

BOCC MEETING PUBLIC COMMENTS

7/8/20

These are questions and comments received through the County website and through the Strategic Communications email.

Name:

Shelia Hardman

Contact Information:

reprobate511@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Mask-wearing in public

Comment:

“Not wearing masks today will be the pre-cursor for a shutdown tomorrow. Bad move.”

Name:

Teresa Chaney

Contact Information:

Chaneybunch@sbcglobal.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

mandatory masks

Comment:

“Although I question the effectiveness of masks in general in relation to the current viral trends, I want to encourage you as our elected leaders to always adhere first to our Constitution. People contract disease, many times fatally, but living in a free society is a guarantee that transcends a generation. As I get older, I'm more concerned with my children and grandchildren and what kind of world they will be living in. They are developing immunities to Corona in their youth. Diseases will come and go, but I'd rather risk the illness now than set a new precedent which erodes our country's freedoms for generations to come. Please leave "wearing a mask", opening businesses, gatherings... a choice left to the individual citizenry.”

Name:

Emily Thomson

Contact Information:

Ethom123@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Mask Mandate

Comment:

“Do people with Autism and asthma have to wear the mask and follow the order. It's even harder for people who have autism. I do not think that mask should be made mandatory”

Name:

Ramona McAdam

Contact Information:

rayemcadam@sbcglobal.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Mask

Comment:

“Fewer and fewer people have been wearing masks in public spaces unless required by the establishment. I find it reckless on the part of Sedgwick Co. to not support our governor. The longer people don't comply, the longer it will take to get back to "normal," and the longer our economy will suffer. You need to get some backbone, show some leadership, and make it a mandate in Sedgwick Co.”

Name:

Audrey Koehler

Contact Information:

Audreydkoehler@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Requested Change to County Policy Regarding Vehicle Registration

Comment:

“Hello, I am a District 1 resident and recently learned that persons who move to Sedgwick County from another Kansas county must visit the tag office in person to update their address, even though all other major changes can be made online (DMV address update, voter address change, etc.). It is my understanding that this policy is not required by law and I don't understand why this is required in Sedgwick County. Especially in light of Covid, this does not seem to be a particularly efficient or necessary policy. What is the reason for this policy, and could it be altered during this pandemic, or permanently? I emailed the tag office asking for reasoning behind the policy and didn't receive a response. Thank you.”

Name:

Rachel Weber

Contact Information:

wichitapma@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Let people choose

Comment:

“I run a business in wichita and do not want a shutdown I want the American people to get to choose. If people are afraid to get the virus stay home. We literally live in a society that everything can be delivered to our door step. If you want to wear a mask then wear one. If you don't then don't wear one. I think you guys should just recommend and let the people do what the hell they want. As far as businesses keep us open and let the owners decide that is best do their business. I do not think anyone should get to tell the American people to wear a mask everyone should know what is going on and should be able to make decisions. Yes stupidity is always going to be around but the government can't fix that. Let us choose!!!”

Name:

Sherrill Bailey

Contact Information:

sherrill314@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Mask mandate

Comment:

“Please follow Gov Kelley's order to wear masks in public! Kansas covid numbers are going up and we need leadership that actually cares about our health and safety. We have been doing our part to flatten the curve and curb the covid numbers. You need to do your part to lead Sedgwick County to safety. Masks do help! They do prevent transmission! You were elected to take care of your citizens. Do your jobs and protect and serve Sedgwick County!!! Gov Kelley is doing her job. I'm disappointed that you think overturning the mask mandate is best for Kansas!! Shame on you”

Name:

Jon Shain

Contact Information:

bigredshain@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Mandatory masks

Comment:

“Why is it important for us to wear a mask? The only reason there is a spike in positive tests is there is more people being tested.”

Name:

Vincent Garcia

Contact Information:

garcia.vince@juno.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Mask wearing

Comment:

“It's time for commissioners to help control the outbreak of the virus by requiring people to wear masks. It's ignorant to make this a political issue and we need officials to have some backbone and make mask wearing enforceable while people are out in public.”

