

Name: Nicole musfelt

Address: 4110 troon ct

Rapid city, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: City closure

Comment:

Please continue the nonessential business closure. I understand this is a hard vote but it is obvious it was the right decision made by the council by looking at our numbers. Thank you

Name: mark coad

Address: 2941 Princeton Ct, Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Agenda Item Ref. #: CC042020-03 Discuss Extension of Mandatory Closures

Comment:

Even the hospital is closing down laying off medical personnel. We do not need more rules to survive a crisis, we need leadership, not scared followers shutting down our economy. Help our elderly and at-risk populations stay safe. Help them with food and even rent assistance, if you keep our economy shut down there will be nowhere to get help from, many more will suffer and die. People are suffering medically because they are scared to seek medical help for heart problems and cancer. Your choices as a council will be the cause of thousands of inadvertent deaths from lack of basic medical care. The real virus is FEAR, look at how our city council has randomly chosen parts of our economy to make illegal. OPEN our City, let people decide if they should attend a church service, a restaurant or even a bar.

God Bless America, God Help us all and save us from irrational fear and panic.

Name: Gina S. Nelson

Address: 6304 Cog Hill Lane

RC SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: COVID 19

Comment:

Council members:

Just look at the facts - what you did is working!! You are to be commended for your concern, foresight and leadership. PLEASE continue to listen to scientists and medical personnel. We are not even close to peak numbers. We are not out of the woods! Don't undue the progress we have made. We are not there yet!! IT IS FAR TOO SOON. If we keep doing what we are doing here in Rapid City then we will be out of the woods much sooner. Don't throw up your hands now. You've proven that the measures put into place in our city are working. Please PLEASE stay the course.

Thank you!

Gina Nelson

Name: Sonja Love

Address: 6408 Bandon Lane

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Continue Closure

Comment:

I would like the City Council to extend the current closure recommendations in order to maintain a flattened curve and prevent a hotspot or bigger outbreak here in Rapid City or the surrounding area. I'm afraid the test number (total tests being done) do not do justice to the amount of possibly ill people we have in our community and cannot be considered a safe representation of flattening the curve.

Thank you for your time.

Name: Jeremy Bom

Address: 2106 N maple Avenue

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Consider lifting the ban. Allow us to reopen. I know this virus can be dangerous, but there are many viruses that can be dangerous. I once caught a cold that developed into sepsis. I understand. I am asking that we allow people to make their own choices. We have rigid sanitation procedures on top of our already high standards that we have created. We will follow them, we will follow guidelines set by the City, State etc. It is not about my business, we will survive, we have backing. I cannot speak for the locally owned. The ban is causing, irreversible damage. We must consider the dangers of the virus and the people at the same time. Our City is built upon locally owned diners, bars etc. Tourism, our main source of income. Our peoples hard work, savings accounts and most important, time, gone. IMO the danger of this virus does justify the potential outcome. We are limiting our people's freedom to make choices.

Name: Jason Lewison

Address: 6529 Axel rd

Black Hawk , SD 57718

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Covid-19

Comment:

I get that businesses are struggling right now with the closures. However if you look at Sioux Falls and they way their numbers flared up, or you go further east into Minnesota , Michigan etc, it seems clear that west river has not seen its peak. To say we have flattened the curve is being impatient, and wanting to get life back on as normal. Believe me I understand that perspective. I would love to return back to work, but I'm no expert and can only draw conclusion on what little information we are given.

Name: Craig Moore

Address: 721 Enchanted Pines Dr.

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: COVID-19 Extending business closures

Comment:

There are approximately 110,000 people living in Pennington County. We have had a total of 11 cases of COVID-19 of those 7 are fully recovered. So we have 4 active cases among 110,000 people. For us to continue business shutdown seems to be a gross over reach. We need to cautiously start opening businesses and get our economy rolling again.

Name: Kendra Marshall-Wood

Address: 318 Mt Rushmore Road, Suite A

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Covid restrictions

Comment:

Please consider opening the pools in Rapid City. Chlorine in normal concentration levels is strong enough to kill the virus. Have staff clean surfaces regularly and limit the amount of patrons to allow for social distancing. Our swim teams and daily swimmers are struggling not having the access. L

Name: Ashley Smith

Address: 237 Franklin Street

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: COVID

Comment:

After watching Mayor Allender's press conference I wanted to bring a few topics to light that were not presented. While I am sure these issues have been or will be discussed by the City Council in regard to reopening Rapid City businesses, I still wanted to share a few thoughts.

- Daycare facilities and at-home daycare businesses. As people return to work, they will need childcare, especially since schools are closed. What would be the plan for them?

