

Name: Jennifer McCormick

Address: 10050 PIONEER AVE

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please do not vote yes on this mandate, it will further take away our rights to choose, and continue to further alienate people. People who have been victimized suffer further trauma having their faces covered, children should not have to have their lives lived in fear and have their faces covered. I feel i cannot breathe qith a mask on. There is no proof that masks stop the spread of the virus, and there is proof of the damage due to continued mask wearing. I am asking you to vote no on the mask mandate.

Name: cynthia Rains

Address: 1719 Sioux Ave RC, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type:

Agenda Item: masks

Comment:

Please please believe the science and mandate masks. It is 6 weeks late but will still help our DYING and SICK situation. It is NOT political it is life and death and permanent organ injury.

Thank you,

A retired RN

Name: Shelli Vallis

Address: 2261 Minnewasta Rd

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Let's show our compassion for the frontline workers and care for each other— pass a temporary mask mandate!

Name: Perry Borella

Address: 3515 Parkview Drive, Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: mask mandate

Comment:

My best friend died Monday morning because of the coronavirus. He had no pre-existing conditions. He is not just a statistic to me. Please consider approving the mask mandate. The mask less minority will probably be the loudest, but I think you will find that the majority favors the mandate. It is time!

Name: Siri Knutsen-Larson, MD

Address: 1313 Tompkins Street Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I am a physician in Rapid City. Many of us are devastated to see how the pandemic has affected our great community. Our children are currently being denied basic educational rights and many will sadly fail as a result. My patients are scared to go grocery shopping or attend medical appointments often waiting until conditions are advanced. My medical colleagues on the front lines are tired, overworked and feel abandoned by leadership. I say this to you to plead for a mask mandate. Please help us. Although the science is not perfect, nothing in medicine is perfect. We need to do something. We need to make the right choice for this community and enforce mask wearing to protect the education of our children, the safety of our population and to avoid complete collapse of our healthcare system. Our community will be strengthened by this terrible situation, but not if we do not help it to do so. Please vote yes on a mask mandate.

Name: Jeffrey Clark

Address: 14815 Telluride St.

Summerset, SD 57769

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As someone who works in Rapid City here are my comments.

I am writing today to voice my public opposition toward any consideration of a Mask mandate for many reasons:

- 1) We just moved our family literally half way across the country from California to escape this kind of over reach against our personal rights.
- 2) South Dakota has continued to be a beacon of the freedom that once was all of America and right now, we need to maintain that light.
- 3) Do not let the strong cries, complaints and possibly even threats of a few vocal people dictate policy.
- 4) I can assure you that the silent majority does not want this mandate but we dont have the time to constantly nag at government officials.

I urge you to stand for the silent majority, to stand for American Freedom and vote against this overreaching mandate.

Name: Charles White

Address: 3931 City View Dr

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

All schools were re-opened this fall. All teachers, administrators and students were required to wear masks. Due to the large number of positive cases of COVID by both teachers and students the school board decided to return to online learning for all schools. If mandated masks prevent the spread of the virus how is this possible?

Name: Kaleigh Clark

Address: 14815 Telluride St

Summerset, SD

57768

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

To whom it may concern, I am writing today to ask you to vote against a mask mandate in Rapid City. As a mother of two medically complex children, a sister to a man who has passed due to Covid complications, and a daughter of a cancer patient, I am well aware of the potential impact of this disease on a portion of our community. Even still, the scientific data does not support the use of non medical grade masking by the general population as an effective means of eliminating that risk. A recent study in Denmark found that non medical grade face masks provide little to no protection against Covid-19. Many studies that have been peer reviewed and published within the last ten years support this study. In addition, there are studies coming out that have shown face masks to be detrimental to early childhood development, and aggravating to certain health conditions. In conclusion, please support the science, and vote no to a mask mandate.

Name: steve Mangelsen

Address: 3975 Moon Meadows Dr

Rapid City, S.D.

57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I support a mandatory mask policy with penalties. It is time we join cities that have an intelligent approach to keep our citizens alive and healthy. I also feel that all public events should be put on hold for now as that is what put us in this position in the first place. I appreciate your time and effort in serving on the city council.

Name: Mary C Blair

Address: 3410 CORRAL DR APT 105

6054316599

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type:

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

We ask/require others not to smoke in public places. Wearing a mask will save many more lives than not smoking in someone's face. Consider that as an older person, my right to safely shop for essential items such as food, has been compromised. This represents a "loss of freedom". Please do the loving, caring thing when you vote today .

Your constituents are depending on you.

Name: Jan Mangelsen

Address: 3975 Moon Meadows Drive

Rapid City, S.D.

57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I strongly encourage you to pass a mandatory mask mandate with penalties. I also would like to see a cessation of all public events and gatherings. It is only common sense and it will not last long as the vaccine will be coming soon. It will take courage to do this, but that is what is required. Thank you.

Name: Dr. Christian Aragon Widener

Address: 6117 Bendt Drive

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: City-wide Mask Mandate

Comment:

It would be wrong to implement a city-wide mask mandate for multiple reasons and the current mask mandate in city offices is also wrong.

First, requiring a mask to buy or sell, receive services, or even engage in activities of any kind is unconstitutional. It interferes with the basic rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Second, it would exceed the recommendations of our governor, Kristi Noem, by enforcing a mandate.

Third, masks do not work. I have a PhD in mechanical engineering and materials, so I understand the uses and limitations of masks. The masks the public uses are not allowed by OSHA to protect employees against micron and sub-micron level particles. Viruses are a hundred to a thousand times smaller. Also, masks filter what people breathe in, not what they breathe out.

Finally, it is discriminatory to refuse services or punish people who, for whatever the reason, do not want to wear one.

Name: Patty murphy

Address: 328 Aspen dr. Box Elder 57719

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

If you get this passed, Please, please, please, talk to local mayors cause if Box Elder does not and surrounding areas do not it is only going to help Rapid City. Please people, we are all in this together. I have been off work since March because of my elderly husband. We only shop the commissary because they mask up and only allow so many people in at once. Thank you Mayor Allender and the Rapid City Council for considering this and taking the lead for people's safety.

Name: Tamara Pier

Address: 1705 Palo Verde Drive

RC, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

This is an addition to my 1st comment supporting the mask mandate. I am not shopping at many downtown businesses, because the people who work there & customers are not wearing masks. In fact, I can only think of 2 where they were. I want to support our local businesses & see them survive. However, as a friend said, I am shopping on Amazon, because they don't care to protect me. Also, shouldn't we want to see that the employees in these businesses are protected as much as possible from this extremely contagious virus?

This is a matter of remembering the social contract to help each other and the good of our community. Please vote, yes, for this mandate.

Name: Karen Artichoker

Address: 1006 Columbus St.

Rapid City, SD. 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I know a couple that tested positive and refuse to quarantine. At the very least, we need the mask mandate. Thank you all for trying to keep us safe.

Name: Teresa D. DeGolier

Address: 1721 Copperdale Drive

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please vote for the mask mandate for our city.

Name: JANETTE MC INTYRE

Address: 3515 PARK DRIVE

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

It is not scientifically proven that masks are solving the corona virus problem. The City of Rapid City taking it one step further to a mandate including a possible fine for those who do not wear the mask is wrong. Governor Noem has made it clear that she DOES NOT support a mask mandate in our state that I do believe still does include Rapid City, and I agree with her. She is correct to leave this decision up to the individual who can make their own personal choice. This is a government over reach and many who have had the virus (including me) can take the precautions and responsibility to protect not only ourselves but those around us. The Rapid City council should let personal freedom trump any overreach that the council feels it needs to mandate on our behalf.

Name: Andrew J Kowalchuk

Address: 2912 Falls Dr

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: No. CC111920-01

Comment:

I am against the passing of Ordinance No. 6453. I see this Ordinance formed and pushed on the basis of fear and pressure, rather than necessity. This is captured perfectly even in the reading of the Ordinance itself, summarized by the following quote: "WHEREAS, the City is implementing a mandate that people wear face coverings in public in the hopes that it will slow the spread of COVID-19." I submit we can do better than to implement obtrusive city ordinances in HOPE that they might work. The mortality rate based on the 7-day average is only 0.7%! The statistics, also known as facts, are not supportive of alarmist reactions. There is NO clinical data supporting the supposition that widespread mask use has any appreciable affect on the spread of COVID-19. 9 of the 15 states of highest increase ALREADY have mask mandates in place. That does not seem like evidence that supports the widespread use of masks.

Name: Tommy Myers

Address: 3072 O'Brien street

Rapid City SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I strongly oppose any mask mandate and fines. Please remember your roll is to work for the people not dictate the people. Masks have proven ineffective and is detrimental to my wife and sons health.

Name: Marty Garwood

Address: 4640 Sturgis Rd

Lot 49

Rapid City SD 577702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Please pass a temporary mask mandate.

Name: Mark Blote

Address: 701 Main St,Rapid City,S.D. 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

No to the mask ordinance.

