda Date 5-11-2021  
Your Stand on the Issue Support

### Comments

April 16, 2021 Dear Committee Members, I am submitting my comments in advance of the May 11th meeting since I am unable to attend. As a Pinellas County resident, I fully support extending the mask mandate until we can a better vaccination rate not only in this county, but state wide. As of today's date we only have 36.2 % of our state's citizens receiving one dose and only 22.4% fully vaccinated. We can only achieve herd immunity when these numbers are significantly higher. Additionally, we need these vaccinations to happen at a higher rate in order to keep the number of virus and its mutations limited It has been proven again and again that the wearing of masks mitigates the spread of the virus. Wearing a mask does not limit your freedoms or liberties as some have claimed. Wearing a mask protects you and others PERIOD. It is a matter of life and death We need you all to be leaders and listen to the public health professionals who serve our best interests. We need you to use the powers of your positions to educate the public and help get them to vaccination sites. It is then and only then that you should even consider lifting the mandate. We cannot transform our lives and move into a better future if we continue to deny the seriousness of this disease. Too many people have died and too many people continue to get sick and too many people continue to spread this illness. Wearing a mask is the easiest way to consider others and to be a good citizen in the war against COVID 19. Sincerely, Kim-Marie Fudge Madeira Beach

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