

**From:** [Carpenter, Katherine](#)  
**To:** [Comments, BCC Agenda](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Mask mandate  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 16, 2020 10:45:36 AM

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**From:** Thomas Thompson <[tfdmpt@gmail.com](mailto:tfdmpt@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 16, 2020 10:31 AM  
**To:** Burton, Barry <[bburton@co.pinellas.fl.us](mailto:bburton@co.pinellas.fl.us)>  
**Subject:** Mask mandate

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I was appalled to learn that the Pinellas County Commission is considering lifting the ordinance requiring face masks in indoor public spaces. The mask mandate has played a key role in lowering Covid case numbers in the county, along with social distancing and other public health measures. To rescind it will put us back into a cycle of rising numbers of infections followed by measures to control the spread. The Commission can prevent that from happening. Leading public health experts across the country advise wearing masks as the single most effective way to contain the virus, allowing us to keep businesses and schools open and saving hundreds of thousands of lives. Such a small thing to do for such a big payoff!

Donna Peltier & Tom Thompson  
St. Petersburg