

Name: WILLIAM EUGENE GOODGION

Address: 1122 Saint Cloud Street

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Ord. # 6453

Comment:

I think the city council would better serve the community through education instead of a mask mandate. The evidence that masking in public has not shown to significantly decrease the spread of the COVID-19 virus UNLESS additional safety measures are also taken, such as directional flow within buildings, frequent sanitization, 6' distancing, frequent replacing/washing of masks, and limited exposure time within close proximity individuals in enclosed environments. The ordinance does not adequately address these issues and is beyond the city's ability to monitor and enforce. I personally expect cases to rise simply because of the season and environment we are approaching, regardless of implementation of this ordinance or not. Education on when and where transmission of the virus occurs most will better suit the community for prevention.

Personal note: My heart goes out to the city council in making this decision. It is a no win scenario.

Name: Nicole Musfelt

Address: 4110 Troon Ct

Rapid city, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Mask requirement

Comment:

I am begging you to please pass the mask mandate. I wear a mask anywhere I go. I work in healthcare. I wear a mask at work 9 hours a day. Yet because of those that refuse to wear masks I have covid. And I passed it on to my children. I also am immunocompromised and am struggling with my lungs right now due to covid. With no leadership in this state you need to step up and do what is right for ALL. Protect the vulnerable please.

Name: Russell Widener

Address: 6117 Bendt Dr., Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

We recently left Kansas for Rapid City and were glad to leave because of the draconian regulations in Kansas. The REAL Science shows that 7 of 10 people who have had COVID were WEARING MASKS. The vast majority of people in Rapid City are already wearing masks. Even the signs above masks in stores warns, "These masks are not guaranteed to protect you from a virus!" The inventor of the test being used for COVID invented the test for another purpose and specifically said this test should NOT be used for any type virus. When walking into a restaurant with a mask, if you can smell the food, the mask is not working!

Name: Amy Wagner

Address: 13105TimberLane

Rapid City SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

<https://thefederalist.com/2020/10/12/cdc-study-finds-overwhelming-majority-of-people-getting-coronavirus-wore-masks/>

I am of the opinion that masks give a false sense of security. They do no good when messed with all the time. Seriously, watch people. Also you are breathing in all sorts of germs trapped in the mask. Hand washing is much more effective. And you can't make enough rules and signs for people to do that. Mandatory masks are a sign that you think you have that much authority over other people. Encouragement is one thing. Mandatory will get you into trouble with liberty and people will out and out rebel. Not a good choice. I don't live in town but I pay your tax every time I come in to shop. I can choose what town I shop in.

Name: Tim Trithart

Address: Community Health Center of the Black Hills

350 Pine Street

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type:

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

I'm the CEO for the Community Health Center of the Black Hills. Our staff has been on the front lines testing and dealing with this virus from the start. And we're tired. Tired of arguing the science behind masks, tired of having to convince folks who walk through our front doors to wear a mask to reduce our risks as health care workers, tired of seeing the strain on our health care system.

I'm also not a big fan of the government telling me what to do. I don't think any of us in this part of the country are. And I'll wear my mask in public regardless of what you decide tonight because it's the right thing to do. But I also recognize that during a public health crisis like this, it's up to our elected representatives to sometimes make that hard call to set a mandate - so that the community as a whole gets the importance of it. I'd urge you to follow the numbers and the science. It's time.

Name: Kristen Ellingson

Address: 6871 Greenfield Drive, Rapid City

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mandatory Masks

Comment:

Dear City Council, I am praying that you do not impose a mandatory mask mandate. I believe that South Dakotans are intelligent enough to make their own decisions and to use their discretion in their own businesses. I believe it takes away the owner's rights and is UN-American. I have been wearing masks when in the public and still contacted COVID, and now the NY Times reported yesterday that those who have had it, may be immune for 8 months to years! So if I'm not a carrier, why would I have to wear a mask if just for show? Please just keep the awareness campaigns going, but don't MANDATE what private businesses and folks are doing. Keep America Free!! Thank you!

Name: Katie Grant

Address: 4508 Jewel court rapid city sd 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask

Comment:

Please pass a mask mandate! It can only help and please make it clear that the nose and mouth both need to be covered! I know many may disagree with me, but it is time we swallow our pride and do what is best for others!

Name: Kyle Dean

Address: 5813 Pine Crest Ct.