- I find the 10 person max and the 1 customer per 125 sq ft guidelines to contradict each other. For example, if a business only has 1,000 sq ft of space and they can accept 10 people, that comes to only 100 sq ft per customer. Would this business be expected to only accommodate 8 people max? (1000 sq ft divided by 125 sq ft = 8 people)

- I believe it to be prudent for the council to consider a detailed emergency response plan or disaster recovery plan should we need to close again.

Name: Linda Lea Viken

Address: 4760 Trout Court, Rapid City, SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I understand the concern for the effect of the business closures and the desire to reopen the businesses, and agree with the restrictions placed on those reopenings. I hope people will actually follow them.

I do, however, remain apprehensive. There are so few tests taken in Rapid City, and I am advised that there are people with active COVID symptoms who were not allowed to take the test and were told to go home--thus not reported in the statistics, that I worry about how accurate our data is. The decision is a difficult one to make, and I do not envy you. I would ask that no matter the decision, we each agree to treat our neighbors with respect even if we may disagree with their position.

Linda Lea Viken

Name: Michelle O'Toole

Address: 3661 Serendipity Lane

Rapid City, SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Co vid 19 assessment

Comment:

Please consider keeping the social distances for businesses in place.

It is working thus far. It is mandatory for the health care providers.

It is too soon to "start up" the economy.

We have come too far and have too much invested to "blow it all" now!

Please stay the course.

Name: Peggy Detmers

Address: 13488 Shelter Dr

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: COVID-19 Reopen?

Comment:

If we reopen non-essential businesses without the proper level of testing, we will see a spike within the people who choose not to distance themselves. We will lose doctors and nurses and essential sales personnel, making getting groceries more dangerous. As a biologist who dealt with dangerous bio-samples, I know that 6 feet of distance is not enough when you are dealing with a virus that is aerosolized. WE ALL MUST STAY AT HOME AS MUCH AS WE CAN!!!!!!!!!! Until we have a treatment/vaccine for COVID-19, we can possibly open things up for people who have TESTED to have been exposed, but developed no symptoms, or have recovered from COVID-19. However, as a biologist, I can say there is no guarantee that any person is safe if they receive a bigger exposure to a large viral load.

Name: Ashley Smith

Address: 237 Franklin St.

RC, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: COVID

Comment:

Please confirm or clarify if the max number of people in an establishment also includes staff!

Name: Carol Waider

Address: 2331 Cognac CT

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Opening the City

Comment:

The Rapid City Council and Mayor have done exceptionally well with mitigating the Covid-19 crisis. Unfortunately the limited testing in Pennington County has done little to prove that it has or has not helped. What has happened as a result of these measures is an outward message to the rest of the country that we take this and safety of our community members seriously. Rapid City depends greatly on two industries-tourism and Ellsworth. Opening too quickly shows that this may not be a safe city. Also-just because the community reopens doesn't mean that people will be flocking into these businesses. Business was down long before the shutdown. People seem to be doing lots of curbside pickup and delivery from the various local and chain restaurants. I feel that this is a safe option because dining rooms are closed. If the restaurants were to open dining rooms I would no longer utilize curbside pickup. How many others would feel the same?

Name: Joyce Payton

Address: 11515 Sheridan Lake Road

Rapid City SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type:

Agenda Item: COVID 19 reopening

Comment:

First I would like to Thank Mayor Allender for the great leadership you have shown Rapid City during this pandemic crisis. You have done an outstanding job keeping us informed. And to the city council thank you for your dedication and commitment to keeping us safe. I would like to see the guidelines we have in place for Rapid to stay in place. My reasoning for that is this- we have not had adequate testing done to give us a clear picture. From the report on testing, we have under tested by a factor of 10. Until we get the testing up, have the true picture of what is happening west river, we need to stay closed... All of us. Listen to the Medical Professionals not the Politicians. Again Thank You for your leadership. Most Sincerely, Joyce Payton

Name: Daniel Pohorelsky

Address: 606 Indiana St.

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Dear Sir or Ma'am. T

The city of Rapid City and the state of South Dakota should not reopen it's businesses. The possibility of the COVID-19 virus reappearing in a second wave is a very real danger. I do not support the reopening of the South Dakota economy while the COVID19 virus is still an immediate threat from other dates and countries. Please do not reopen the state of South Dakota until this epidemic has subsided. Thank you.

Name: Brandon Scales

Address: 403 E Van Buren St Rapid City SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Re Open Plan Covid-19

Comment:

Hello Mayor and City Council, Thank you for allowing public comment on this issue I would like to make a few suggestions to the re open plan.

