

Carol DeSoto

From: applications@charlescountymd.gov on behalf of Charles County Government
<applications@charlescountymd.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:15 PM
To: Public Record
Subject: *NEW SUBMISSION* Required Face Coverings to Reduce the Spread of COVID-19

Required Face Coverings to Reduce the Spread of COVID-19

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Public Hearing Comment Form

Questions or More Information (301) 645-0555

Name

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Are you:

Against Topic

Comment

I oppose the mask mandate. I currently live in PG County, but my children attend a private school in Charles County and my husband works in Charles County and I do the vast majority of my shopping and leisure activities in Charles County; however, during the times of the mask mandates, my shopping and activity in Charles County decreased with an increased interest in online shopping and/or traveling to jurisdictions without a mask mandate. Attendance at activities such as seeing movies in movie theatres in Charles County decreased due to the mask mandate. My views on the mask mandate are largely based on research. I have a Master's of Public Health degree with a concentration in Epidemiology/Biostatistics. I understand that the research on the effectiveness of masking the general public is lacking, and I also understand that the research that exists on masking the general public is inconclusive at best. I also understand that Covid-19 is not going away, with or without a mask mandate, Covid-19 will become endemic in the population. Intrusive Covid-19 mandates have been going on for far too long now. We have been subjected to intrusive mandates for almost two years at this point and the social, economic, psychological and other costs of Covid-19 mandates are certainly not zero. For example, young children need to see faces to learn social cues and we should not hide public faces from

young children for years on end. During the brief times the mask mandate has been lifted, I've actually made it a point to smile at all babies and young children I come across in stores, just so these children can see and learn the facial expressions of people outside their immediate household. It is not normal or healthy to hide public faces from babies and toddlers for years on end. Two weeks of restrictions is now approaching two years. This is not working and it needs to end. Please do not reinstate the mask mandate.

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Thank you,
Charles County, MD

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