Name: Brad Beardt

Address: 7892 Stonecrest Dr

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type:

Agenda Item: mask mandate

Comment:

I am a concerned citizen and have many questions that need be answered before any talk of a city wide mask mandate should take place. Here are a few of the questions that I, and many others have:

- What is the total number of hospital beds at Monument Health?
- How many beds are currently available at Monument Health?
- How many beds are staffed at Monument Health?
- Are there any other locations that COVID patients are being admitted?
- How many COVID patients are currently hospitalized?
- What is the average age of hospitalized COVID patients?
- How many hospitalized COVID patients have co-morbidities?
- Can you tell me what negative consequences for wearing masks might be?
- How long would the mask mandate be for (start date and end date)? & why? (resources behind your reasoning)

Thank You

Name: Allison Ainslie

Address: 3705 Parkridge Dr

Rapid City SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I strongly oppose the mask mandate x1000 and I strongly oppose fines as well.

Name: Kelly Larson

Address: 4761 Sturgis Rd

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I am opposed to a mask mandate, I am opposed to any type of fines.

Name: Brianna Myers

Address: 3072 O'Brien street

Rapid city sd 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

As an active Rapid City resident I oppose any mandate and strongly oppose fines. Please understand the research that masks have never been proven safe and effective and now we are seeing a rise of bacterial pneumonia. Masks are not the answer! So many who wear masks diligently are still getting COVID-19.

Name: Jennifer Tilton

Address: 4027 Elkhorn Lane, Rapid City SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As an "essential worker" in a convenience store, I ask that the council approves the mask mandate. We have so many people who have come in without masks, not only locals, but people who have come here because of the lack of restrictions from states that are hot spots. There are still so many unanswered questions about asymptomatic people and transmission that EVERYONE should be making this small sacrifice if they care about the community overall. I understand the enforcement issue as there are already ordinances that are not enforced, like the off site alcohol sales supposed to be ending at 12 pm, but maybe just the fact that our leaders are behind this and there is the possibility of consequences will wake people up. You can consult cities in Wyoming or elsewhere who have fines and enforce it. It may also wake up business owners who are not requiring masks in their business, to step up and say no mask, no service..

Name: JENNY JEWETT

Address: 3104 W SAINT LOUIS ST

RAPID CITY SD 57702

DBA TABLE 4 DECOR

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Why are these things not handled as matters of "personal responsibility"?

1. wearing a seatbelt
2. texting and driving
3. driving under the influence,
4. Shopping with no shoes or shirt on
5. Standing on our own property completely naked but visible to the neighborhood.
6. Speeding
7. Serving a child alcohol.
8. Blasting music at a house party until midnite.
9. Not shoveling your sidewalk.
10. Knowingly transmitting AIDS
11. Tossing your garbage into the street
12. Standing on the street screaming obscenities
13. Peeing on the sidewalk.
14. Sleeping in a public park past 10 pm.

In all these instances, the health and safety of the community was weighed against the rights of the individual. IF individuals ACTUALLY acted with personal responsibility, these laws would NOT exist. But they do because not everyone has the same take on personal responsibility or community participation. Please enact a mask mandate.

Name: Amy Borella

Address: 817 Clark St

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

Please vote in favor of a mask mandate. For those of us that make our living working with the public, this could quite literally be life saving. There needs to be a mandate for masks so we can continue to do business safely.

Name: Nathan Purdy

Address: 1717 Lodge Street Rapid City SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

- 1) This meeting seems to be snuck in to prevent public knowledge/action
- 2) Most people are already wearing masks, so mandate is unnecessary
- 3) Masks are ineffective against viruses, so mandate is unnecessary
- 4) The curve has already been flattened, so mandate is unnecessary
- 5) COVID-19 is a virus, therefore eventually everyone will be exposed to it, so mandate is unnecessary
- 6) This mandate smacks of a power grab which will further harm the public and businesses, so this mandate is unnecessary.

Vote against this mask mandate. Let the people and businesses decide how they will handle it.

Name: Monte R Hartl

Address: 9356 Neck Yoke Road

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I am amazed at the lack of intelligence regarding this issue. Do masks work? Yes and no. The school system began the year with a mask mandate, what took place was an outbreak at that level which meant the school system would go to online. A mask at that level did not help the spread. Do most businesses require masks already? Yes, most do. The part that is really incredibly stupid is that you are requesting that a mask be worn when you enter a restaurant but you can take it off when you eat, does this mean the virus does not affect you when you are sitting down but rather just when you stand up? Let the people choose, we are not sheep! More than 80% of the people wear masks most of the time. This is not a daycare where we have to be told what to do, we know better and yes they do help.

Name: Kyle Roe

Address: 4355 Titan Drive

Rapid City, SD 5770q

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I am an opponent to the mask mandate for several fact based reasons. First off, the sources for my argument: <https://dps.sd.gov/records/accident-records/sdcat> , <https://doh.sd.gov/news/coronavirus.aspx#SD> , <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/>

In Pennington County, as of 11/17/20, there have been 1085 confirmed cases, 582 hospitalizations and 60 deaths because of the Corona. In 2019, there were 4,492 people in car accidents, 760 injuries and 10 deaths. You are over four times more likely to be involved in a car accident. By the logic of the mask mandate, shouldn't we stop people from driving cars since they are more likely to be affected by a car accident? You are also 1.3 times more likely to be injured in a car accident than be hospitalized by Corona. See how ridiculous that sounds?!

Name: Wanna Nelson

Address: 914 E Centennial

Rapid City SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I agree with Tomi Lahren, we have all gotten so comfortable with tyranny that we don't even recognize it anymore. The government closing your business, mandating what we wear on our face, where you can travel, who you can see and how many you can invite to your own home is... Tyranny. I should have this right!!!

Name: Mike Gould

Address: 1850 Skyline Ranch Road

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

You need to act to protect the most vulnerable members of our community. Those who may already be fighting other diseases such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes, those who are old, and those who don't share your access to healthcare. If wearing a mask only saved one life, why wouldn't you do it? There are many lives that can still be saved with a mask. It is just common sense and such a simple thing we can do to protect each other.

Name: Ami Lapham

Address: 731 Ennen Drive Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I felt the need to speak up concerning the mask mandate. Unless there is solid adequate science to back up the reasoning for issuing such a mandate, it is unreasonable to force the use of masks. While there is no evidence that a cloth mask actually provides any protection to the mask wearer or a third party, there is a lot of research that indicates the cloth masks are dangerous to the wearer. The W.H.O. website recommendation that a non-medical mask should only be worn in situations where social distancing can not be maintained. "The lower filtration and breathability standardized requirements, and overall expected performance should only be considered for source control (by infected persons) in community settings and not for prevention." They also say that it would need to be 3 layers, and list plenty of potential dangers that are verified in research.

Name: Rebecca Jones

Address: 3026 Roxbury Circle

Rapid City

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

I encourage you to pass a mandate on the wearing of masks. I have a family member who was recently exposed to COVID after having an appointment with a local physician, The nurse at the office took my sibling's temperature and asked him the usual questions regarding travel and his health. He was wearing a mask, as was the nurse. The nurse then led my brother to the waiting room and told my brother he could remove his mask. He was reluctant, but removed it. The Doctor who reviewed my brother's case, was not wearing a mask. The next day, my sibling was notified by a nurse, from the physician's office, that the physician was diagnosed with COVID. Unbelievable and unnecessary that this happened.

Please pass the mask mandate to protect yourself and others.

Sincerely, Rebecca Jones

Name: Peg Christie

Address: 3311 Dover Street

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item:

Comment:

PLEASE lets have a mandate requiring masks in public.

This is a public health issue and as with other requirements to protect health (like not smoking in public places), individuals engage in actions that respect the community and the needs of others will help stop our outrageous surge in positive COVID-19 cases.

Name: Jennifer Rude

Address: 610 E Madison Street, Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I want to thank you all for considering the safety of everyone in our city. However, I don't think mandating mask in private business is your place. I think we have much bigger problems in our city than to worry about forcing people to wear a mask in public. I believe everyone is learning to adapt to the new challenges on their own. Even businesses have been challenged with adjustments to their businesses to adapt and stay alive. I work at the Pennington County Clerk of Court so I am aware of the bigger issues. Please don't make this another petty issue and let folks deal with this as they feel fit. We already have mandatory masks in the county building.

Thank you for your time.

Jen Rude

Name: Ryan Heckert

Address: 954 Haakon St

Rapid City SD. 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: mask mandate

Comment:

I work in an industry that has a mask mandate. It was my industry that made that mandate not the government. As I am out and around Rapid I see the majority of people wearing masks when it is appropriate. I do not think that is the job of the city council to infringe on our personal liberties and force us to wear masks. Let the business owners decide this and allow people to choose that if they want to frequent those businesses they can choose to wear the mask.