Name:

Windy Fry

Contact Information:

wfry@usd264.org

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Mandatory masks

Comment:

“Thank you for recommending masks and not making them mandatory. You made the right decision. I appreciate you standing up for our constitutional rights.”

Name:

Windy Fry

Contact Information:

wfry@usd264.org

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Mandatory masks

Comment:

“Thank you for recommending masks and not making them mandatory. You made the right decision. I appreciate you standing up for our constitutional rights.”

Name:

Mary Drouin

Contact Information:

Mkdrouin@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Mask Ordinance

Comment:

“Please support the Governor’s mask ordinance so that we can begin bringing the number of cases down.”

Name:

Ashra Tabtab

Contact Information:

Ash.tabtab@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Covid19

Comment:

“I am in support of the order Governor Laura Kelly put into place, and the recommendations made by Dr. Minns (to limit businesses to 50% capacity, support masks, and stop multi state sports tournaments namely with states that are current or projected hot spots). We need this before we end up like Houston or Austin. Prevention! Don't wait until it's too late!”

Name:

Sylvia Steinshouer

Contact Information:

Sylvia@steinshouer.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

COVID meeting

Comment:

“Please mandate masks.”

Name:

Karma Denn

Contact Information:

karmamichele@outlook.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

masks

Comment:

“I believe Law suits are coming against politicians and companies that make there employees wear a mask all day, where it's not required. When they come down with fungus type lung diseases from wearing those same masks. CEO's and politicians might want to lawyer up.”

Name:

Craig Senn

Contact Information:

csenn@cox.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

COVID-19

Comment:

“I strongly believe we should be the safety guidelines set out by our governor requiring citizens wear masks when in public. Let’s play it safe, not stupid.”

Name:

Lynnett Wright

Contact Information:

Lynnett723@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

COVID-19

Comment:

“I am extremely disappointed that the majority of the County Commission failed to act in the best interest of public health. Please rethink your decision and require masks.”

Name:

Thao Chau-Nguyen

Contact Information:

mary_chau2005@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Face masks

Comment:

“I am a nurse. If you are going to not mandate facemasks to help get this pandemic under control then the health care workers and providers should have a choice on whether we will care and provide services to those who don't”

Name:

Sherry Grady

Contact Information:

gradysherry@icloud.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Absence of leadership and governance

Comment:

“Your vote yesterday to ignore the Governor's mandate for wearing facemasks is abdicating your role of governance and ensuring the safety of the public. By ignoring the FACT that the spread of COVID 19 is rapidly accelerating in this area, you have shown a total lack of leadership and concern for the health and safety of your constituency. I will personally work to see that Meitzner, O'Donnell (especially O'Donnell) and Dennis are removed from office. You have shown your true colors and they are coward yellow.”

Name:

Kimberly Rieck

Contact Information:

riduvessa@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Masks in public and county response to COVID

Comment:

“Cowards! Cowards! Cowards! You are a group of individuals more worried about your reelection chances than the safety and health of the county. Scientific studies and and health officials, even your own health officials, have stated that masks help reduce transmission. You have turned this into a political issue rather than a public health issue and people are going to die because of this. Sleep well commissioner a. I on the other hand, and going to go out and do my best to ensure you don’t get re-elected.”

Name:

Kendra Renfro

Contact Information:

weekendra@hotmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Support mask ordinance

Comment:

“We make wearing seatbelts a law knowing full well some people will choose not to and may not (and most likely will not) be pulled over and fined for lack of adherence. But, we make it a law nonetheless because we know people will be safer because of doing it. Masks are no different. I support the mask ordinance, and I urge more on the commission to do the same.”

Name:

Shannon Wolfe

Contact Information:

Shannon.graphics@outlook.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

Mandatory mask wearing

Comment:

“I do not support this issue as it violates our rights as a human being as well as it IS medically proven not in our best interest. People in powerful positions do not have any medical training to make this decision and should be listening to the doctors who do.”

