From:

Aly Pernecky <

Sent:

Saturday, July 17, 2021 1:30 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Letter to oppose mask mandates

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To whom it may concern,

I strongly oppose any mask mandate in Pasadena. There is a reason that the state of California did not follow LA County and impose a mandate. There is NO scientific data to support this. I am not going to get Covid in Trader Joes with or without a mask unless someone literally sneezes in my face. And people in restaurants will still remove masks to eat and drink. Also, it is very hard for employees in small businesses to impose mask mandates. Confronting customers is uncomfortable at a minimum and often becomes confrontational, thus putting the employee at risk.

More importantly, it sends the wrong message to both the vaccinated and unvaccinated. If the goal is to get more people to take the vaccine, these mask mandates make the already hesitant less trustworthy in terms of necessity. Why did we all get vaccinated if we still have to behave like we are not? For those <u>not</u> vaccinated, they think why bother?

I get that there are local leaders that say, "we need to do something." This isn't it. Instead of more mandates, educate the community about the vaccine and healthy behaviors, including washing hands, living a healthy lifestyle etc. Remember, "cases" aren't going away even with the vaccine. We are going to have to get the right scientific message out to the community. We need to have honest conversations about how to stay safe. Mask mandates undermine this in every way.

Thank you,

Alyson Pernecky

Pasadena Resident, District 6

Subject:

FW: No masks

From: Brett Foy .

Sent: Saturday, July 17, 2021 12:24:14 PM

To: Jomsky, Mark < mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net >

Subject: No masks

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Mr Jomsky- I urge our council to reject this mask approach. Science tell us vaccines work. Requiring vaccinated people to wear masks gives the opposite impression. CDC says vaccinated people don't need masks. Pasadena should "follow the science"!

Brett M. Foy Co-President Zelman Development Co.

Anaheim, CA. 92806

# From the Desk of MARY FORREST

RECEIVED

2021 JUL 19 AM 9: 58

July 18, 2021

Mayor Gordo, City Council, Pasadena Health Department c/o
City Clerk
100 North Garfield Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91101

CITY CLERK

Re: Reinstating the Mask Mandate in Pasadena

Dear Mayor, City Council, and Dr. Goh

I am writing to you to urge you to not follow LA county and to not reinstate a mask mandate for vaccinated individuals. At this point in time, even with the presence of the delta variant, hospitals are not overwhelmed, death rates are low, and the "spike" in COVID-19 cases remains lower than any spike we have had during this pandemic. If the vaccine is as reliable as scientists are saying, there should be no need for an indoor mask mandate for the vaccinated.

The people of Pasadena in particular have worked hard to get vaccinated. As you know, as of July 13, 2021, 79.5% of Pasadena residents 12 and older are fully vaccinated. Vaccines have been proven to prevent hospitalizations against the delta variant.

At what point will personal health decisions be left up to the individual? Vaccines are readily available, the vaccine rates among Pasadena residents are high, if I feel unsafe, it should be MY decision to wear a mask or not.

Leave the decision to mask up to the business or individual. Pasadena shouldn't be taking steps backwards because other parts of LA have not been vaccinated. Let the people make their own decisions regarding their personal health. Enough is enough.

Regards,

**Mary Forrest** 

Subject:

FW: masking

From: Anamaria Young

1>

Sent: Sunday, July 18, 2021 9:10:16 PM

To: Jomsky, Mark <mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: masking

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Dear Mr. Jomsky...I have been a resident of Pasadena for over 3 decades and I have never felt prouder of my city than now, as we demonstrate our independence from the rest of LA County under such dire and difficult circumstances. Unlike LA, our city is 80% fully vaccinated, and with 80+ with one vaccine. Our city should be proud of our citizens and I am proud that our city has not sucumbed to the governor's mandates. I hope you can continue to proudly represent our citizens and the level of responsibilities we have taken and keep our city as an example with masks being optional since we have all taken the precautionary measures asked.

Stand tall, proud and firm.

God bless~

Anamaria Young

RECEIVED

To: The Pasadena City Counsel

2021 JUL 19 AM 9: 59

From Val Sklar Robinson, owner of Hot Yoga Pasadena and a 20+ Year Pasadena resident

OTY OLERIC

OTTY OLERIC

To Mayor Gordo and the Pasadena City Council,

I am writing to ask the Pasadena city Council to not follow the County to mandate masks in indoor spaces. It is not right to continue to burden businesses and go against CDC guidance when anyone 12 and older who wants a vaccine can get a vaccine. President Biden said the other day, "This has become a pandemic of the unvaccinated."