Name: Joanna Thompson

Address: 4221 Range View Court

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Masking

Comment:

For months, healthcare workers have been praised as the frontline of this pandemic. Speaking for all healthcare workers, we don't want praise, we want you to wear a mask and believe in science. The hospital or doctor's office is no longer the frontline, it's your last line of defense.

Name: Christine Heying

Address: 3529 Locust St

Rapid City SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mandatory Masks

Comment:

COVID has a 99% recovery rate.

CDC counts any death as a COVID death--if there are even just antibodies in the blood. So, a person can die of a heart attack, have had COVID in the past, and hospitals will still count it as a COVID death. It's to their benefit to do so.

If an individual feels a mask helps, let them wear one to protect themselves. Choice is a fundamental right of this country. Decisions made by others, based on a skewed facts is a foolish path to take. Is this country not about self-governing and independence?

I have yet to meet a person who thought having COVID was worse than a cold. Stop spreading false fear. Because when COVID runs its course and the real facts come out and people wonder about the false panic everyone succumbed to, no one will pay attention when something truly deadly comes along.

Name: Brittney Bausch

Address: 2421 Hoefer Ave

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask ordinance

Comment:

Please consider strong enforcement otherwise this will not be an effective ordinance. You will see an example of the ineffectiveness in the stores that have already posted a mask requirement but don't enforce it, as approximately 50% of the customers do not wear masks throughout the store. Thank you.

Name: Jessica Bean

Address: 12315 Antler Rd

Whitewood SD 57793

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please allow us the freedom of choice. Allow those who want to wear one to wear one... those that wish not to as well. Masks should be optional. Not something enforced or fined over. Businesses are one thing- in the complete public is another. Im expressing a strong no to mask mandation.

Name: Lisa Evans

Address: 3720 W. St. Louis St.

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

All I was doing was going to work and coming home and I caught Covid. I gave Covid to everyone in my home. I followed all the precautions, but because someone else didn't, I brought Covid home. This is a situation in which we can help others by a simple action. Tonight a young man I know lost his father to Covid. Let's all do this for others. I urge you to pass this mask mandate and help out community lower the spread. Please.

Name: Nick Filcaske

Address: 4114 Avenue A

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

A mask mandate with these penalties is ridiculous for Rapid City. A fine of up to \$500 or 30 days in jail or both? The police are not going to enforce this. I think we should just keep telling people to mask up. Most do. Some don't. But making it where you can fine people or arrest people is going to far. Our law enforcement is under enough stress without be expected to enforce this. Please do not pass this. If you are worried wear a mask and don't worry about what others are doing. Do not waste resources enforcing a mask mandate!

Name: Elizabeth Ostolozaga

Address: 3607 Washington St. Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Covid Mask Mandate 11-19-20

Comment:

I categorically object to a mask mandate. I comply with businesses who request masks, as does virtually everyone. You cannot enforce persons with disabilities to wear masks if it is injurious to them, and would violate federal law to force anyone to disclose their disability, so you will never have 100% mask-or anything, as there are legitimate exceptions for everything. This move is a capricious govt intrusion, that should be strenuously resisted by responsible citizens. We are rightfully concerned with tyrannical restrictions infecting this country and globe. Most countries around the world are rebelling against unsuccessful and destructive policies foisted on them, masquerading as unscientific and untested "public health". We in South Dakota enjoy the support of a governor who understands this and stands against the totalitarian forces that want conformity and submission in the face of a virus with 98% recovery rate.

Name: Heidi Pestor

Address: 8563 Dunsmore Rd Rapid City South Dakota 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I would like the mask mandate passed. On a temporary basis. Simillar to the recent mask mandates in Sioux Falls, Brookings, Mitchell, Huron. We all want the same things. Freedom means choices. It also means living in a safe community. Right now I dont feel safe. I live with my 93 year old mother and My husband who has cancer, multiple sclerosis and high blood pressure. I also have health concerns. We are staying home when we can. We still have to see doctors frequently. It is getting very difficult. Thank you

Name: Kay Larsen

Address: 235 South Canyon Rd #6D

Rapid City, AS 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Perhaps those who fought in the revolution were fools because they thought freedom was more important than safety. Is this what you are going to have the police doing? Rounding up everyone who doesn't comply or fining them? A great use of our resources and time. Maybe you can have your fellow Rapid Cityian tell on their neighbors who won't comply. Didn't something like that happen to the the past in Germany?

This may seem small right now but it's the first step on a slippery slope that gets very steep very fast. Please learn from history and don't repeat it. If people want to wear mask they can and will. No one is stopping them. If people don't want to were one don't criminalize them. If a business does not want to let people in without a mask, it's their right and people should respect that but that should come from the businesses not from any form of government.

I say no to the mandate.

Name: Matthew Hower

Address: 2818 W. Flormann St

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

My name is Matthew Hower and I reside in Rapid City. The issue of a mask mandate is unnecessary and lacks any teeth. This type of action, if approved by the council, is not based on any scientific data that face coverings are effective against COVID -19. Do you really want citizens of this great city being harassed for not wearing something on their face? If you drive around Rapid City, you already see a large amount of citizens wearing face coverings and businesses are already requiring them. This mandate would only cause a workload burden on city workers who are tasked with "enforcing" this ordinance. This would come at a time where city workers are already shorthanded and covering multiple shifts due to low staffing numbers. Please let the citizens of Rapid City and visitors be responsible on their own which many already do. This mandate would also harm our young people and cause more fear and anxiety which we don't need!

Name: Brandon D Smith

Address: 413 1/2 Columbus Street Rapid City SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandates

Comment:

Nuremberg Trials Code UNESCO Article 6 Sections 1-3

Is Rapid City Inc. signed onto the foreign entity UN agreements including the Sister Cities Agenda 21 Programme?

I believe violations of basic human rights, in accordance to UN Human Rights agreements states that compulsory medical practices on those without their explicit consent is a violation of basic human rights

I swore an oath to the Constitution of the United States of America. I wonder if Sheriff, Kevin Thom of Pennington county is brave enough to do their job to enact their oath of office, which is the highest Constitutional Authority of our Republic, and has more legal authority than POTUS, by placing into custody "officials" who violate their oaths of office, and basic human rights of American Citizens

In other words, don't be the bad guy that I took an oath to defend against, along with every generation of my family since 1776

Respect Existence or Expect Resistance...

Name: Iorian Rea

Address: 2120 Harney Dr

Rapid City, 57702

Meeting: City Council Working Section

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: masks

Comment:

NO MANDATORY MASKS!!!!

Name: Marta Olson-Rangitsch

Address: 1017 West Blvd Rapid City, SD 57702 Ward 5

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: ORDINANCE NO.6453

Comment:

Please pass this ordinance. Our businesses need the backing of the city council to keep our employees and their families healthy and safe. We need to come together as a community to care for our neighbors and to support our healthcare and school district professionals who are asking us to please wear masks.

Name: Britton Vidal

Address: 1B Woodrun Ln

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

We have one major hospital for 400 square miles that is exhausted from this pandemic with no end in sight. As a COVID19 nurse, I have watched the reality of what many call the "frontline," but I prefer to call the "last line of defense". The community and public are the frontline where unfortunately, our leaders and citizens of this state have created this travesty. For many, the simple concept of wearing a mask to stop the spread of this virus continues to be a "right" to not wear even though they may be one of the many asymptomatic carriers whose breath can kill another. We have grown to be one of the worst outbreaks in the world. I have hope that this mask mandate will be approved by our city council to hopefully start the flattening of the curve for our community. Please do what is right for the public health of our community.

Name: Paul and Theresa Witte

Address: 2510 Oak Dr.

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: ORDINANCE NO. 6453

Comment:

Dear Council Members, Please do not lend your support to Ordinance NO. 6453. We stand with Governor Noem and ask you, as a city council member, to respect your constituents who cannot wear or choose not to wear a face covering. There is much debate out there, but one thing seems clear. Government mandates just cannot control the spread of this terrible virus. Government mandates only add another level of fear and anxiety upon an already suffering population.

Along with Governor Noem, we are also concerned about how "neighbors are treating neighbors". We have seen how those who do not or cannot wear masks are shamed and made to feel like second class citizens. Please trust the good people of Rapid City to do what is best for themselves and their families. Please oppose Ordinance NO 6453 and protect our freedom to make our own health care choices.

Name: Sherry McIntosh

Address: 3430 Corral Drive Apt 315

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

It has been shown that masks are not effective for preventing a person from becoming ill. A person can stay their healthiest by allowing their own respiratory system to do the job it was made to do (filter out contaminants). There is no need to block our respiratory system by covering it up with a mask. I'd rather stand next to someone that uses their own respiratory system then next to someone whose mask has been used for three days in a row. We have no idea how dirty people's masks are. Our Governor is working hard to help us enjoy our rights. We should support that effort. I don't see sick people in the stores. They are all being conscientious and staying home. If you mandate masks you are mandating people to wear them just because you want us to; not because you see sick people putting us all at risk. Please allow us our freedom to choose what's best. Let's remain the free-est state in the nation.