Blackhawk, SD 57718

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Covid-19 Mandate(s)

Comment:

I am against the mask mandate or any other type of shutdowns in the Rapid City area. I know that specialists believe that mandating masks and having another lockdown will help flatten the curve. While this may be true, I don't think the whole community/economy should have to suffer to do so. I also believe that until there is a mass vaccine administered, this virus is not going anywhere. What has proven true is eventually you have to let people go back into society, and the virus explodes. I think you should look into solutions for the people that have a high likelihood of being hospitalized or worse. My personal thought is if we can help those people stay home and keep themselves safe we may have a chance at stopping this thing in it's tracks and keeping hospitals in a functional capacity.

Name: Gabrielle Schroder

Address: 3720 Ivy Ave

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please consider rejecting the mask mandate. Creating a mask mandate is going to cause a lot of turmoil in this wonderful, freedom-loving city. With the virus already in full swing, all across the county, there is little to no good in creating a mask mandate. The virus is here and no amount of masking will keep it from spreading. It is on surfaces, people's mail, groceries, etc. I would gladly support an infectious disease education class- this would include the etiology of how viruses are spread and would give the public the knowledge and tools to be able to fight the virus and ANY virus that may come our way. The masking is so controversial- why would we cause more unrest and anger in our community. Those that are for masks can very easily wear one without a mandate. This is a choice people need to make for themselves.

Name: Katherine Ginsbach MS, JD

Address: 2050 Wilson Ave.

Hot Spring, SD 57747

Rapid City serves as a regional hub for most small towns in the area, myself included. That's why I feel compelled to voice my position and support for a mask mandate

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I write to express my support of a mask mandate. The first case of COVID-19 was over a year ago. We have had notice of what is coming and now it's here. The community spread in South Dakota is concerning, masks are a proven public health tool in reducing the spread along with washing hands, physical distancing, testing and contact tracing. As the city that championed in banning smoking in indoor spaces out of the concerns of others, this should not be a difficult decision. A mask is not a form of oppression, it is a statement of consideration, that you respect the lives around you and don't want to restrict their freedom by chaining them to a debilitating virus and potentially a life sentence. There are many missteps that have happened in response to COVID-19 both at the federal and state level, please do not let this be another one. I appreciate your time and consideration on this and ask that you be a leader for the Black Hills.

Name: Lisa Fisher

Address: 621 Field View Dr

Rapid City, SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

As our Governor has stated, people can be trusted to make the best decisions for themselves and those around them. The science on masks is controversial. A new study from Denmark shows masks make no difference in preventing Covid. Many states and countries have had mask mandates for months and are seeing the same surge in cases that we are. Lock Downs and Mask Mandates have proven to make no significant difference in quelling the rise in cases, but have caused division and economic disaster. Tyrannical mandates, encouraging hostility toward people who exercise their right to choose, and forcing our LE officers and courts to spend valuable time enforcing this rule are not good for our community. Fining and jailing honest, hardworking citizens who simply disagree is un-American. Please stand for freedom. Please trust our citizens. Please vote NO on this mask mandate.

Name: Kathy Anderson

Address: 1115 Wild Life Rd

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: mask mandate

Comment:

The people of Rapid City do NOT need a mask mandate! The people who want to protect themselves in that way are already doing so. Please trust us to take care of ourselves. We don't need a nanny government to do it for us! Our governor has been very vocal about this, which is one reason I'm happy to live in this state - FREEDOM! Don't take it away!

Name: Breanna Funke

Address: 134 E New York St

APT 2

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I moved across the country to South Dakota for FREEDOM. Freedom for me, freedom for my children, freedom for our future. This mandate is so troubling for us. We gave up everything to move here, and now it seems like it's turning into another Kentucky. We don't need Big Brother to tell us what to do. Let people wear a mask if they want. Let people live their lives. Do not step on our rights and force us to wear masks, including FINING us for not following these rules. I cannot believe it has come to this. I am disgusted with this city council and this mayor.

Name: Connie Sue Jacobs

Address: 23657 Wilderness Canyon Road, RC, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I respectfully ask that a mandatory mask mandate not be implemented in Rapid City.

I realize we, as citizens, have a responsibility to be good neighbors to those in our community. I do believe that includes wearing a mask but I do not believe it is our government's job to require it.