I believe that food service workers should be exempt from wearing masks if they have a positive antibody test documented.

The second suggestion I am making is in regards to the occupancy requirements, instead of the 10 people/ 1 per 125 sq. ft I believe it should be ten groups of people 10 or less and 1 table per 125 sq. ft buffer area. Thank you for your consideration.

Name: John Easton Jr

Address: 2044 Promise Rd, APT 2315, Rapid City, SD, 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Rapid City Business Re-Opening Plan

Comment:

To the esteemed council- I protest against the idea of moving forward with the Rapid City Business Re-Opening plan as currently drafted. At current our state has the most lax of restrictions regarding the Covid-19 pandemic which in recent memory resulted in a mass outbreak at the Smithfield pork processing plant. Rapid city during the last 5 weeks has been relatively un-affected by the virus, however that by all means does not mean we are not susceptible to potential mass outbreak as in the aforementioned 5 week period it has been observed by numerous concerned citizens that the majority of Rapid City Residents are not complying with social distancing instructions and CDC guidelines for minimizing infection risk. This is especially concerning when one considers the fact that we have yet to enter tourist season where the threat of the virus being introduced to our community is the highest. To re-open now is in-advisable. Thank you.

Name: Samantha Wylie

Address: 1023 Saint James St Rapid City SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Reopening of Businesses

Comment:

I am pleading to urge you to keep businesses closed. While social distancing is working, it is working based on the assumed social pressure to stay home as well as lack of opportunities to congregate. If business reopen with the next meeting, social distancing will decrease. Reopening businesses sets an expectation that things must be "all clear"; which is surely not the case. It is a basic principal of social proof, meaning essentially people will mirror the behavior others show to be acceptable. By setting the standard that things are open people will begin to go out more and social distancing less. Please consider your stance on continuing business closures.

Name: Julie Brooks

Address: 13046 Sonquist Lane

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Covid 19 reopening

Comment:

I am very concerned that relaxing our current guidelines could result in many more positive cases West River. This will result in extending our current situation.

I have concerns about greenhouses opening in remote locations such as Rapid Hardware, formerly Hardware Hank. Even the large greenhouses such as Jolly Lane are packed with people around mother's day. Just what we need, plastic buildings, some very small with only one way in/out, and many, many people.

Regarding the continued closure of remote landfill sites: I have never come in direct contact with employees picking up the dumpsters or bringing empty ones. Neither have I been in close contact with others when dropping off my cardboard, plastics, and lawn waste most simply wait their turn. If we are wearing masks and keep our distance, this shouldn't be an issue. Please consider reopening them thank you.

Name: Deanna Becket

Address: 10084 Willmington Dr

Summerset, SD 57718

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Thank you for voting YES to open up Rapid City. I would like to see fewer restrictions with this ordinance going forward. I have lived in this area for 25 years and work in Rapid City, proper. It has been sad to see my friends' businesses slide backward during this time of full closure and heavy restrictions.

Humans are created for social interactions and this time of social distancing has been taxing on all of us. I look forward to gathering with friends and supporting local businesses again in the near future. Please continue to move forward with opening Rapid City so that the shoulder season is beneficial for our tourist businesses.

Name: Kathi Maxson

Address: 4906 Copperhill Drive

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Easing Restrictions Related to COVID-19

Comment:

Human life is more important than the economy. At risk people may need to stay home but if their boss wants to reopen they can't refuse work and still get unemployment, or maybe they don't have child care (daycare centers cannot socially distance their customers!) Their needs outweigh those who wish to grab a pint at a pub. This is a tough situation and businesses must adapt but there are resources to assist them while we can't assist someone with not being dead if they succumb to the virus. Experts in healthcare know this virus hasn't gone away and public gatherings in the immediate future will lead to outbreaks. From restaurant take-out to gift cards for future haircuts people can support our small businesses alongside local/state/federal aid. Don't let those who want non-essential activities like eating out or getting a haircut bully us into our family, friends and neighbors suffering extreme illness or possible death.

Name: Lyn Waldie

Address: 606 Crestview Dr

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Response to COVID-19

Comment:

It is time to give power back to individuals and business owners in Rapid City. While I understand the action that was taken, it is time to admit that closing private businesses was an overreach by local government.

Name: Ron McGovern

Address: 4048 Derby Lane

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type:

Agenda Item: Expert Designation / Open It Up

Comment:

When the site states to listen to the "real experts" it is amusing. I believe we are seeing often, that the recording of death by experts own admissions, is labeled as COVID although it is not. Between this, experts like nurses dancing on a plethora of Tik Tok videos, another growing divide between people, and having to accept narrative which are simply not true - it's a little annoying.