Name: Laura Hughes

Address: 22881 Forest Rd, Rapid City 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Covid-19

Comment:

Please require public masking. Keep the message simple. Show that you care about the physical, emotional, and financial health of your constituents and our community. Thank you for your time and effort to make the best choices for our community in this evolving situation. Stay well. Mask up Rapid City!!

Name: Melissa Werner

Address: 634 Enchantment Rd

Rapid City SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I have a few questions that I would like you to consider before implementing a mask mandate in Rapid City.

1. How will a mask mandate be enforced? Will law enforcement be involved? Will there be fines? Doesn't seem appropriate considering after shutting down many businesses our community is still suffering financially.
2. Who would have to wear a mask? Runners on the bike path? What about bicyclists or people walking their dogs alone? Kids? Homeless?
3. What is the end game? I'm sure you have looked at the other communities/countries that have had mask mandates during the pandemic and assessed their efficacy. How will you measure the success of the mask mandate? I'm sure you are aware that RCAS implemented a mask requirement. Obviously that was not effective because our schools are now closed.

I strongly oppose the mask mandate. Covid 19 still has a survival rate of 99.9% for the vast majority of people.

Name: Alan Gease

Address: 6144 Rustling Pines Ln

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As one of the highest Covid 19 infected areas in the world it is time to do something different. CDC guidelines has overwhelmingly recommended wearing masks as our first defense against the virus, yet there are many in our community who fail to acknowledge these guidelines. One would assume the general public would take heed of these guidelines and take on the virus with avengence. Unfortunately, this viral war has become a political contest to determine which political party one supports. It is not a political issue. It is a war against a virus. A virus which is winning, because we as humans are too concerned about our personal image, instead of caring about those around us. It is unfortunate it has come to the point that we need a mask mandate. However, with a portion of the population who only looks out for oneself, there is little choice but to require such a mandate for the protection of all.

Name: Kevin Jay Chase

Address: 5784 Leroy St.

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

As a citizen of Rapid City, I am strongly against a mask mandate. People are smart enough to make up their own decision on how best to protect themselves and others around them. I feel a mask mandate is an overstep by the government in an attempt to take away person freedom of choice.

Name: Michelle O'Toole

Address: 3661 Serendipity Lane

Rapid City,SD

57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type:

Agenda Item: COVID 19

Comment:

Please wear a mask!

This subject is getting old.

On the outside chance that there actually may be a virus and that wearing a mask MAY actually help,shouldn't we be doing that?

What can it hurt?

Name: Shalyn McPherson

Address: Rapid City, Sd 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Mask mandates don't work. You can see that evidence in all the states that enforce it and the cases are still rising. Too much government overreach hurts the people and our small businesses. This is not about The China virus anymore this is about government making decisions for people about their health. That's not your job! A mask mandate won't stop the virus your just delaying it from running its course! The mayor made a comment on how Forbes said we live in one of the top dangerous places, stop taking your facts from magazines and biased news sources and look at the real evidence. Don't buckle to all the hate. South Dakota is doing it right. Let the people decide for themselves. The survival rate is so high. We can better handle positive cases then back in February. Your not going to automatically die from the China virus. Big government is not the answer.

Name: Brenda Grabow

Address: 2806 Grandview Dr, Rapid City SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

We need to approve the mask mandate to stop the rising numbers. People are scared and the schools are doing their part and sacrificing by staying home. I think we as adults can step up and do our part also.

Name: Si Issler

Address: 701 Pluma Dr Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

As a RN who primarily works with COVID patients, I feel the need to protect the citizens of South Dakota. Unfortunately, some of my fellow citizens need a reminder that wearing a mask is a quick easy way to reduce the spread of COVID-19. This is no different than enforcing seatbelt laws or giving out parking tickets. This can be done for the good of all. This is not a political issue, it is not a conspiracy, it is a public health issue. This can be reviewed again at a later date to determine with the help of the local hospitals and department of health when it is showing a decrease in cases.

If we truly want to support our caregivers in hospitals, nursing homes, and the like we need to all start wearing masks. If we want our businesses to be able to be open, we need to all wear masks. If our governor is going to abdicate her responsibilities, then it lands on our shoulders. Please City of Rapid City, step up and fill the void.

Name: Elaine Karsky

Address: 23468 Dry Sage Lane

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I recommend approval of a mask mandate for Rapid City for the protection of my family, friends, and coworkers. If we all cooperate and unite as a community, we can decrease our Covid numbers. This isn't a political tool. Masks are proven by science to be an effective protection for both the person wearing the mask and those nearby.

There are concerns about enforcement, yet it is my opinion, those cases will be minimal. The majority will support this mandate once our elected officials support the mandate. Thank you for your leadership during difficult times.

Name: Sunny Colombe

Address: 2907 Benjamin St.

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

Thank you for your most recent attention and support of a mask mandate. Rapid has always proven to be a kind community so the current division is saddening. I would not have thought we, as a community, would ever need to address mandates to protect ourselves and our neighbors. I have worn a mask, per CDC guidance, since the beginning. My children and I did not wear the masks for ourselves, but for our neighbors. Come on Rapid City! Where is our small town, love thy neighbors attitude gone? Wear the mask for me.....as I have worn one for you.

Name: Lana Ellenwood

Address: 5863 Saturn Drive

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Masks and restricted gatherings

Comment:

Thank you sir. I wish we could have done it sooner. I wish we could have done it prior to "inviting" tourists here. I wish we could have done it before the rally..I appreciate your actions but I truly hope that they are not too late to save the healthcare system from being overwhelmed. Thank you for taking this step and I hope it is enough and not too late. I hope that people follow these guidelines and have some commonsense.

Name: Lindsay Geyer

Address: 1729 Cruz Dr

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I am totally against a mask mandate.

Name: Susan Martin

Address: 1415 Jupiter Ct.

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As a resident of Rapid City and small business owner, I fervently oppose a mask mandate. Small businesses have already suffered enough due to closures and fear mongering. A mask mandate could put mine and many other's small businesses under. Rapid City is an economy built on small to medium sized businesses.

The issue of personal responsibility is "personal," not governmental. If a person is sick, at risk, or fearful, they should be cautious. Those who are healthy should be able to go about their daily lives. Let us get to work. Let us be free of tyranny.

Name: Mark Geyer

Address: 1729 Cruz drive, Rapid city Sd 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I am an total opposition to the mask mandate.

Masks should be a choice.

Thank you

Name: Christopher L Colegrove

Address: 1311 Dakota Dr

Box Elder, SD 57719

(I work in Rapid City)

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

Finally, the Danish peer-reviewed mask study has been published. What did it find? "No statistically significant difference" between mask wearers and non-mask wearers. In line with the science pre-2020. Strange how that works. I'll enclose the link below. The science hasn't changed. As masks show little evidence of helping, or at least IS debatable, the connection between MANDATING masks and mandating things such as "speeding tickets" is void. My comment is not political. It's our rights and freedoms. This is America NOT communist China. <https://www.acpjournals.org/doi/10.7326/M20-6817?fbclid=IwAR3gKU5VPmUQO9IW3m6GECux2kPpjwDny2pQPZtVmKlslatCrJw17dDMFc>

Name: Camille Martin

Address: 5625 Blue Stem ct

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I appreciate our city's leaders concern for the increase in Covid in our city and state, but that can be said for every city and state in the US, even those who already have mask mandates. I have also spoken to healthcare professionals who say masks do not prevent the spread of Covid. Therefore, we are giving false hope to people by saying, "wear a mask if you don't want to get sick." I feel we could do more for our at-risk population if we look to their needs and provide support that allows them to social distance.

I suggest grocery shopping for those whose immune system is compromised. I would be happy to assist those at-risk by delivering groceries to their door. I am sure as a community if we look to the needs of our elderly population, we can find ways to serve them and help them stay healthy. I feel this would be more effective at protecting our community's at-risk population rather than a mask mandate. Sincerely,
Camille Martin

Name: Christopher Putnam

Address: 11963 Aspen Way

Whitewood SD 57793

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandates

Comment:

As a resident of neighboring Whitewood and frequent patron of Rapid City businesses, I oppose any and all mandates for masks. It would be superfluous for me to try to list all the reasons as to why mask mandates are not backed by science, are ineffective, are actually physically harmful, and are harmful to society.

Name: Sarah Sutton

Address: 12648 Campfire Drive

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mandatory masking

Comment:

Good evening, I have 5 just questions concerning a mandatory mask mandate in Rapid City that I would like answered please:

#1. If mandatory masking has not stopped the infection rates from climbing in Germany, France, Italy, Australia, or the UK what are we going to do differently to ensure its success in Rapid City?

#2. If mandatory masking has not stopped the infection rates from climbing in CA, NY, MN, IL, or WI (who have all had mandatory masking laws for months) what facts do you have supporting it working successfully in Rapid City?