- 1. This mask mandate goes AGAINST CDC guidelines
- 2. The test positivity rate is around 3%
- 3. Hospital rates are low
- 4. At least 60% of LA County has had at least 1 shot. (Almost 80% of Pasadena is fully vaccinated)

Please do not make the same mask mandate. The LA County order says, "Due to increased transmission from the Delta variant and the intermingling of unmasked individuals where vaccination status is unknown..." In my studio, I know the status of every single client, and those who don't' want to show their status, they wear a mask.

As a small business that was forced to make GREAT sacrifices and shut DOWN FOR 11 MONTHS, and someone who wants to follow all the rules, this is not right and does not follow science! You must realize this step also undermines confidence in our government. Pasadena can make their own rules.

Public trust is important and there is no reason to enforce indoor masks when most of us have gotten vaccination to avoid serious illness and death. And certainly, if you are a business willing to do the hard work of making folks SHOW proof of vaccine status, this mandate should not apply. You should not continue putting the entire burden on those of us following the rules. Folks can get vaccinated or mask up.

Val Sklar Robinson

Owner, Hot Yoga Pasadena and a Pasadena resident

Subject:

FW: No Mask Mandate

From: Ryan Panzarello <

Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 9:19 AM

To: Jomsky, Mark < mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net >

**Subject:** No Mask Mandate

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Hello Mr. Jomsky,

I'd like to express my concern and frankly, outrage over the resurrected mask mandate that LA County has initiated on Saturday. We The People are sick and tired of this government overreach!! Pasadena is 80% vaccinated and if you count first doses, we're at approximately 88%! We can learn from other states that have no mask mandates and continue to understand this virus and the variants but in our case, mask mandates DO NOT need a comeback! We have to move on from this, especially for the younger generation that may never recover from the mental setbacks of masks that they hate so much. Thank you.

RYAN S. PANZARELLO

Pasadena 91107



Pasadena City Council 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Room S228 Pasadena, CA 91109-7215

July 19, 2021

Pasadena City Council,

The Pasadena Center Operating Company supports any decision made by the Pasadena City Council, in consultation with the Pasadena Health Department, to safeguard our community. We applaud the efforts made by our residents in achieving the level of 80% fully vaccinated.

In the event that an indoor citywide mask mandate is required, we would like to offer an alternative regarding private events in the city. To continue the momentum for the hospitality industry, we respectfully request that private events have the option to waive masks indoors if verified proof of vaccination can be provided.

In requiring proof of vaccination at private events we are confident that conditions can be controlled in an indoor space and would allow our local hospitality partners to continue to operate safely.

Thank you,

Michael Ross

CEO

Pasadena Center Operating Company

michael Rese

Subject:

FW: Not more mask mandates!

From: Jamie Dabao <

Sent: Monday, July 19, 2021 12:36 PM

To: Jomsky, Mark < mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net>

Subject: Not more mask mandates!

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#### Dear Mark,

Please share with Dr. Ying-Ying Goh. As a longtime resident of Pasadena, I'm writing to let you know many of my neighbors and I DO NOT want in-door mask mandates reinstated. It is my understanding that over 80% of Pasadena residents are fully vaccinated. We are NOT at risk for spreading our contracting COVID-19. Please make decisions based on the science and not by the optics. We all need to move forward from the economic and emotional devastation of the pandemic. Our young people have especially been impacted...let them go back to school maskless. It's is abusive to make us where masks for NO reason. It does not make sense. Please help us heal.

Please feel to share my opinion at the City Council Meeting this evening.

With gratitude,

Jamie Dabao

Jamie Dabao

Pasadena, CA 911บ๖

From:

lucky lebron «

Sent: To: Monday, July 19, 2021 1:04 PM PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Concerned citizen regarding not following La county mask mandate

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I just read some of the correspondence regarding not adding the mask mandate to go against what the Los Angeles County did. Some of my privileged Pasadena neighbors are throwing out the stats of the percentage of the people who are vaccinated in the City, however this is flawed. First of all, that percentage doesn't include the number of children who are unable to be vaccinated. It also doesn't take into account the number of visitors who visit the City which we don't have a clue of their vaccinated status. Wearing a mask won't kill anyone, however not wearing a mask possibly could. Please do the right thing an mandate the mask policy.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

From: Harper Burge

**Sent:** Monday, July 19, 2021 1:13 PM **To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject: Mask mandates

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Please do NOT reinforce mask mandates. We do NOT want these decisions continually forced on us. We are citizens not subjects, do not continually subject us, give us back our personal freedom of choice. This is an unhealthy precedent. Will masks continually be forced and taken away at the whims of the government? Mask should be a personal choice not forced. Do NOT do this.