I appreciate the work being done and I hope fair consideration is given into opening things back up. Aside from my own selfish desire to get a haircut, I worry greatly about people's livelihoods - I think we all really overreacted and we have trepidation of admitting we were wrong. It's alright.

Name: Doris Luggens

Address: 1511 Kellogg ok Rapid city SD 57701

Meeting:

Comment Type:

Agenda Item:

Comment:

If you come with a friend do you need we 6 feet apart and if someone that helps you with your finances do they have too sit 6 away from can they sit at the same table Thank you

Name: Shad Storm

Address: 5031 Pierre Street

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Please do not re-open the city yet. Wait for at least a couple more weeks for additional data compilations and just to be 100% sure. It's still too soon. thank you, Shad

Name: Jacqueline Hatzell

Address: 808 Fairview Street rapid city sd 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Opening public areas

Comment:

I would like to submit my request to not open public areas just yet. This is for the meeting on Monday April 27th. I believe that opening up public areas at this point is too soon. This is due to the fact that we are not doing a huge amount of testing in the Rapid City area. I feel that social distancing should remain intact and if we open up restaurants and bars, campgrounds and other social areas this will only increase the amount of covid-19 virus positive people. Please vote no on opening up public areas at this time and revisit it in another two weeks time.

Name: BRIAN Auten

Address: 4045 Derby Ln

Apt 1

Rapid City, SD

57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: COVID / Reopening

Comment:

I take umbrage with the comment on the website to "listen to the experts". Mull on the following:

~90 percent of the total U.S. population penetrating through grocery outlets; and with 100% of that massive number of consumers going through checkout lanes; if the COVID-19 viral strain was as significant as claimed by the worst-case data, then supermarket cashiers would have been the highest exposed profession of U.S. workers in the entire nation. There wouldn't even be a close second place.

Please, there has been an apoplectic screeching in the media for the past 5 years - they are not wasting this event and are making it their baby. Let's be reasonable.

Thanks for reading!

Name: Barbara J Dunfee

Address: 4215 Cedar Ridge Place

Apartment 54

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: business reopening plan

Comment:

While most of the business reopening plan sounds sensible, and I agree with the additional restrictions that are being proposed like the one-way aisles for grocery stores and the various masks and other protection gear being required for various retail establishments, I do not support the section that calls for reopening the restaurants with tables set at 6 feet distances. This still lets people gather together at single tables, and with the newly released data about the possible spread do to air currents in enclosed restaurant spaces, I think this is unwise. I feel it would be encouraging community spread by bringing more opportunity for personal interaction and that it is the one part of the plan that should not be implemented.

I'm including the link from the CDC which presents the original research:

[https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/7/20-0764\\_article](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/7/20-0764_article).

Name: Jonathan Lawyer

Address: 18 Saint Francis St

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: No. CC042720-01

Comment:

The proposed amendment to open cash businesses is foolhardy and premature. Covid19 can be contained and we as a city have been doing a great job this far. Given the recent outbreak in Sioux Falls we cannot reopen yet. Cash businesses such as casinos and restaurants pass money back and forth from customer to employee to customer. This cannot be allowed to occur.

Our tourist season does not begin for at least a month. Opening now will force our peak infection to numbers to coincide with our peak tourist season. This will kill our economy and residents in one foolish action. Please consider your vulnerable residents and not the pocketbooks of businesses in the short term.

Thank you for your time,

Jonathan Lawyer

Name: sandy Larson

Address: 4031 Lilac Ln

rapid city

sd

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: No. CC042720-01

Comment:

why we went through all this if we are going to just open up NOW when Sioux Falls is one of the biggest hot spots in the nation and testing in our area is almost non existent.

Without testing we are flying blind! Why not wait until at least we have some testing protocols in place!

Today there have been 2649 total deaths in one day from this virus, meaning one American life is lost every 32 seconds to this virus in this country yet we want to open up?

Casinos are not essential they make lots of money. Greed in this time where so many have so little is simply disgusting to me. Tell me would you be in one of those places for hrs ? If the answer is no then why put others in that position ? The virus will not stay in the Casinos I assure you, it will spread like wild fire.

Do people really need to gamble right now? Are you kidding me?

Name: Calvin Luke

Address: 714 Halley Ave apt.3 Rapid City,SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

To not open the city to people to attend church go out to eat is a sad state of affairs. We have let the Mainstream Media put us into this panic. Of the Mayor Governor would reach out further and learn this virus isn't what we have been lead to believe that the bulk of the cases are in Sioux Falls not West River. Are we going to be stupid enough to say this fall when flu season starts we need to blow things out of proportions be like sheep being led to slaughter. All we have to do is look to Sweden they did voluntary closures we can learn from them. If people can't go out to eat go to church we will soon see a ride in deaths via suicide. I applaud John Roberts for seeing this action for what it is. Come on people wake up you are letting the media dictate your life I see crime rising the longer we are shut down this country needs to get back to work. We are dooming our kids grandkids to no way to deal with our debt right now.