#3. Who will be enforcing this mandate?

#4. Will we have a "snitch hotline" like NY, CA, & MA for citizens to turn in their fellow citizens & neighbors?

#5. Will this mandate be enforced for the homeless?

Thank you for your time.

Name: LORI EBSEN

Address: 4827 MANDALAY LANE

RAPID CITY, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I am absolutely in favor of Rapid City enacting a mask mandate. I am tired of the governor preaching about how she trusts our people to "do the right thing." If people WERE doing the right things, like social distancing, wearing masks, and avoiding crowds, our Covid-19 rates would not be sky high. Our medical personnel are being stretched to their limits. I am tired of hearing "if you are scared, then YOU stay home. I'm going to live my life." Someone else's personal choices should not endanger MY health and well-being. I do not wish to "hide" and stay home. I have not stopped living my life. But I am taking every precaution I can to protect myself and the people I care about. I also care about protecting the people I may encounter, even strangers. We should not have to legislate common courtesy, but apparently we do. For folks to mistake a minor inconvenience like wearing a mask, for somehow "losing your freedoms" is ludicrous.

Name: William Newhouse

Address: 932 Enchantment Rd

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As a local business owner I am adamantly opposed to a mask mandate. Private businesses should have the right to require masks to enter their property, but I do not believe that is the position of our government to require it. No one forces the public to enter any private business and they should not be forced to do so. Since they have the freedom to enter or not, it is their personal choice.

We are not property of the state, nor subjects of the crown. We the people should have the most control or our destiny not the government.

Name: Frederick-Denton:McCauley

Address: In care of 3703 Western Avenue

Rapid City, South Dakota

NAC: 6CRXM QB8NT

Non-Domestic / without U.S.

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: mask mandates

Comment:

If a mandate is issued to wear a mask, the council will be exceeding their authority as limited by the Constitution for the US of A and that they will become personally liable for any damage caused by perpetuating fear, duress and coercion on the people who live in the RC area. Fines for not obeying can/will be ignored by those that know your limits were exceeded. What evidence proves efficacy of masks - especially those mentioned? There are doctors telling us wearing masks is harmful to our health, not only in Oxygen deprivation, but in incubating bacteria. The road to hell is paved with good intentions. Will you be banning handshakes next? How can you knowingly and certifiably state that there is more danger to anyone now than there was in the years before? Less people die now than they have been for decades from ALL CAUSES. Wear your own mask if you think it helps, but do not inflict useless and detrimental mandates upon others.

Name: Shannon Carmichael

Address: 14596 SD Hwy 73

Faith, SD 57626

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: COVID

Comment:

I no longer have lived in the surrounding area, but I do only live 2 hrs. away and do a lot of business in the hills. I also have children and family that work and live in Rapid City. Isn't a shame to teach kids to not be afraid and rely on God to guide and protect us, and now we are running scared from a flu. I live in a community that is normal and uses common sense to deal with it. Nothing has made us shut down and wear masks as being mandatory to wear a mask. It will change how much we do business in the area. It hasn't slowed it down in other areas where people wear masks. Even people that wear the masks have contacted it. It's a way of life, things come and go.

Name: Katie Steever

Address: 5810 Cloud Peak Dr

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Annals of Internal Medicine

November 18, 2020

Effectiveness of adding a mask recommendation to

Other public health measures to prevent SARS-Cov-2 infection in Danish mask wearers

A randomized controlled study

The difference in infection between control group (no masks) and medical mask wearers was 2.1% versus 1.8%, respectively.

Odds ratio CI was 0.54-1.23, P=0.33

No significant difference.

NOT in favor of mask mandate.

Name: Karen Peters

Address: 5311 Greenwood Lane

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

Will the mask mandate include hockey games at the Civic Center?

Name: Jan McGrath

Address: 5207 Pine Tree Drive

Rapid City, South Dakota 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

The liberty to choose whether to wear a mask or not should be decided by the individual, not by the government. Please do not mandate any mask requirements upon your constituents. They have a mind and care for their individual health and for those around them. Not wearing a mask does not mean lack of care for others.

Name: Joanna Smith

Address: 2116 4th Ave

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

Dear City Council,

Having lived in MN prior to moving to Rapid City, I have watched my very close friends and relatives struggle through the unconstitutional mandates their governments, local and state, have been putting on them. I have been VERY thankful to live in a state that has given its citizens the right to choose how to best protect themselves during this pandemic. I strongly urge you to realize that mask mandates only give people a false sense of security and do not actually provide the protection people are wanting and seeking. Therefore, I ask that you follow Gov. Noem's Lead, you follow the science and you allow the citizens of our great state and city to choose how to best protect themselves against COVID-19.

I will send the science in emails to the city council members as it will not allow me to attach them here.

Thank you, Joanna

Name: Edward Manzano

Address: 3702 Parkview Drive, Rapid City SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As a retired military veteran of 25 years service I am appalled to discover the RC Council will vote on a mask mandate. The MW dictionary says a mandate is "a formal order from a superior official to an inferior one". Mr Mayor, you are NOT my superior, and I and my family are NOT your inferior....WHO has granted you Constitutional authority to order your citizens to wear masks? You say "its time to exercise personal responsibility...." but it is not PERSONAL if you do not respect our right to make our own choices. I will bring u copies of 3 recent SCIENTIFIC studies on masks and COVID19, all three of the studies state: MASKS ARE NOT EFFECTIVE IN STOPPING THE SPREAD OF COVID 19, IN FACT MAY INCREASE THE SPREAD OF COVID!! The CDC states "the vast majority of people who contract the Chinese coronavirus survive". Ages 0-69: over 99.5% survival, ages 70+ 94.6% Sir, I will exercise my constitutional right to not wear a mask.

Name: Luke Lee

Address: 2918 rawhide dr

Rapid city 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask

Comment:

<https://www.acpjournals.org/doi/10.7326/M20-6817>

Name: Randy Ericksen

Address: 22755 silver City road

Rapid City 57802

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Please make masks mandatory

Name: Megan Holman

Address: 811 n 7th st, rapid city 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: mask mandate

Comment:

** you do not need to read this out loud, just thought this was the most convenient way to share my opinion and voice to the council.

South Dakota, including Rapid City, is behind the curve in addressing the covid issue, especially recently. the virus is rampant here, and we need a mask mandate. it is a pretty simple and highly recommended measure used across the globe. i am disappointed in leadership for waiting this long to consider it. please initiate a mask mandate as soon as possible. thank you**

Name: Ann Sandberg

Address: 13177 Morse Pl

Rapid City, SD

57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

We must gain control over the spread of COVID-19.

We do not resist simple health rules like "no shoes, no shirt, no service", and complain that our personal freedom is being ripped away. Yet, when the simple measure of putting on a face mask is suggested, many act like their rights are being trampled. Our carefree governor might claim that South Dakotans value personal responsibility. But in fact, they are not being responsible.

Rules happen when people fail to use their freedom intelligently. If our governor refuses to act, then we must. It is for the greater good. It is a decision made on behalf of people who do not demonstrate the ability to make good decisions on their own.

Let's take care of one another and do the right thing. Be bold. Be brave. Let's demonstrate to each other that we can change the current Covid trajectory. Institute a mask mandate.

ACT - as though people's lives depend on it -- because they do.

Name: Angela Giffin

Address: 3624 Reder St

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please approve a mask mandate. Our community has been repeatedly asked to take personal responsibility and wear masks in public. Many have failed. The cost is it health and our lives. Since some individuals cannot be personally responsible, it is time for our government to help. We already have to wear shirts and shoes. The difference with masks is that they can save our lives. Thank you for your consideration.

Name: Juanita Christianson
Address: 23756 Arena Drive
Rapid City,SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Masking

Comment:

Thank you for trying to mandate wearing masks. I saw where anyone under 5 does not require a mask , plus people with breathing problems. A suggestion, in all Costco stores everyone has to wear a mask if you have a breathing problem then you are to wear a face shield before entering their stores. You know as well as I do if someone does not want to wear a mask they will say they have a breathing problems even when they don't.

Name: Ryan Chalberg

Address: Ryan Chalberg

3206 Simpson Drive

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: COVID/Mask Mandate

Comment:

As an educator, I have seen first hand how this virus has taken its toll on our community, including our youth. I also have seen what students are capable of doing to try and maintain some sense of normalcy. Our students have been required to wear a mask all day at school, 6 to 7 hours each day. I'll admit I was worried about how it would go, but it has not been an issue. At all. If our students can wear a mask all day to do their part to keep our schools open, asking the public to wear a mask for the 15 minutes they are in a store shouldn't be too much to ask. Let's do this for our neighbors, for our students, for our community. Thank you.