Respectfully yours,

Connie Sue Jacobs

Name: Frank Pallatto

Address: 109 st francis street

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Absolute garbage to mandate mask for everyone! If you want to wear then wear one. But to mandate is wrong.

Name: Alix Grieve

Address: 5182 meadowlark dr.

Rapid City, S.D. 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

Please please it is time to enforce a mask mandate.

Name: George Theissen

Address: 211 ENCHANTMENT RD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

Someone recently said public officials are supposed to protect the public. I think, feel, believe there should be a mask mandate. Thanks.

Name: Thomas Diggins

Address: 1317 11th Street, Rapid City, 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Commandment

Comment:

As you know or should know the virus particles are smaller than the weave in all masks - if air can get thru the mask then the virus can too. Wearing a mask exponentially increases the amount of carbon monoxide in the breath and subsequently the blood, which is not healthy. The government should not be making my healthcare decisions. Blind obedience is not virtuous or an American value. Also, fear is detrimental to our immune systems.

Name: Jacqueline Schwartz

Address: 8538 Dunsmore Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

Please enact a mask mandate! I work in a school and we are struggling to keep kids in school. We know how important it is that kids have in-person class. We need to get this under control in our community! Furthermore, we have military men and women who are overseas and CAN'T COME HOME due to the pandemic! They are doing their jobs for our country and sacrificing for us yet we can't make any kind of sacrifice for them!

Name: Carol Panerio

Address: 935 City Springs Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: mask mandate

Comment:

Asking people to wear a mask is no more of an inconvenience than wearing seatbelts, which by now all people have accepted with a only bit of grumbling. Mask wearing by all will protect more than one individual. It will affect the safety of the entire community.

Name: Shari Rose

Address: 6105 covenant drive, rc sd 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: covid 19 mask mandate

Comment:

I support mandating wearing masks when social distancing is not possible. I dont want businesses to close. For example, prefer that restaurants stay open and offer curb service if social distancing is not possible inside. I have a bed and breakfast which is closed for the season and my rule was masks if social distancing was NOT possible - and it worked. High majority of people were okay with it, a few didnt like it but found me (and other guests) backing up from them until they put a mask on. Masks combined with surface & hand washing, etc., is a safety measure just like seatbelts, following the speed limit & staying on the right side of the road. I believe in small fines. I know several people, including family members, in town who have tested positive. Time to help out our medical heroes - we need them now more than ever.

Name: David Mikeska

Address: 19 Fairmont Blvd

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate covid issues

Comment:

I would like to suggest they inspect the tap water supplies for pathogens and bacteria. As I have detected it in several households and businesses tap water as well as streams and creeks.

Name: Heather Lensegrav

Address: 2833 Olive Grove Ct

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I strongly oppose all mask mandates and subsequent fines. Personal choice and freedom is a must. Spend time educating the public on hand washing and hygiene.

Name: Alicia Asbridge

Address: 3632 W Omaha St

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask

Comment:

I am a Rapid City citizen and am strongly suggesting you vote no on the mask mandate today. The media hype is causing a lot of fear and pressure to "mask up" but the evidence is strongly lacking that masks work... for example, at RCAS, kids have to wear masks all day, & guess what, it's still spreading, the best thing we can do is let the virus run its course in the healthy, and protect the weak, getting this virus is the best way to protect the weak... look at the numbers, other states with total lockdown & mask mandates have higher per capital deaths than we do, the media is just mad that we won't comply... look at Sweden & their stats... please think logically about this, not emotionally, many will rebel to a mask mandate & there will b more issues... let us be free to choose! Is it possible the masks are working as a Petri dish to incubate viruses in warm moist environment actually causing more spread??

Name: Karen Raben

Address: 64`198 Muirfield Dr

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting:

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I would hope the council will support mandatory masks!

Name: Nancy Reinart

Address: 950 Nicole Street

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I support a city wide mask mandate.

I think that any business that does not follow the rules or enforce them once customers come into their stores, should be fined.

Name: Martie Bohls

Address: 1123 Saint Charles St, Rapid City sd

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

I think we should have a mask mandate. As for enforcement, it is kind of like a stop sign on an empty intersection. Those with the knowledge have determined it's a safety issue that you stop at a particular intersection..A good citizen will stop even if there's no other traffic, even if there's no police cars there to enforce it. The same with the mask. It is to make your community safe so you do it whether you're being policed or not. A mandate we'll encourage law-abiding citizens that we are in Rapid City to follow the rules.

