Carol DeSoto

From: applications@charlescountymd.gov on behalf of Charles County Government

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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) 645-0570

Name

Jon Kempson

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Are you:

Against Topic

Comment

I am very disheartened by the actions of our 5 Commissioners who have made major decisions without listening to all of their constituents. I know that there are many that wish to have a mask mandate in place and they are to be represented. But there are also many people who wish for the mandate to be permanently lifted and they do not seem to be represented at all. I find that troublesome. I cannot speak to or assume the heart of each commissioner, but this path is a very slippery slope and will be a very telling decision for how you will all be remembered. This will be your legacy, not green initiatives or redistricting. As much as you might not believe it, this mask mandate decision is who you will be as politicians. You can choose to be elected officials of ALL the people or so focused on solidifying power that the people become a nuisance in your path to whatever it is you are trying to do. I constantly hear/read you guys refer to this being about "science and not politics." If that were true, you would have a very different approach to this whole process. Science is not something that you can cherry-pick to achieve your desired outcome. It just isn't. Your handpicked doctors and pointed "questions" haven't furthered this discussion. You haven't questioned anything, just fooled us into thinking that you are "looking into alternatives." Finally, lifting the mandate will not end the masks. Many will still wear them, and that is great. But some will not, and that should be their right to choose. In the fall meeting when you all voted to extend the mandate for a second month, someone said, "I know this seems like we are taking freedoms away, but when it's just for 30 days it's not that big of a deal (sic)." We are now 4 months into those "not a big deal" 30 days. Please do the right thing. Treat us like the

intelligent human beings that we are and allow us to decide what is best for ourselves. Leave a legacy of hope and freedom. Thank you!

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Thank you,

Charles County, MD

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