Name: Andrea Davis

Address: 4607 steamboat circle rapid city sd 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Vote NO on the mask mandate. This is an individual's personal health choice. There is already a lot of bullying and belittling happening to people who cannot wear masks due to health problems. What are we supposed to do? Wear badges stating we are exempt so we don't get hateful stares and tisks when we walk into a business?!! We are the one last bastion of freedom in the USA. Let's keep it that way.

Name: Alison Herman

Address: 8354 Highland Loop

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As a Rapid City resident and family member of a Rapid City business owner, I urge you to vote against a mask mandate and fines. I understand the pressure and fear but lets research how to help our body's fight instead of hiding from something we will inevitably come in contact with.

Name: Glenn Goehring

Address: 1025 Silver Street,

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Stop the insanity, PLEASE! Mandatory masks are a critical predicate conditioning us to accept abuses of our liberty. Mandatory masking provides the foundation on which governments continue to justify emergency measures and rule by executive fiat, and it creates a national mood of consent that America will accept indefinite government expansion because we face a “new normal.”

Name: Melissa Rowe

Address: 3205 Iris dr

Rapid City SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please help this community care about one another by requiring masks. Show you care about the elderly, people who have health issues, essential workers, and frontline workers.

Also state covering mouth and nose. I believe you have to put a fine for enforcement.

Thank you

Name: Jeffrey Frink

Address: 916 ridgeview ct

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Mask ordinance

Comment:

Don't do this. States that have had the mask mandate are no better off than those have not.

Name: Darlyce Bollwerk

Address: 5270 Saturn Drive

Rapid City SD

57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please issue a mandatory mask mandate! Our community deserves this gesture to help protect us from COVID. Our healthcare systems cannot take on more patients with current staffing. We as a community shouldn't need this to comply but apparently I was over optimistic that everyone would do the right thing. Time for our governor to admit that some residents are not as responsible as she'd like to believe.

Name: Jennifer King

Address: 1713 Pennington St

Rapid City SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask

Comment:

The mask mandate should be passed. Health Care workers are exhausted, worn out. The hospital is at capacity due to increase in cases. We need to do whatever we can to try and help to limit the number of cases.

Name: Jason Wright

Address: 6310 Long View Road

Rapid City, SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I strongly oppose a mask mandate for Rapid City. If enacted I believe civil acts of disobedience are appropriate for citizens to show their opposition. Can the Council provide a legitimate study showing the effectiveness of masks in the general public and not in a hospital or clinical setting? How would a mandate be enforced? Public shaming? Irate customers trying to run a non-mask wearing customer out of the grocery store potentially leading to violent assaults? Will citizens be levied heavy fines after a long summer of unemployment because they lost their job after their previous job was shut down? Will citizens be tackled or tased by police just trying to do their job? Will they be jailed? Do not let the draconian laws of Newsome, Cuomo, Lightfoot and Whitmer bleed into South Dakota.

Name: Rebecca Dagele

Address: 206 42nd St. Rapid City

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: mask mandate

Comment:

Personal responsibility has not worked, as evidenced by our surging case #'s. The CDC recommends masks:

"COVID-19 spreads mainly through respiratory droplets. Respiratory droplets travel into the air when you cough, sneeze, talk, shout, or sing. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of others or they may breathe these droplets in. Masks are a simple barrier to help prevent your droplets from reaching others. Studies show that masks reduce the spray of droplets when worn over the nose and mouth. You should wear a mask even if you do not feel sick. Several studies have found that people with COVID-19 who never develop symptoms and those who are not yet showing symptoms can still spread the virus to other people. The main function of wearing a mask is to protect those around you, in case you are infected but not showing symptoms. It is especially important to wear a mask when you are unable to stay 6 feet apart from others."

Name: Tomi Lahren

Address: 24014 hackney court

Rapid city, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

My name is Tomi Lahren. You may know me from Fox News. I was born and raised in Rapid City, South Dakota and my entire family still lives there. I know the council may think this city wide mask mandate sounds like the "safe and healthy" thing to do in order to appear cautious and responsible and the council would be wrong. Take it from somebody who lived in tyrannical California for several years, once you open the door to tyranny and control that is how your city will be defined. And I have been around corrupt politicians enough to know that once elected bodies take an inch, they take a mile. Do you not trust your own residents enough to allow them to make their own decisions about their health and well-being? If businesses want to mandate masks, that is every bit their right. But for a city government to mandate what people where across their face is the definition of tyranny and overreach.

Name: Ryan Steever

Address: 5810 Cloud Peak Dr

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Our family, despite national media pressure, is NOT in favor of a city wide mask mandate. Lockdowns and mask mandates have not been proven successful in stopping the spread. Although cases have risen, the fatality rate of the virus remains low.

0-19 years: 0.00003

20-49: 0.0002

50-69: 0.005

70+: 0.054

These numbers are most likely inflated as the deaths with a co-morbidity (including heart disease, cancer, etc) made up 94% of the deaths and only 6% were from Covid alone.

What is the hysteria regarding the virus? There is risk in life. If we are so afraid of death, we should be taking away more rights. Let's lower the speed limit on the interstate to 10mph.

If we truly care about health, why not tax the obese and promote a healthy lifestyle that encourages diet (close all McDonalds and other poisonous fast food chains, outlaw pop), exercise, outdoor time, social connection (not distance) and fresh air (not masks)?

Name: Joshua Osterbur

Address: 104 N Platt St

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: City mask mandate

Comment:

Alcon,

We are all adults and everyday we have to make our own threat assessment. We choose to drive, fly, hunting, 4 wheeling so on, if you can make those decisions on your own you can make a choice to wear a mask or not. There is no reason to push a mandate for masks. If so than take in to consideration that when tests are done in public places that show frequently touched areas have 90% fecal germs on them. If we have to be mandated to wear a masked and fined for not doing so than one should be fined for not washing their hands. COVID-19 is a shock to our bodies because we have never dealt with, vaccines will come and help some. People need to stop living in fear, take care of themselves physically, mentally and preform self hygiene. Wash your hands, stay at home when sick, cough and sneeze in your arm and again wash your hands. Shutting down governments, holding people to fear of mandates and fines will not help any situation.

Name: Kara Flynn

Address: 3771 Ireland Pl

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

Please pass a mask mandate with penalties. We need to get community spread under control to help alleviate the medical crisis occurring at the hospital and to reopen schools so our children can learn with their peers. Masks are an effective tool in this fight and are scientifically proven to reduce spread.

Name: Emily Hatheway

Address: 1425 Ennen dr

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: Zoning Board of Adjustment / Planning Commission

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As someone who suffers from asthma and it flares severely when wearing a mask, when it comes to this mandate how will you protect those that have health issues and are unable to wear them? It's bad enough when I have to grocery shop and an employee sprays the disinfectants towards a person and I have an asthma attack due to those cleaning products used. My health and many others will be put in danger over this mandate.

Name: Sasha Campbell

Address: 720 Saint Andrew St Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

STRONGLY OPPOSE

No study exists that shows a benefit from a broad policy to wear masks:

<https://www.rcreader.com/commentary/masks-dont-work-covid-a-review-of-science-relevant-to-covide-19-social-policy>

CDC study showing that masks DO NOT slow or contain virus:

https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/5/19-0994_article

This study was RETRACTED because cases rose higher in ALL U.S. counties after mask mandates were implemented: <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.10.21.20208728v2>

Cases do not equal illness. Prior to 2020, you had to actually be sick to be a "case". PCR test very inaccurate: <https://justthenews.com/politics-policy/coronavirus/newly-surfaced-video-july-fauci-tests-dead-virus>

The latest figures show an over 99.9% survival rate for Covid-19:

<https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

Thousands of prominent doctors and scientists from around the world who disagree with masking and lockdowns: <https://gbdeclaration.org/>

Name: Naomi Nye

Address: 711 sitting Bull, rapid city, sd 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I strongly support a mask mandate for Rapid City. I believe all government officials should lead by example and wear masks always. Police officers should as well as most I have seen do not wear one.

Wearing a mask is something very simple we can do to help slow down this virus. I don't understand why some do not get that my 7 year old does and is always asking why everyone doesn't wear one to protect each other.

Name: Olivia Gonzalez

Address: 1702 E. Hwy. 44 Lot 102

Rapid City SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I am in favor of a mask mandate for Rapid City. COVID19 is spreading and nothing is slowing it down. To do nothing, and to allow others to ignore this pandemic and spread it is irresponsible and ignorant. Can you imagine if no one had to follow the speed limits because it impedes on individual persons' freedom to drive as fast or slow as they wish? Wearing masks is about trying to keep the virus from spreading, at least slow it down. This is a public safety issue, and we should all be willing to do our part. Wear a mask! Practice social distancing! Wash your hands often.

Name: Matt McLeod

Address: 24498 Oak Meadows Rd. Keystone SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I am here commenting on the new proposal for mandating masks and fines. I refuse to wear a mask and will not be wearing a mask out in public. My business will be taken else where if this is put in place. I believe wearing masks causes respiratory infections and anxiety. I also believe wearing masks causes you to touch your face more excessively than has been touching infected surfaces. I believe the best way to avoid corona virus is to wash my hands frequently and refuse to put the false security of a mask on my face.