Name: Shannon White

Address: 1640 Skyline Ranch Road

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I am a medical provider in this community. I am in support of a mask mandate. It is apparent that letting individuals make responsible decisions is not working and we need to change the trajectory. The healthcare community has been requesting masks for sometime now. We are tired of seeing behaviors that clearly add fuel to the pandemic. The science is clear now that when masks are worn by all, the spread of this virus has been slowed. Our infection rate is appalling and shows substantial community spread as well as inadequate testing. At this point we are decreasing elective surgeries and transferring critical patients to other states. This could have been avoided had we instituted greater mitigation efforts sooner. We're behind now and we need to catch up. Please, please vote yes for the mask mandate. Healthcare providers and the hospital are the last defense for this virus, lets make room for those in need.

Please vote YES.

Name: Jeanette Alford

Address: 10105 Pioneer Ave

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please vote no on a mask mandate. Cases are rising everywhere, including cities and states that have had mandates for months. Mandates encourage bullying and discrimination against those with medical exemptions. I understand the desire to do something to help, everyone is scared by the rising number of cases. But masks simply do not work, and mandating them at this point makes no sense. We have months of available data showing that mask mandates have not helped to slow the spread.

Name: kim reed

Address: 7715 cinnamon ridge drive

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: covid

Comment:

mask mandate.

we live in difficult times, but i don't believe a mask mandate is the solution. this virus will run its course until therapeutic solutions or vaccine address the issue. As with the 1918 pandemic there will be multiple waves. A placebo of masks does not address the fear that seems to be prevailing. The science is inconclusive. Based on the size of the virus the masks being allowed will not stop the virus. The policy does not address the vulnerable and penalizes those under 60. A chance of death at .007% does not call for such draconian response. if enacted i guess that i will start hiding under my chair to be spared from an atomic bomb as i did in grade school.

Foolish ? yes, but no less foolish than a mask. 500 dollar fine? Seriously? I hope more sane minds prevail than is evident right now.

Name: Alexandria Potocki-Nichols

Address: 27585 SD-79, Hot Springs, SD 57747

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate in Rapid City

Comment:

I am a citizen of South Dakota and I get supplies from Rapid City. I urge you and to tell your fellow workers of the city to not have a mask mandate in Rapid City.

The people know what's best for themselves and their families and shouldn't be forced against their will and against their freedom to wear a mask. We have seen in other states it's not effective and many studies show it doesn't make a difference when it comes to prevention of any virus.

Another concern of mine is medically I cannot wear a mask or anything on my face. I suffer severe consequences if I do so not to mention I am pregnant and need to look out for my baby's health.

I get harassed constantly and people are very hostile towards me even after I tell them of a medical exemption. Please prevent this madness from getting worse. Times are already hard enough.

Please allow the people the Freedom to choose what is best for their families.

Sincerely,

Alexandria

Name: Dee Peters

Address: 5108 Chalkstone Dr., Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I strongly urge the council to pass a mask mandate. We can't completely halt the spread of COVID, but we can slow it down, and reduce the risk to individuals by using masks in public spaces. We must battle the virus, not one another. We are at war with CORONA, and war involves compromise and sacrifice for the greater good, because in the end that's how we look out for our own and each other.

Name: Zach Curtis

Address: 4526 Candlewood Place

#103

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I am the Artistic Director Black Hills Community Theatre - unlike all other businesses in this town, we have been completely shut down since March, due to the fact that our business model functions on the idea of large groups of people gathered indoors. Unlike a restaurant, we cannot cater to 2-4 people at a time. Unlike a sporting event, we cannot spread our audience out over 100 yards of bleachers. We are stuck. We are waiting for the numbers to go down to reasonable levels, something which is never going to happen until this city takes some responsibility to slow the spread. Please, we are imploring you, approve this mask mandate and get these numbers under control.

Name: Linda Fennell

Address: 247 N. 6th St., Custer, SD

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type:

Agenda Item: mask mandate

Comment:

We live in Custer but like to frequent Rapid City for dropping off recycling, shopping and taking in the many activities such as plays and hockey. As we are over 65 and I am immune-compromised, we have now had to limit our shopping to only the stores that require a mask. If you want to keep out of town business, please implement a mask mandate, so we can continue to spend our money in your community!