Harper Burge, concerned resident

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Matthew Forgatch <

Sent: To: Monday, July 19, 2021 1:18 PM PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

No More Masks

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Dear City Council,

Please leave the decision of wearing masks up to the individual. At this time, anyone who wants to get vaccinated is able to do so. City and state governments have done enough by giving individuals every opportunity to get vaccinated for no cost out of pocket. If the vaccines work, it is up to the individual to make the choice of how they want to protect themselves. There is no need for the city to compel anyone to wear a mask. We were forced to wear masks for over a year, and it did nothing to slow down the virus. Please make the sensible, American choice and let the individuals decide for themselves.

Thank you very much,

Matt Forgatch

July 19, 2021

2021 JUL 19 PM 2: 06

Mayor Gordo, City Council, Pasadena Health Department c/o
City Clerk
100 North Garfield Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91101

CITY CLERK

Re: Reinstating the Mask Mandate in Pasadena

Dear Mayor, City Council, and Dr. Goh,

I am writing to plead with you not to follow LA county and to not reinstate a mask mandate for vaccinated individuals. There is no science to back this decision, as hospitals are not overflowing, vaccination rates in Pasadena are high, death rates have been low, and the spike we are currently facing is very low compared to what have seen since the beginning of this pandemic. While the Delta variant has been contagious, it has not lead to an increase in deaths or hospitalizations. With this mandate you are only causing those who are not vaccinated less motivated to get vaccinated. Not wearing a mask was a huge incentive for many people I know to receive their vaccination.

As mentioned before, Pasadena has high vaccination rates, to be specific as of July 13, 2021, 79.5% of Pasadena residents 12 and older are fully vaccinated.

LA County so far is the only county in LA to reinstate this mask mandate in California, while many states have let go of the mask mandate months ago and have seen no negative impact from doing so. This decision seems to be completely about control and not science based, like many decisions and mandates have been. It is time to let individuals make decisions for themselves regarding mask wearing.

Please let Pasadena continue to let vaccinated individuals make a personal decision about wearing a mask.

Best,

Celene Lyddon

July 19, 2021

2021 JUL 19 PM 2: 05

# Mayor Gordo, City Council, Pasadena Health Department

CITY CLERK CITY OF PASSING IN

c/o City Clerk 100 North Garfield Ave. Pasadena, CA 91101

Re: Reinstating the Mask Mandate in Pasadena

Dear Mayor, City Council, and Dr. Goh,

I am writing you today to strongly urge you to not follow LA County's new mask mandate. As you know, Pasadena's vaccination rate is extremely impressive hovering around 80% and hospitalizations and deaths are nearly non-existent. It is time to take the masks off. Even if people are not vaccinated, at some point that is their choice and their risk.

By Pasadena allowing to take off our masks and move forward, wouldn't that be an amazing incentive for non-vaccinated individuals in other counties to reconsider their choice?

It is time to stop living in fear. It's time to start moving in the right direction. Dr. Goh has claimed to be, "listening to the science." I am sure she is well aware that CDC has stated that fully vaccinated people can resume normal life. With 79.5% of residents being vaccinated, please allow individuals and businesses to make their own, human choice.

Thank you for your service.

Best,

Hayley Boaz

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Diana Sala

Sent:

Monday, July 19, 2021 1:43 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Mask mandate

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 $more... < https://mydoit.cityofpasadena.net/sp?id=kb\_article\_view \& sysparm\_article=KB0010263>.$ 

To whom this may concern,

Please do not reinstate the mask mandate but rather leave it up to the individual to make their own personal choice whether or not to wear a mask.

We are the home of the free because of the brave and by forcing mask wearing you would be taking away that very freedom. We the people should be able to make our own choice. Thank you for your time.

Best,

Diana Sala

From:

Ryan Forrest <.

Sent: To: Monday, July 19, 2021 1:47 PM PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

City Council Meeting Letter: Mask Mandate

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Please see my comments below:

Dear Mayor Gordo and City Council,

I am asking for our City to be a leader as it relates to our own health department and the recent County announcement about a mask mandate indoors. It has been just over one month of what most people will define as "freedom." That freedom is not having to wear a mask if you are fully vaccinated, and comfortable not wearing a mask. Throughout these challenging times, there have been various milestones that we have had to achieve. The media and everyone around us kept saying "Just get to June 15th, then we can start getting back to normal." Now, with the recent announcement by the County requiring masks for all people, vaccinated or not, indoors brings additional mental health issues and once again, another setback. When are we going to be a leader in the County and go against what the County guidelines have provided to challenge the "norm"? I along with plenty of others have written letters that you have read today plead with our City leadership to NOT reinstate the mask mandate indoors. Lets stand up and say that we are going to do what is best for our City, rather than going with the norm.