Name: Judd Thompson

Address: 3602 Red Rock Canyon Road

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As a lifelong resident of Rapid City I am asking the city council to pass the ordinance for a mask mandate ! The mandate to wear a mask in the face the pandemic seems extremely simple to me. The mandate will not impact business in a negative manner and hopefully will help avoid future lockdowns should the pandemic continue to impact our medical community and kill citizens .

I believe the ordinance is well written and allows for businesses to remain open and serving our citizens.

Wearing a mask protects our fellow citizen just as no smoking ordinances protect our fellow citizens.

We all wear shoes and shirts in businesses, most of us wear seat belts, stop at stop signs and drive on the right side of the road all in the name of

Public safety.

If you listen to the science wearing a mask should be a no brainer !!!

Name: Micaela Rice

Address: 1154 Haakon St

RC, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item:

Comment:

For the sake of our Healthcare workers, high risk, and elderly population please consider passing this mandate. We nurses are tired, stressed out, and could use a little help. We will still provide you with excellent care but consider wearing a mask so we can be a nurse and continue to do our job well.

Name: Denise Renken

Address: 2709 Eden Lane

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

Not in favor

Name: Holly Perli

Address: 3316 Kirkwood Drive

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Thank you for your consideration of this bold step of a mask mandate for Rapid City. As a registered nurse, I feel this show of support and solidarity with healthcare workers and the school district is past due but so welcome. We are running a marathon with the gas light on and need this leadership from from you, our elected officials voted in as representatives of the people. This isn't about you, it's about us. Please lead the way, please vote for the mandate.

Name: Jordon Wilson

Address: 259 E Idaho Street

Rapid City SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

Mayor Allender and members of city council, as elected officials, elected by the people of this city, you're authority only reaches so far before it gets to a tyrannical level. The mask mandate/policy is by nature, tyranny. We live in South Dakota because it honors and respects individual freedoms, our governor has displayed this so eloquently to this nation and to the world. I ask that you would remember that and keep this mask mandate up to the people to decide for themselves.

Thank you.

Name: Dr. Daniel Jensen

Address: 1115 Fairview Street

Rapid City SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

Please pass it!! Our state government will not govern. We are all remembered for not just our acts, but our omissions. Protect your citizens with a temporary discomfort.

Name: Jason Renken

Address: 2709 eden lane, rapid city South Dakota

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Covid

Comment:

This is in concern to a mask mandate. If the science were there to support that wearing a mask helped so be it. The numbers simply do not support that wearing a mask helps in any large way. As a hospital employee I can say that everyone will end up with COVID regardless. You won't stop this by ordering Americans around. Common sense tactics are best, if you are sick stay home, if you are very sick go to the doctor and follow their instruction. Wash your hands, keep your hands away from your face.

Name: Lanae Kremer

Address: 24704 Iron Mountain Road

Keystone, SD 57751

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate and Fine

Comment:

I do not live in Rapid City, but we do a lot up there... dine out, shop, attend church, etc. It is a terrible idea to put a city wide mask mandate in place. And it is an even worse idea to fine people. We are able to make the individual decision as the Governor has stood by since the beginning of covid. Not all people agree that masks work to stop the spread of covid including me. I have heard many health care providers say that they actually make people sick from other things. Rapid City businesses will suffer from this mask mandate and fine enforcement as many of us will go elsewhere. And in addition Rapid City law enforcement has more pressing issues to take care of rather than fining people for not having a mask on! This is a terrible idea.

Name: Aaron Bost

Address: 2940 Country Club Drive

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: mask ordinance

Comment:

Please don't pass a mask ordinance. In doing so I believe you are overstepping your bounds and encroaching on our personal freedoms. Let the people and businesses decide for themselves if they wish to wear a mask or if they decide if mask are required at their business.

Name: Carole Tonn

Address: 1372 Panorama Cir. , Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please take your lead from our thoughtful governor who trusts her people to make appropriate choices for themselves. Elected leaders seem to be overreaching to remove personal freedoms all over the country. Let's not join them.

Name: Bruce H. Venner

Address: 1210 Alma St.

Rapid City, SD. 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

PLEASE pass the mask mandate! I would wear a mask anyway, but now my wife is getting chemo treatments and even though she does not go out in public, there are times when I must. I cannot afford to bring COVID home to my wife! The mask mandate is responsible, sensible, and just the right thing to do. It is either a mask mandate now or close businesses later. BTW, my wife and I are both conservative Republicans and cannot begin to understand the governor's opposition to wearing a mask. Makes absolutely no sense.

Name: Bonny Petersen

Address: 120 11th St

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

As a retired nurse, I support a mask mandate to help encourage citizens to practice health habits for the betterment of the entire community. Government taking the crisis seriously will signal the citizenry that they have a role to play. No one enjoys masks, but most are all or capable of wearing one. It is no more government overreach than requiring drivers licenses, liability insurance, seat belts or cell phone rules. Thank you

Name: Robert Telkamp

Address: 2241 Cedar Dr

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

My primary concern is to have a government require mask wearing. I believe it should be up to the businesses and individuals to create their own safety protocols.

I do believe masks can be effective if worn properly. People should not touch them. I see people wearing masks, touching them constantly, wearing the same mask day after day. The mask is now better described as a petri dish. Many have a false sense of security that this on their face keeps them or others safe. Touch your mask, then count out your coupons, pick out your tomato or hand over your credit card completely contaminated.

The obvious problem is people do not observe these requirements for actually getting efficacy from these masks.

CDC says if you can maintain social distance a mask is not required.

I'm in favor of recommending safe standards, but not in favor of making it a mandate.

Name: Lucy Wright

Address: 706 South Street #4

Rapid City, So Dak. 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I applaud Mayor Allender for bringing this forward. YES!!! It is definitely time.

We are getting such a horrible reputation nationally with the Governor refusing to issue a mandate.

Thank you

Name: MARIAN GATES

Address: 2529 CRUZ DR

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mandatory Masks

Comment:

There goes your Christmas sales tax because why would we shop locally when we can shop from home without having to wear a mask, or will you be like Pennsylvania and tell us we have to wear masks in our own homes. You are probably hoping you can make up the sales tax by the \$500.00 fines. Isn't it funny, more and more people have been wearing masks most of the time and yet cases are still skyrocketing?

Name: Kathy Brown

Address: 840 N Spruce St, Lot 232, Rapid City, SD. 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I support mask mandates, distancing and city wide safety protocols for bars, restaurants and all other businesses indoors and outdoors.

My family and I all wear them around each other now to help protect each of us.

People are not responsible enough on their own to mask and distance for their own safety, much less for others around them.

Name: Donna Gorman

Address: 4740 Chalkstone Dr.

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

If mask work why have we had to go to a level 3 at the public schools this week when the kids and staff are required to wear masks?? What is the reason for the mandate when the masks do not seem to work in the school system?

Name: Dustin Floyd

Address: 1611 9th Street

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate Ordinance

Comment:

I'm fully in favor of a mask mandate. I have family who work as medical caregivers, and their lives are getting really miserable. We need to do everything we can to help our frontline doctors and nurses. It's time our city's elected officials showed some leadership on the issue.

Name: Sean Thomas

Address: 2760 Wilkie Dr. #105 Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I am absolutely opposed to a mask mandate. Any council member that votes to try and impose a mask mandate will have me working against them and there ability to stay in public office because it indicates their lack of understanding of the Covid-19 virus. Council members are not elected so that they can dictate arbitrary rules to the people who elected them.

Name: Debra Kelley

Address: 6185 Magic Canyon Rd.

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I am strongly in favor of a city-wide mask mandate for Rapid City to curtail the spread of the coronavirus in our our public places.

Name: Shannon Church

Address: 3604 Powderhorn Drive

Rapid City, SD, 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As a long time resident of Rapid City, where my husband and I both have our own businesses, we value the personal liberties we receive in Rapid City. A big part of why so many of our out-of-state family and friends have been coming to our area is that they still feel that sense of bodily autonomy and personal choice in Rapid City, where they've seen unprecedented overreach in their home cities/states. I absolutely understand every business has a right to make their own decision regarding this topic (as they should), but having a city wide mandate is a vast overstep by local government in our personal liberties. I'd like to remind the council that there is absolutely NO significant difference in infection rates between those who wear masks and those who don't. I adamantly oppose all mandates and subsequent fines in Rapid City and I certainly hope our city council will err on the side of personal freedoms regarding this decision.

Name: Cassie silbernagel

Address: 1104 west blvd north rapid city sd 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I encourage the city council to pass a mandate requiring the wearing of face coverings. Thanks

Name: David Charles Christie

Address: 2517 Cruz Dr

Rapid City SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type:

Agenda Item: mask mandate

Comment:

I support a mask mandate. It's needed if we want to save small business and tourism. Other states have done this successfully.