Name: Barbara Chapman

Address: 919 Saint Cloud Street

Rapid City SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Re-Opening of Businesses

Comment:

As much as I would love to see things back to some semblance of normal, I'm afraid it's too soon. I'm concerned about the workers and the risks they will face. If they refuse to go back they will lose their unemployment insurance. And with so few patrons allowed in, how will servers, who rely on tips, make enough money to survive. I personally will remain at home until I hear information from the CDC indicating otherwise.

Name: Glen Meyer

Address: 335 S Canyon Rd 18B

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Easing Business Restrictions

Comment:

I am highly concerned regarding easing business restrictions. This puts people unnecessarily in danger and invites Rapid City to gather in more places. I hear neighbors make the notion that I don't have to go out if I don't feel safe. However, by easing business restrictions you, the Rapid City Council, are forcing people out into the public. More workers who will not have a choice. I urge you to consider what sacrifices you are willing to make. Money or People.

Name: Parker Knox

Address: 5285 Mercury Dr.

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: The "reopening"

Comment:

You might just as well open up the city because, except for us senior citizens who have been at home (except to get groceries) since mid-March and the school personnel, hardly anybody is following your "rules" anyway. Were you at Menard's Saturday? Or Sam's Club? I was not, but Facebook posts indicate whole families were shopping away at Sam's. People all over the place at Menard's. Whole packs of people together in the parks, which I thought are closed. It's going to be difficult, when the local death toll reaches 50 and the hospital is at capacity, to put into effect any regulations people will take seriously. What we really need is another blizzard like Atlas in 2013. Of course the people who don't follow today's regulations don't obey "no travel advised" warnings either. I understand the pressure from the business people; the economy is the thing. Hey! Let's have a motorcycle rally!

Name: Claudia Wieland-Randall

Address: 1706 Cruz Drive Rapid City SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Opening city during covid

Comment:

I want Rapid City to follow the guidelines of the CDC and our local physicians / medical community. We are still buying time as far as science creating an effective vaccine , an accurate, reliable and affordable test for immunity and better form of treatment. Even with a recovery from Covid, the possible life-long serious damage to many organ systems is another side effect. While limiting occupancy and the six foot distance in bars and restaurants seems possible, reality of enforcement and multiple exposures of staff are problematic. I will continue to wear a mask, do take out and keep distancing respecting myself and others.

Name: Nancy Babbitt, MD

Address: 1121 Settlers Creek Place

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: COVID 19

Comment:

I am a family physician and small business owner in Rapid City. All businesses that are struggling due to a lack of business caused by the need to reduce the spread of COVID-19, are ready to save our businesses. Medical clinics have been models of how to safely stay open and see people in our community.

Does Mayor Allender know whether ALL medical facilities will be testing ALL people with COVID-19 symptoms before businesses plan to open? This is the only way to know whether our infection rate is increasing after we start re-opening businesses. If we are not testing ALL people with symptoms now, we will skew the results if we start testing ALL people with symptoms AFTER re-opening.

Everyone should wear a mask entering a business to protect yourself from touching your mouth or nose after coming in contact with viral particles left on surfaces like entry door handles, and second, to reduce the spread of virus from your respiratory tract.

Name: Thomas Whillock

Address: 3321 Hall Street

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Covid

Comment:

I've been following the advice of our local medical providers, especially Dr. Marvin Buehner, Dr. Laurie Weisensee, Dr. Kevin Well and, Dr. Larry Teuber and Dr. Brett Lawlor, and I support their recommendations that we continue shelter in place guidelines for at least 2 more weeks. Special thanks to Chad Lewis, Laura Armstrong, Darla Drew Lerdal and Ritchie Nordstrom for their reasoned decision making regarding this important situation.

Name: Rich cartney

Address: 4215 Fairway Hills Dr, #206

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Lockdown

Comment:

I know your jobs are difficult, and I thank you for what you are doing. I ask that you vote to reopen businesses today so our community and lives can back to living. If we don't get our businesses open, and people working again, we will do irreparable damage to our way of life. Essentially, if you have 100 people standing in a group, we are telling them that 25 of you will lose your jobs to prevent one of you from getting sick. I don't want anyone to get sick, but having run nursing homes for 20 years, I can assure you every winter we would have to close for visitors when flu and pneumonia were prevalent. Cutting off your hand when you have cancer in your foot solves nothing.