Name: Mary Wilson

Address: 23956 S Rockerville Rd

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: mask mandate

Comment:

Hello, my name is Mary Wilson, and I am 13 years old. My family and I just moved here a few months ago, and we love it here in SD. But we heard about the mask mandate; please don't vote for imposing the masks! We moved here to get away from all that. Keep the people, keep Rapid City, healthy and free! Masks won't make anything better. They stop bacteria, not viruses.

Again, please keep Rapid City free!!

Name: Rebecca Stucke

Address: 1716 Rushmore St

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

When you leave it up to individuals and business owners you are making business choose between safety and profit. Making a city wide mandate helps business so they aren't losing business to competitors because of mask policies.

Name: Dan O'Brien

Address: 1475 Valley Dr

Rapid City. SD 57703

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Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Covid regulations

Comment:

Dear City Council,

Because neither the State nor the Federal government will enact regulations that will protect the citizens and businesses of Rapid City, I implore you to act quickly and decisively to establish a mask wearing mandate and any other CDC recommended measures.

Dan O'Brien

Name: William May

Address: 6185 Magic Canyon Road

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please support a mask mandate - the Council's number one priority is to protect the health and welfare of its citizens and we certainly have a health crisis. Let science be your guide, masks aren't perfect but they are the best modality we have at this point. Without action more citizens will die and get sick and our health system will reach a breaking point!

Name: Jan Woodruff

Address: 6828 Prestwick Road

Rapid City SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

It is clear that Covid numbers are out of control and further measures must be put in place to ensure that our general public will follow the most simple, effective way to help slow the spread...EVERYONE must wear a mask in public. There should be no hesitation to move forward with the mask mandate. It's SIMPLE, PROVEN SCIENCE. As someone with family members in the medical field, I would truly appreciate if this mandate was passed immediately!

Name: Sean Delaney

Address: 13086 Pine Cliff Circle

Rapid city, South Dakota

57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

What do you think a mask mandate will really achieve? The states around us have them and their numbers are worse than ours, plus it seems that all you guys look at are the death rates.....the survival rate is WAY OVER 90%. You have an entire huge addition at the hospital just for covid-19. It was slow the spread 8 months ago, and it was supposed to be for 2 weeks. What happened to that? Plus the science DOES NOT support this mask lie, in fact it creates more problems like pneumonia. God did not design our body to rebreathe the hot moist air we breathe out. No one is telling you that you can't wear a mask if you want to, please extend the rest of us the same courtesy.

Name: Sandra Lea Grout

Address: 4724 Edgewood Drive

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mandate Masks

Comment:

A Pandemic requires great leadership.

Mandate masks for the sake of all of our lives.

Name: Marianne Janzen

Address: 13113 N. Creek View Rd.

Rapid City South Dakota

57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Wearing masks

Comment:

Please vote no for wearing masks. We hear over and over masks don't work. Let's teach people alternative ways of keeping from getting the virus, such as vitamins. Why are we focusing on wearing masks instead of helping people stay well?!!

Name: Chris Gurr

Address: 2062 Promise Rd

RC, SD, 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: mask mandate

Comment:

This virus that started in one location, has now traveled almost the entire planet minus 10 pacific island countries, and you think that we can some how avoid getting it by wearing a mask? There are other places that have had intense lockdowns and are still having outbreaks. The mayor said that there is no disagreements in the medical community about masks, which is false! There has been a plethora of scientists and doctors who have spoken out against the false science and immediately get crushed. That is not the scientific way! I worked at Monument Health for 25 years, my husband still works there. There are numerous local doctors who hold to their training and disagree with the status quo but know that speaking out will destroy their careers. Dr. Fauci himself said on 60 minutes that masks don't work before he flipped to say wear a mask. The science didn't change, he did.

Name: Robert Prann

Address: 910 Fairview Street

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

Please institute a mask mandate in ALL public spaces.

Name: Arlene Ainslie

Address: 3705 Parkridge Drive

Rapid City, SD

57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mandatory Masks

Comment:

Please vote no on mandatory mask wearing. Over and over we have heard that masks don't help. Why are we focusing on wearing masks when we should be focusing on alternative ways of healing!

Such as, vitamin D , C , zinc... etc. there are better options than wearing masks.

Name: Gary Wilkinson

Address: 3908 Matathon Ct Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Commnet

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

Please pass the mask mandate and be sure to have some form of fine to make it more than a suggestion.