Name: Thea willet

Address: 433 Line Road

Box elder, sd 57719

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

This is completely unacceptable and over reaching. This is government at its worse. Business should be allowed to make decisions that best fit their businesses. Not only that, the fees and/or jail time are ridiculous. This will be a waste of tax payers money. We have been open for months and months now you want to over extend and over reach your role as mayor. This is disappointing, holidays are already ruined as is and now you want to make it worse.

Name: Amanda phillips

Address: 5137 coal bank dr rapid city sd

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

The city need a mask mandate. We should have done one months ago. It should have servere consequences for people that don't wear masks. I understand that it would be difficult to enforce but its the only way to slow this virus down. My kids need to be able to go back to in school learning and they won't be able to do that with this virus spreading they way it is schools won't reopen. People need to be smart about this come on. Its common sense. This virus isn't going anywhere wear your mask do the social distancing use hand sanitizer. Stop the out of control spread people stop being stupid. For the people that don't believe get your head out of your butt there is a covid 19 it is real people are dying from it. Now wear your [REDACTED] mask.

Name: Monica Sherman

Address: 1702 E. Hwy. 44 164

Rapid city, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Proposed mask mandate

Comment:

Passing this mask mandate would be an infringement on our American rights, and this is something that people need to make their own choices and decisions about. The masks have been effective for the individual wearing them and it should not be required for people around them to also wear masks. We need to fight for America as the democracy that she was born as.

Name: Veo (Val) Robichaud

Address: 2461 Ellendale Drive

Rapid City, SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

Please allow citizens to be in charge of their own safety for mask use. There are many of us with asthma, PTSD, anxiety, breathing issues, etc., that a mask mandate proves deadly. We do not need keepers. We need just facts and the ability to decide for ourselves. We are free citizens with the ability to determine what is best for us. Please share this in public meeting. Thank you.

Name: Lori Linco

Address: 2913 Wisconsin Avenue

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask ordinance

Comment:

Bravo! I am pleased to learn this is **finally** being taken seriously and the mask ordinance considered.

I know a lot of people are going to be up in arms and scream about how their rights are being infringed on. To this date, our leaders have hinted at volunteer mask mandates within businesses and practicing "common sense". Sadly, not everyone is equipped with common sense and the tough decision to restrict activities **MUST** be considered and put in place. Wearing a mask outside of your home is much better than seeing everything shut down and small businesses not being able to survive this pandemic. We have already lost so many as it is. We can do hard things for a short period of time (mandatory mask mandate) if it means we can come out on the other side healthy, happy and with our loved ones in tow.

I pray you seriously consider this ordinance and ultimately pass it.

Thank you.

Name: Amanda LaVake

Address: 5320 Norman's Roost Rd

Rapid City SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Mask mandate.

I am asking that the council PLEASE do NOT make masks mandatory. I have several issues from childhood trauma that make it impossible for me to wear a mask. My son also has a medical reason that prevents him from wearing one. I have only seen a small amount of people not wearing them around town. I think the ones that can, are. We do not need a mandate in this town. I have multiple friends that wear their masks religiously and still got sick. The masks are not foolproof and there are many studies that show that masks actually make people more sick from the bacteria that grows and it is not healthy to breathe your own CO2. Masks were mandatory in schools and it proves that masks won't stop it from spreading. Our schools are closed. Please do not put this harsh mandate on us.

Name: Janice Horner

Address: 3326 Harmony lane

Rapud city, DD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I support a mask mandate and reduced capacity in restaurants and bars.

Name: Jennifer Dignan

Address: 612 Main Street, Manchester, Michigan, 48158

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Possible Mask Mandate

Comment:

My husband, children, and I live in Michigan but have rented a home in Rapid City for the past month. Even though we are returning home this weekend, I wanted to let you know that the reason why we chose to come to South Dakota was because you do NOT have mask mandates. We have appreciated how you don't mandate everything, but allow your citizens the right to make appropriate decisions for themselves. My state has taken a far more paternalistic, controlling approach and yet, STILL has had many outbreaks of Covid.

Do not be quick to trade your liberty for an alleged safety. The best way to care for one another is to preserve freedom for everyone. Once you choose an unattainable safety over personal responsibility, you will lose both. Thank you for an incredible month of memories. May God bless and guide all South Dakotans.

Name: Susan Roth

Address: 605 Tanglewood Lane

Box Elder SD

57719

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I am a resident of neighboring Box Elder and I frequently enter Rapid City to buy groceries and supplies. I oppose both the mask mandate and ANY fines or other consequences for non-compliance.

Name: Kimberly Landsman

Address: 1317 11th St

Rapid City, SD

57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mandatory masking

Comment:

Hello! As a business owner and resident of Rapid City, I oppose a mask mandate and fines for non-compliance.

Name: Johnathon Berry

Address: 13768 47th Ave w

Rapid city

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: COVID 19 mask requirement

Comment:

My wife and I have been informed that rapid city is considering a mask mandate in a \$500 fine to residence. We are greatly troubled by this totalitarian move and it should not stand. I hope all residents will stand up and let their voices be heard. The framers of the constitution, would not stand for this usurpation of citizen's rights. I can only hope that there are enough of us left that feel this way.

For your information, the only way to control the virus is through 60 to 70% of the population acquiring herd immunity or the vaccination of the population. In case you have not been made aware Pfizer has a vaccine that has 95% Effectiveness as well as Moderna. They both require a two shot series.

Name: Pat Valenti

Address: 2760 Wilkie Drive

#306

Rapid City, SD. 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Face masks

Comment:

I believe that each person should make up his own mind when it comes to mask wearing.

I wear a mask when around others, but do not wear a mask while out walking by myself.

Again, I believe in a personal choice not a mandate.

Name: Tracy Sigdestad

Address: 814 Saint Cloud St

Rapid City SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please require masks. As a person who works with vulnerable populations, I have seen too many deaths. Stop the spread.

Name: Deanna Clayborne

Address: 5536 Brown Ct.

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

Please, please enforce a mask mandate. Our hospitals and our schools are stressed to their maximum. If our governor will not do it, please, Rapid City, be responsible so our businesses don't have to make the crazy people vocal and lose business just by trying to be responsible. Someone has to be the grownup in this pandemic. I so appreciate your responsible education saying it is not disputed masks work, and also that Biden won the election. So exhausted of mean people.

Name: Samuel D Valenti

Address: 2760 Wilkie Drive

#306

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Face masks

Comment:

I believe that each individual should have the right to make up their own minds about whether they need to wear a mask.

Name: Jeremy Altman

Address: 815 St. Joseph Street

Suite 203

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I strongly support an ordinance for the wearing of masks. Covid-19 fatalities are already the fourth top cause of death in SD. This is happening despite the best efforts of our hard-working medical professionals not to mention extraordinary efforts by school personnel, and others, to contain its spread without a mask ordinance. The test positivity rate in our area indicates that the community spread is rampant and not slowing down. A mask ordinance clearly communicates to those working to contain the spread that the rest of us know what we should be doing, whether everyone chooses to do it or not, to help them in their efforts and encourages us to do our part. Some are burnt out, some are sick, and too many are dying. The least we can do is wear a mask - a mask ordinance is a recognition of that reality. City Hall's first priority is the health and safety of its citizens. It would be irresponsible to not call for masks.

Name: Sarah Brown

Address: 537 Ballista Blvd. Box Elder

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As a resident of Box Elder I frequent Rapid city for necessary items that my family needs. I strongly oppose this mandate and any suggested fine or jail time for non-compliance.

Name: Mallory McCauley

Address: 5784 Leroy St

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As a lifelong resident of Rapid City I speak for myself, my husband, and my children whom all have health conditions that are exasperated by mask wearing. We oppose any and all mask mandates and any fines associated with a mask mandate. Masks are not proven to be effective in preventing COVID-19, in fact masks carry risks of bacterial pneumonia lung infection and staph infection on the face along with an increase in touching of the face to adjust the masks which could cause more spreading of germs. As Gov. Noem has said it is up to the people to make decisions about our health. Mask mandates are a breach of our constitutional rights.

Name: Dede Farrar

Address: 23144 Edelweiss Mountain Rd

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Ordinance

Comment:

Say NO to mandatory mask ordinance. Allow people to continue to make their own decisions along with business owners. Do not panic. Do not bow down to the pressure. Mandatory ordinance is not necessary and just keeps playing into the hands of those in power seeking to force compliance for "the good of the public."

Name: Tracey House

Address: 8100 Long View Rd

Rapid City SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Mask mandates don't work. People wear them incorrectly and who knows how often then are washed or worn before being thrown away for a new one. Before you continue this madness look at California or New Jersey where they have had major restrictions that included mask a date for the past nine months. Cases are still rising and will continue regardless of whether you pass and try to enforce a mask mandate. Let's look at cases on the reservation. They had lockdowns/road blocks and their numbers are still rising.