Rich Cartney

COO, Wellfully

Name: Jennifer Randle

Address: 3403 IVY AVE

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Reopening

Comment:

The comments city leaders make about reopening businesses reference keeping customers safe and little is said on best practices for keeping employees safe. If employees cannot be ensured of their safety, it would be irresponsible to reopen. People in lower socioeconomic status are forced to work, putting themselves and their families at risk. Restaurant owners will be requiring servers to get their temperature taken, to wear a mask, then those servers will be obligated to be within 6 feet of customers who are not subject to the same requirements. I have heard the council is considering disregarding the 6 foot social distance rule for outside dining. Every recommendation includes keeping a 6 foot distance even out of doors. I have heard nothing of social distancing in the kitchen. Reopening restaurants for dining in this soon would be a reckless disregard to the health of the restaurant employee.

Name: Jessica Utecht-Whillock

Address: 3321 Hall Street

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I am a health care worker in Rapid City. Everyday is extremely stressful. We screen patients and allow them into our facility to find out once they have entered that their families have traveled recently, they have a temperature, or they have traveled and just didn't mention this to our staff screening. We are trying to conserve PPE and despite having to touch patients, help them to the bathroom, start IVs, we are wearing the same mask (not a preferred N95 mask just a splash guard) until they are soiled or torn (for a whole week despite encounters with multiple patients and coworkers). This is one of the risks my co-workers and I are taking on a daily basis to help ease the pain of those who need surgery but can't have it due to the coronavirus.

Easing restrictions in our community will put us and the entire community at even greater risk. We need strong leaders right now that we can trust are using science to advise us.

Name: PATRICIA Ann MARTINSON

Address: 433 E Fairlane Drive #28

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Agenda Item 1

Comment:

This is for council meeting April 27th. I am concerned about the new resolution. I see considerable problems in implementing this by business and considerable problems in enforcing this by the city. Currently I am an essential worker and I see everyday the challenges in ensuring the current methods of minimize the spread of the virus are followed (six feet, one way pathways in business, limiting number of customers). One suggestion that might be simpler to implement is what is currently being done in my workplaces, questioning employees and taking their temperatures before they start their shift and the mandatory wearing of masks and perhaps the wearing of gloves. This seems to be the easiest method to employ, as I presume wide-spread testing of employees and potential patrons of the businesses is not currently feasible. If such information is recorded, then it should be easier to verify if businesses are being compliant.

Name: Gena Parkhurst

Address: PO Box 1914

Rapid City SD 57709

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: No. CC042720-01

Comment:

Doctors Dan Erickson and Artin Massihi of Bakersfield, CA, reviewed the last two months of global data in a press briefing on 23 ABC News on April 22. These doctors have advanced education and occupational experience in virology and immunology and run seven clinics that test hundreds of people for COVID-19 daily. Local and global data led them to conclude that COVID-19 is no more deadly than the flu and there is no scientific basis to keeping local restaurants closed while simultaneously allowing hundreds of people to congregate in a big box store. They point out immune-compromised people are most at risk. If you vote to keep small businesses closed, then ban the use of substances that compromise the immune system such as weed killer used on city hall's lawns and mandate outdoor exercise so citizens enhance their immune systems with fresh air and vitamin D. Prioritize science over emotion and open local businesses!

Name: Rebekah Dargatz Costello

Address: 921 11th Street

Rapid City SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: COVID-19 city ordinance

Comment:

Thank you for making decisions based on data and not fear. Rapid City has not conducted sufficient tests however we can use the data from other cities that have. NYC has tested over 649,000. Extrapolating that out, there's a 0.1% death rate. In California 12% of the population has COVID-19 with a 0.03% death rate. The predicted models were a prediction and not reality. These states have shelter in place and much higher density of residents. We do not which leads me to believe that the virus is already wide spread however we are not seeing high numbers of deaths due to the virus. It's time to go back to school, open businesses otherwise our economy and social well-being will be at risk. Healthy individuals should be out and about to maintain their immune systems so that we can fight off viruses and bacteria that will always be here. Quarantine is for sick people.

Name: Julie Brink

Address: 915 ST ANDREW STREET RAPID CITY , SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Business opening back up

Comment:

I am sure you are getting lots of feedback on the upcoming meeting. I would like to add my 2 cents. If we will be opening up businesses I would like Rapid City to make face masks a requirement to enter into any public buildings. I would feel much safer working and going out in public if that was a mandate. Thank you.