Name: Chris Johnson

Address: 4040 Mt. Locke Lane

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I believe Rapid City should enforce a mask mandate for public buildings and places of business. The obvious fact that the fastest way to "freedom" and opening up is for everyone to wear a mask and do whatever else they can to lower the infection rate. Physician friends say the hospital is at the limit...the facility cannot accommodate increased virus cases and also treat patients with other illnesses and perform surgeries as well. It is not encouraging to see our state regularly on the news as the idiots of the nation.

Name: James Roseland Sr

Address: 27 Quincy St

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

I have a severe gag reflex. I cant wear a mask for more than a few mins without starting to gag. sometimes to the poing of dry heaving. I cant even wear regular colers on shirts. What about someone like me under this mandate. Will there be exceptions to the mandate? what about stigma and shaming from others who dont understand the medical conditions? How will all this be adressed? If I start gagging in a store and remove my mask, will i be fined? aressted? Please take these things into consideration, It's not always about Refusal to wear a mask due to political reasons or stubbornes.

Name: Barb Lemmon

Address: 10175 Pioneer Ave., Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: mandatory masks

Comment:

I would strongly suggest we do not mandate mandatory mask wearing, as it has been proven ineffective to either protect the person wearing the mask or those coming in contact with the person wearing the mask. It is actually detrimental to give people a false sense of security to wear a mask and is causing people to be socially isolated which is more detrimental, causing fear, anger, depression etc.

Thank you for upholding our Governor's wisdom in this situation.

Name: Dr. Sarah Keenan

Address: 7911 Okpealuk Street

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

Listen to the scientists. Listen to the doctors and nurses. Council should move to approve a mask mandate for Rapid City.

Name: Jennifer Carr

Address: 4640 Sturgis Rd Lot 12

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

City council, I am pleased to hear that you are finally looking at a mask mandate. We have been suffering too long without and true leadership on this matter.

Masks are a great start. When the mandate passes it will allow all stores to finally be able too enforce people into warring one. As a essential employee I beg you to pass this ordnance! I am tired of working with a public that has no regard for my heath and wellbeing during this time.

I beg you members of the council to please back this mask mandate. Stop worrying about getting reelected and focus on taking care of your people and your city.

This is no time for politics, it's long past time for action! We need action now!

Name: Becky Wilkening

Address: 2903 Maple ave

Rapid City, SD 57801

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask

Comment:

No Mask Mandate!

Name: Cierra VanderPol

Address: 7340 Castlewood Drive

Summerset SD 57718

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandates

Comment:

As a resident of Summerset, SD, my family opposes a mask mandate. Several studies have proven masks do not protect us from the virus and do more harm than good. I am happy to provide you with those studies. I know several children who have developed bacterial pneumonia due to being forced to wear a mask all day at school. This is not valuable to our health, please consider this when making your decision.

Name: Eileen Burkholder

Address: 24144 Pine Grove Road

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I STRONGLY OPPOSE the mask mandate. This is a free country and we are critical thinking people. Masks are not effective to stop the spread. If they were, we would not be in this situation. The only masks that filter the virus are the N95 masks that are properly fitted. While I am saddened by the deaths of Covid RELATED deaths, 99% of people who get the virus recover and have then developed antibodies which protects them and others. Let the natural process occur. If a person is compromised then they need to take necessary precautions. You should not restrict the freedoms of everyone to protect the few (who should be protecting themselves. If you carry out this restriction you will destroy this community.

Name: Julie Delaney

Address: 13086 Pine Cliff Circle

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

Please respect that everyone has their own very specific circumstances, and it is impossible for us to know them. Please DO NOT mandate masks! There are so many factors that play into this topic and a general mandate is not a good fit for our community. In addition, I believe a mask mandate will serve to further polarize our community and cause more hurt and division. PLEASE allow each individual to make their own health decisions based on their personal circumstances!

Name: Cory Ferguson

Address: 13963 Neck Yoke Rd.

Rapid City, SD 57702

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

We must have a mask mandate:

- 1.) People are not abiding by mere recommendations to wear a mask.
- 2.) Some people might never realize they have COVID-19, so everyone should wear a mask when in public.
- 3.) Our healthcare facilities are stressed to the max right now. We can't afford to delay measures any longer.
- 4.) Masks protect other people and the wearer as well.
- 5.) Masks may help the economy recover. The longer we draw this out, the harder it is going to be on the economy. Nobody wants to see us go into lockdown mode, so just wear the mask.
- 6.) Right now, there are few other alternatives.
- 7.) Most importantly, please do it for people like my Dad who has congestive heart failure and diabetes. I want to have him around for as long as possible and not lose him because people are too selfish to wear a simple mask.