Thank you,

-Ryan Forrest

From:

Karla Berglund Hughes

Sent: To: Monday, July 19, 2021 2:00 PM PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Arroyo

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To the Pasadena City Council,

I am strongly opposed to the Arroyo Project that will drain our precious ground water and decimate the fish. Spreading ponds just make the situation worse.

Responsible water planning protects our children and future. Using a plan from 1955 is totally unacceptable.

Karla Berglund Hughes

From:

Sent:

Thank you,

Sam Morrissey

91105

Same

Sam Morrissey, Chair

Transportation Advisory Commission

To: Subject:

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Dear members of the City Council,
My family and I love living in Pasadena, and we have been proud of the way the City has responded to the COVID-19 pandemic. From the rapid response in assisting our local businesses with outdoor dining options to the active distribution of vaccines to Pasadena residents, every step of the way the City has shown itself to be a leader in California and a truly great city to call home.
With the recent uptick in COVID-19 infections across LA County, we can understand the concerns and questions the City Council must consider. Given that the current rates of infection are most predominantly limited to those who do not choose to get the vaccine, this is not the time to punish those of us who chose to get the vaccine as soon as we could. While our children are both under the minimum age for vaccinations, the rate of infection is minimal for children and we feel the benefit of allowing them to not wear masks far outweighs the potential threat of COVID-19 infections for them.
Therefore, I am writing today on behalf of my family to request that the City Council strongly resist the urge to reimpose an indoor mask mandate within the City limits. While I am comfortable carrying a mask and wearing it when a private establishment or social norms of common decency and respect dictate it, I've very much enjoyed the sense of "returning to normal" that has been growing since Spring. Let's not go back to the dark

days of this past Winter; let's keep the momentum going and help get Pasadena back to normal.

City Council Meeting July 19, 2021 - Special Item A Comment

n>

Sam Morrissey

Monday, July 19, 2021 2:02 PM

PublicComment-AutoResponse

#### Jomsky, Mark

Subject:

FW: Erika Foy Public Comment -Possibility of Indoor Mask Mandates

From: Erika Foy

Subject: Erika Foy Public Comment -Possibility of Indoor Mask Mandates

Date: July 18, 2021 at 2:06:14 PM PDT

To: "Jomsky, Mark" <mjomsky@cityofpasadena.net>, Andy Wilson <awilson@cityofpasadena.net>,

"Gordo, Victor" <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net> Cc: "Goh, Ying-Ying" < ygoh@cityofpasadena.net>

Dear Dr. Goh, City Council and Honorable Mayor Gordo,

There is a fundamental problem with the idea of re-masking the public because it assumes that the majority of spread is happening in grocery stores, coffee shops, malls, restaurants, and bars. I am fairly certain we all now understand the spread is happening among the unvaxxed in homes and at intimate gatherings where no one is wearing masks. If this really is the case, this government indoor mask mandate under consideration will not have any real impact in controlling a respiratory virus. We should be focusing on vaccinations, treatments, and protecting medically fragile people rather than mandating the masks indoors again which would threaten businesses, damage children's development, and undoubtedly spread fear.

The most important measure our city can take, and which it has been really successful, is getting people vaccinated. I question if masking again would encourage the promotion of the vaccine for the rest of the public who has not yet received it. I believe if you do decide to reinstate the indoor mask mandate to follow LA County, you will only create confusion and public distrust. I hope you decide to continue only to "recommend" the use of the mask indoors rather than mandating it once again. It is being reported that 97% of new cases are among the unvaccinated people so the answer should be to promote further vaccination and not return to masking. The ideal goal here is to get back to the normal we all once knew and the only way there is with further vaccinating our community as needed and necessary. This consideration of masking again is just a step in the wrong direction.

Thank you for your time and efforts on this matter and I look forward to the day residents can once again appear in council chambers, unmasked.

Erika Foy

From: Alyssa Bicos ·

**Sent:** Monday, July 19, 2021 2:06 PM **To:** PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject: Unmask our children

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#### To the Pasadena City Council,

My family and I strongly and firmly believe that it should be up to the individual whether or not they want to continue wearing a mask. We and our children have seen and dealt with the negative effects of masks for far too long, and now that the vaccine is readily available to anyone who wants it we really should not be forced to wear masks and keep our children masked! Please take into consideration the effect it will have on our children to be masked for the duration of an entire school day five days a week. It is detrimental to their health and should be each individuals choice.