Name: Greg Miner

Address: 7010 Mulberry Drive Summerset South Dakota 57718

Business Address

810 Quincy St Rapid City South Dakota 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: 1. No. CC042720-01

Comment:

I found a few impractical items I wanted to bring to your attention. Due to character limitations I can only bring one to your attention. Item 2 b) one customer per 125 SF for restaurants, bars, and casinos. 125 sf would mean everyone could be 12.6 feet apart, twice CDC recommended guidelines. Forcing businesses to comply with item a and b is so limiting that you are asking them to just stay closed for now. To help you understand what I mean I will give you an example. The Chili's restaurant has a total SF of 5,381. Assuming we can include kitchen and storage space in the SF count, Chili's could serve 43 people at a time. The problem is most of a restaurant's customers are in family groups. This means according to item 2a a family of 4 would use 110 sf, but the resolution would require 500 sf to be allocated to them. I think the best thing to do is strike item 2b and rely on item 2a to insure everyone is at a safe distance.

Name: Barbara J Dunfee

Address: 4215 Cedar Ridge Place

Apartment 54

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Re-opening recommendations

Comment:

If the restaurants and related businesses reopen for inside business at this time I am going to feel less safe using them for pickup and delivery services and will be less inclined to order food from them. The possibility of spread of contagion between customers and staff will have been increased and I will be less trusting of doing business with any of these establishments.

Name: Michael Bell

Address: 617 Dilger Ave

Rapid City

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type:

Agenda Item: Business reopening

Comment:

A friend of mine explains my thoughts better than I can.

"We have all sorts of people with all sorts of letters after their names feeding us ever-changing and contradictory information based on models that, to point, have had very little resemblance to reality.

We are seeing governors, mayors and city officials unmasking their totalitarian desires by issuing orders that have no meaning beyond their showing that they have powers over us.

Several mayors have setup websites where neighbors can snitch on social distancing deviants and where, as soon as the report is made, police are sent to investigate like Stalinist Russia, Mao's China, and Hitler's Germany."

And now I say to you all: ENOUGH. The time to open, with appropriate guidelines, is now. Do not become what so many other officials have. Control your fear and uncertainty, lest Covid-19 live rent free in your head.

Name: Brian Johnson

Address: 3044 E minnesota st #108

Rapid City, sd, 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: covid 19

Comment:

Hi Thank you for reading this. I understand everyone wants to get b a ck to normal. Which is all good in all, but what if its to early? We havent reached the highest were gonna get with this. Im just concerned that yall are going to allow everything to open, then boom we have whats going on is sioux falls right now. Why not wait another month to play safe? I get people are worried about our economy, but its already gone bad. Thanks for hearing my concern. Brian

Name: Carol Engel

Address: PO Box 9501

Rapid City SD 57709

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Opening Businessess

Comment:

As a lifelong resident of Rapid City for 66 years who now resides in a over 62 apartment complex with 50 other seniors. Please do the right thing and DO NOT OPEN any businesses yet. My brother who lives in group setting in Sioux Falls was just informed a resident has the virus. As precautions were already in place. Somehow someone or something contaminated the home, all residents are now under quarantine.

I understand this is a economic issue. The virus has not reached this side of the state yet. We need more time to be certain. We do not need an outbreak in Rapid City. I am on chemo for stage 4 lung cancer which is a scary time. I continue to be vigilant in doing my part unfortunately it does no good if others are not following recommendations. It is a terrible time to be sick in the World, even worse if dealing with life threatening diseases.

Name: Natalie LaFrance-Slack

Address: 550 Texas St. Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Easing Restrictions

Comment:

Go ahead and wave your Trump flags and "Liberate My State" while my both of my parents battle cancer in quarantine. At least one of those fights is valid.

What is a life worth?

Name: David Williams

Address: 712 Franklin St

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I think it is negligent to consider reopening businesses in Rapid City at this time. The COVID-19 virus is unlike anything we've seen before, and new details are coming out about it almost daily.

For example, new data shows how folks in their 30s and 40s are generally asymptomatic but then develop sudden blood clotting, resulting in embolisms and strokes (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2020/04/24/strokes-coronavirus-young-patients/>). Older citizens and those who are immunocompromised or have respiratory issues are no longer the only demographic who have to worry. Allowing citizens to begin visiting businesses can, and likely will, result in a greater spread than we've seen thus far. Yes, we have had few reported cases to this point, and West River overall appears to be less infected than East River. However, we can't possibly know the true number of infected people at this time. Especially with asymptomatic individuals.