Name:

Jenista Johnson

Contact Information:

Jenista.Johnson@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the online form on the County website.

Subject:

We must wear masks!

Comment:

“I’ve done everything I can to be safe. I have been avoiding contact with my family whom I dearly love because I’m an essential worker and we’ve had positive Covid cases at a couple of our locations. Everywhere I go, I wear a mask, since this thing started. I carry sanitizer in my car, a bottle in my purse, and have supplied it at my job and to family. So many people just don’t think it’s that serious. Please make masks mandatory when in public. My mom, dad, and grandparents life depends on it. Please please do everything to help help keep people healthy. I’m doing my part. Do yours to make those that don’t care protect others.”

Name:

Debby Potter

Contact Information:

debby.wpmg@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

COVID question for Commission Meeting

Comment:

“Commissioner,

My question. Can the commission define the threshold for being in an epidemic? And has the commission verified that Sedgwick County and/or Kansas even qualifies as being in an epidemic?

I was doing some of my own research the other day, and I came across information I had never seen or heard before. Lacey Cruse asked a question that, although she did so with a different outlook, was a very good one.

What is the threshold (in her words, how many deaths) before we require masks?

So, I researched this.

Of course, anyone who isn't making "cases" equivalent to deaths, knows that deaths have been declining since April, even though we opened up.

However, just to stick with the facts:

The CDC standard for defining an epidemic for both pneumonia and influenza appears to be when 5.9% of deaths are caused by either illness.

The death rate in Kansas in 2018 (I'm sure there's more recent, but it was pretty much the same as previous years and is likely a good average) was 27,213.

If you divide this by 365, you get 75 averagee deaths per day in Kansas.

If you take this number multiplied by 5.9%, you get the CDC pneumonia and influenza threshold for defining an epidemic.

This number is 4.4

So Kansas would have to have more than 4 deaths in average per day to even define us as being in an epidemic (the CDC measures averages over the course of the week, because our pneumonia/influenza numbers just skyrocketed--likely because of the shutdown, and they wanted to be clear that we are not in another epidemic).

On May 11, Kansas had 6 deaths. Since then, only twice have we barely exceeded 4.

Somebody else can add up each day's count and divide it out to find the exact average, but it appears the average number of daily

deaths in Kansas since May 11th is 2. We could double the average number of deaths and still not be "epidemic."

Of course, we don't want to double our numbers, but we've been open a month and numbers are staying low.

This hysteria is political, not science.

Please share this.

Debby Potter

Garden Plain, KS"

Name:

Kenneth Sublett

Contact Information:

kennethmsublett@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

No longer an epidemic

Comment:

“<https://bit.ly/2ZbAUEp>

Look at the data. Not the emotions....

Stol with the panic porn.”

Name:

Thomas Allen

Contact Information:

isufatdaddy@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks

Comment:

“Sedgwick County Commissioner’s need to re-evaluate their decision of not supporting Governor Kelly’s Mask Mandate. They need to institute a mandatory mask wearing in order to protect, the citizens they represent, as well as keep the economy open and may help schools to open on the hybrid plan.

Respectfully

Thomas W Allen

Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

N/A

Contact Information:

hjzz@mail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Governor's Executive Order

Comment:

"Uphold the order. It is the only rational course of action."

Name:

Joanna Carrillo

Contact Information:

207878jcarrillo@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask Mandate

Comment:

“Hi, I have a question regarding the motion to not enforce the mask requirement. Seeing as there has been and continues to be an increase in coronavirus cases and masks have been shown to reduce and even prevent the spread, why not enforce the mask mandate? There have been several studies that show that masks are effective in reducing the spread. In seeing this, a mask has shown to be more effective than simply not wearing one. In many stores and out in public social distancing cannot be done. The people who are trying to stay safe and wear masks are not protected because of the lack of enforcement and people who choose to not wear masks. The goal of health departments should be to protect the people within their jurisdiction, by choosing to not enforce this mandate, you are putting the very lives of the people you should be protecting at risk. Now I understand that masks have become a topic of controversy and of politics. However,

people within health departments such as yourselves should be concerned about one thing and one thing only the safety of the people within your counties. Masks have not been proven to be 100% effective but in comparison to the amount of lives that could be saved that number lies in the tens of thousand according to some models. Nothing in this world is 100% effective but masks do show to significantly reduce the risk of spread. So the big question is why are you as health department directors not enforcing something that could save lives?