Name: Catherine Maisonet

Address: 8280 North Star Rd

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I disagree with a mask mandate, much less fines for not wearing one. There is no proof that this has been effective or not effective. You can find studies to support both. I can decide whether I want/need to wear a mask. I can decide whether I want/need to stay home to protect myself. I think that those that are most vulnerable do that. If I'm walking by someone without a mask I am not going to get the virus. I don't think anyone will deny that. If a person that has the virus walks by me they can sneeze on me but probably I still won't get the virus. Common sense tells us that most effective protection is WASHING hands, not touching our eyes unless we've washed/sanitized our hands, sanitizing our home. Are we going to fine people for not sanitizing our homes, our hands? I vote no mask mandate. If a business wants me to wear a mask I will. Other than that I will decide when/where to wear a mask.

Name: Jennifer Hasvold

Address: 2404 Holiday Lane

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

As a local physician I implore the city Council to vote in favor of the mask mandate. I have cared for numerous patients hospitalized with severe coronavirus infection. I have spent more hours than I can count on the phone with tearful family members, Updating them on their loved ones' progress because they are not allowed to visit the hospital. This is a terrible illness that can impact virtually anybody. Please vote to save lives tonight.

Name: Anne Bransford

Address: 3020 O'brien St

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: COVID-19 Mask Mandate

Comment:

We are past "trusting individuals to do the right thing" - individuals are clearly NOT doing the right thing to protect themselves and others. I agree wholeheartedly with the Mayor's comments that I read in the Journal the other day: we have seatbelt laws, we have no texting and driving laws, and NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO ENDANGER OTHERS. There is simply no argument against that fact. Pass the mandate to show that the CITY is choosing to do the right thing. Fine people for not wearing masks and businesses for not requiring them; arrests are totally unnecessary. When civic leaders get together to communicate a strong message of public good, change can happen. Will everyone get on board? No. Will enough people get on board to improve circumstances? Quite possibly. Doing nothing is what's killing people.

Name: Carol King

Address: 129 Nebraska Street

Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item: Coronavirus

Comment:

Please pass the mask mandate, I realized masks don't observe your safety, but they can reduce it. I went into a beauty shop for trim, I was the only one wearing a mask. They announced to me that the "knew a nurse that worked for the state, and she said there's only 50 patients". At that time, SD was #1. I left.

Name: Patty Brown

Address: 3931 Wingate Ct, Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask Mandate

Comment:

I oppose this measure.

The COVID data and media scare tactics do not line up. Our thinking is being done for us by the perpetually sensationalized news.

Many States have had mandatory masking for months and yet continue to have a similar rise in COVID cases. Clearly mandatory masking is not the solution.

In our community I see 80-90% of people masked when appropriate. Rapid City is stepping up and are masking without a mandate.

The current rise in COVID cases has to do with the cold weather chasing people indoors, no different than our typical cold and flu season. POOR HAND WASHING HABBITs, congregating indoors and sick people not staying home is at the heart of the current spike.

Have we become a police state so easily?

Most spread is between Family, Friends and Co-workers where people touch the same door handles, keyboards, etc.

A mask mandate and fine are a gross overreach of local government.

Name: Sandra Kaitfors

Address: 1719 Sioux Ave

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Masks

Comment:

Masks definitely need to be mandated! The State also needs to do this. Lives continually are being taken from families. Follow the Science, save lives!

Name: Tara Darby

Address: 5650 E Hwy 44

Rapid City, SD 57703

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item

Agenda Item: Mask mandate

Comment:

I agree with implementing a mask mandate in Rapid City. Science has proven that if everyone wears a mask, we can significantly slow the spread of the Covid 19 virus. The council should also discuss what the repercussions and penalties would be if people go against the mask mandate if approved.

Name: Jeff Falin

Address: 124 Fairmont Blvd

Rapid City SD. 57701

Meeting: City Council

Comment Type: General Public Comment

Agenda Item:

Comment:

I think the people of Rapid City are doing a great job wearing masks and do not need the city government to tell us what to do. The school and the Hospital do not control our city.