Name: Jacqueline Burcham

Address: 4020 Sunset Drive

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Reopening Rapid City

Comment:

Dear Members of the City Council and Mayor Allendar: I am writing to ask that you do not succumb to public pressure to reopen businesses in Rapid City. Many employees that are collecting unemployment will have to go back to work, risking their lives, or lose a paycheck. All the models suggest we haven't reached our peak yet, and we don't even know what will happen after it does. If the schools are closed due to the models, why would we risk lives in our community, only to possibly have to re-close? I would suggest public outcry would be far worse in the event that happens. Thank you for your consideration.

Name: David Williams

Address: 712 Franklin St

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

A few questions:

Who will be enforcing social distancing and mask-wearing guidelines in restaurants and retail stores?  
What is the punishment for businesses not complying?

Will patrons be required to wear masks? Eating and drinking will be difficult, but the health of other patrons should not be taken lightly.

Will business air intake systems be checked prior to reopening? Given that COVID-19 is an airborne respiratory virus, it can be pulled into the air conditioning of these facilities and spread to later patrons (<https://news.yahoo.com/air-conditioning-spread-coronavirus-10-154900420.html>).

Are other early reopenings that have happened around the world (see Singapore & Japan, or early Spanish Flu reopenings in 1918 [<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/politics-news/san-francisco-had-1918-flu-under-control-then-it-lifted-n1191141>]) where cases have shot back up not evidence enough that we should closed for a longer period of time?

Name: David Williams

Address: 712 Franklin St

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I really hope the City Council and Mayor take this situation seriously. After remarks about Governor Noem not doing more to tighten restrictions across the state just over a week ago, it is odd that Mayor Allender would want to take the steps to reopen Rapid City so quickly. If we open things up and become another hot spot in the state or country, is that worth the lost money and difficult times we're having currently? When (not if) things get worse in Rapid City, the economic hardship will be even greater. If we tighten up and hunker down into the summer, we have a greater chance of keeping case numbers down and keeping the hospitals free from overcrowding. Our case load so far has been low because we were proactive about closing down early. Let's not throw that success away too soon and let's keep the case numbers low.

Please keep these points in mind when making your decision.

Name: Larry Kaiser

Address: 3244 Leland Lane, Rapid City

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Reopen Rapid City

Comment:

Open, open, open!!! The numbers are in, we are insulated from Corvid-19, surrounded by a physical land barrier of no cases. I think we can be as aggressive as we wish under the circumstances. In our area, we never did have an outbreak, much less a pandemic.

If we see a reversal, and the numbers go up, it is not that hard to reinstate the precautions. Put a number on it though! A number at least consistent with an outbreak, not an anemic number like we have had so far.

Lets open it up!!

Name: Kevin Carroll

Address: 4270 Cliff Drive

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Re-opening plan

Comment:

Please vote "NO" on the re-opening plan. Its too much, too soon. You will be exposing too many people to too many person to person contacts all at once.

Instead, open a sampling of businesses, and begin testing a sample of workers and patrons. This will provide data on what is going on "on the ground". The testing of a few hundred in the City to date (less than 1%), and mostly healthcare workers, isn't a sufficient sample to make this decision.

Finally, what is Plan B, if we end up with an infection outbreak, and healthcare services get over run?

Name: Cory Ferguson

Address: 13963 Neck Yoke Road

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: COVID-19

Comment:

I am concerned as everyone is, for our area economically and also for the health and safety of everyone. I believe that our local leaders are trying to make the best decisions right now and none of them are easy decisions. All that I ask is that our city council and mayor seriously consider the potential ramifications if businesses are opened up. The majority of businesses have made changes and adapted to new businesses models during this time. Can they keep operating in this manner for a little while longer? If not, what is considered acceptable? Are there a certain number of positive cases that are a threshold? Are there a certain number of deaths that will trigger locking things down more? When you are potentially talking life and death, these are things that need to be considered. Also, are there liability issues to take into consideration if an employee or a patron tests positive?

Name: Holly K. Perli, RN

Address: 3316 Kirkwood Drive

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I urge you to extend the current ordinance. Opening businesses to make a fraction of their normal revenue, taking workers off unemployment, puts whatever state of normalcy awaits us in question.

My loyalties lie squarely with my colleagues in medical profession. Until the medical community at large says so, we would all do well to withhold attempts to try to pinpoint the exact answers or worse yet - guess! We must realize that we just don't know.

You are the microphone for those who understand the facts, which doesn't make you experts. In this crisis we don't all become epidemiologists. In development we aren't engineers. In storms we aren't meteorologists. Please let the experts do their jobs and be willing to follow their lead.

I also humbly request your consideration to mandate masking in public. It is widely reported that the asymptomatic have spread the virus. This risk-free measure stands to benefit all. Thank you.