Best, Alyssa Burge

From:

Noelle Aloe <

Sent:

Monday, July 19, 2021 2:06 PM

To: Subject: PublicComment-AutoResponse Mask mandates - objection

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Dear City Council members,

I would like to voice my opposition to any further mask mandates for the following reasons:

- 1) Our public health officers are not elected officials and should not have power to enforce rules that infringe on our freedom and are not justified or backed by science.
- 2) There are many studies out there that support lifting mask mandates but one I will focus on is the recent study by JAMA which was a randomized clinical trial with experimental assessment of carbon dioxide content in inhaled air with or without face masks in healthy children. The review concluded that there was ample evidence for adverse effects of wearing such masks. It is an absolute shame that the AAP came out today recommending masks for children and ignoring the science that masks are harmful to children and furthers people's loss of confidence in our institutions.

I realize this is not about masks in schools today, but this is further proof that masks are not healthy.

3) By mandating masks when we have this vaccine, it gives a message that these vaccines are not effective. Those who choose to receive the vaccine are protected against more severe symptoms, hospitalizations and death and those who do not choose to receive it are not protected, according to the studies. If the reasoning to enforce mask mandates is to stop unvaccinated people from spreading the virus, you have the burden of proof to show that the vaccines stop the spread. There is not one study proving this and to say "we think it stops the spread" is simply not following the science, as there is not data available currently to show vaccines stop the spread. Wearing masks should be a personal choice. Those that are vaccinated are protected from more severe symptoms, hospitalizations and death.

The CDC has said that people who are fully vaccinated can safely forgo masks in public settings. Why would Pasadena not follow the CDC guidelines? By not doing so you erode faith in vaccines.

4) LA County and Hawaii are now the only places in the country that have mask mandates for vaccinated people. This is not the norm in the rest of the country. Also keep in mind the high vaccination rates in Pasadena.

https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/us/states-reopen-map-coronavirus.html

5) Let's keep in mind the case fatality rates according to the CDC. This that are more vulnerable may by all means choose to wear masks, but this should not be imposed on the rest of those that are vaccinated with such high survival rates.

0-17 years old 99.998% survival rate 18-49 years old 99.95% survival rate 50-64 years old 99.4% survival rate 65 plus years old 91% survival rate

Let's remember that the justification of these emergency orders where to not overwhelm the hospitals. Hospitals are not overwhelmed and vaccines are available, it is time to move on from these mandates.

Thank you, Noelle Aloe

From:

Sylvia Plummer ·

Sent:

Monday, July 19, 2021 2:16 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse; Madison, Steve; Suzuki, Takako

Subject:

Against Mask Mandate for Indoors in Pasadena

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A mask mandate won't help the county's efforts "to stress the efficacy of the vaccines and compel unvaccinated residents to get vaccinated."

It also does not follow the CDC, Federal and State rules on masking. Requirement for **vaccinated** people to wear masks "is **not** backed by science and contradicts the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines."

Pasadena has one of the highest vaccination rates in California:

Percent Pasadenans Fully Vaccinated: 79.5%

One dose of vaccine for 12 and over: 88%

Break down:

Age 12-17. 82% Age 18-44. 78.1% Age. 45-64. 93.7%

Age 65 and over 99.9%

Vaccinated people should get to choose whether or not they wear a mask. We are against a Mask Mandate for Indoors in the City of Pasadena.

Sylvia and John Plummer

From:

Kyle Rosenberg <

Sent:

Monday, July 19, 2021 3:12 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Mask Mandate

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I understand via Next-door you will be discussing whether or not to join the county's mask mandate order within the city of Pasadena. Please be consistent with the county. It is just too difficult with all of our cross town travel to have different rules in different places and our numbers are up. It is not too much to ask for people to do their part and mask up when inside except when eating. Help protect our kids and vulnerable elderly.

Sincerely, Kyle Rosenberg

From:

Monica Mitrani <

Sent:

Monday, July 19, 2021 6:23 PM

To:

PublicComment-AutoResponse

Subject:

Mask mandate in Pasadena

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•••••

To whom it may concern,

I support the universal mask mandate for all in Pasadena while indoors. I believe this is a community issue and it will help us curb the potential spread of the Delta variant in our community.

Thank you for your attention.

Monica Mitrani 91105

Sent from my iPhone