Have a great Fourth of July weekend!

Thank You,

Joanna Carrillo”

Name:

J Chance

Contact Information:

kschurchlady@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Recent Decision

Comment:

“Greetings County Commissioners,

I must respond by saying that I am appalled that the majority of the County Commissioners voted to not carry out our Governor's executive order concerning masks yesterday. The citizens of the State of Kansas voted in our current Governor. We did not vote her in to have other elected officials override her and do as they please. Be sure I will not be voting for those who have opposed her sound judgment these past months.

We all need to be wearing masks in public places and when we cannot follow physical distancing guidelines. My wearing a mask helps others, and I need others to do the same. Without stricter mandates, that will not

be the case. Our numbers are rising, and I now worry that they will continue to do so.

With much disappointment,
Jo Chance”

Name:

Judy Algrim

Contact Information:

jalgrim1@cox.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask Mandate

Comment:

"I am strongly in favor of supporting Governor Kelly's mask mandate. I suggest you reconsider your vote and protect the health of your constituents by supporting a mask requirement.

Sent from my iPhone"

Name:

Kimberly Hope

Contact Information:

hopesistas@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Vote for masks

Comment:

“Hello,

As a health care worker I encourage you to vote for mandatory mask in Sedgwick county. We need to continue to decrease transmission of the virus and the masks are vital for helping slow the spread.

Thank you,

Kim Hope

Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

Jeff Gorman

Contact Information:

ucamchi@cox.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Making Masks Mandatory – Should Stay Recommended

Comment:

“I wanted to express my opinion on requiring masks in Sedgwick county. I believe it should not be mandatory, I am the president of a nonprofit and our operations have been very negatively affected by the mask issue. Events canceled have cost us and the city tens of thousands of dollars which as a nonprofit, we do not have to lose. Also, I do not believe it is constitutional to force a mask requirement.

Please accept the County Commission's directive of leaving the mask as a recommendation, continue to educate and let the people choose.”

Name:

Jeff Gorman

Contact Information:

jeffgorman@juno.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Leave Masks as Recommended not Mandatory

Comment:

“I wanted to express my opinion on requiring masks in Sedgwick county. I believe it should not be mandatory, I am the president of a nonprofit and our operations have been very negatively affected by the mask issue. Events canceled have cost us and the city tens of thousands of dollars which as a nonprofit, we do not have to lose. Also, I do not believe it is constitutional to force a mask requirement.

Please accept the County Commission's directive of leaving the mask as a recommendation, continue to educate and let the people choose.”

Name:

Jeff Gorman

Contact Information:

gormantpa@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask Issue – Should Not be Mandatory

Comment:

“I wanted to express my opinion on requiring masks in Sedgwick county. I believe it should not be mandatory, I am the president of a nonprofit and our operations have been very negatively affected by the mask issue. Events canceled have cost us and the city tens of thousands of dollars which as a nonprofit, we do not have to lose. Also, I do not believe it is constitutional to force a mask requirement.

Please accept the County Commission's directive of leaving the mask as a recommendation, continue to educate and let the people choose.”

Name:

Kenneth Sublett

Contact Information:

kennethmsublett@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask Mandate

Comment:

“Just keep this in mind when you give the government control of our lives for a little bit of safety, make sure that safety is worth it. Remember it is your responsibility to protect our liberty. We are guaranteed life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness by the constitution all should be weighed equally and if you take away one for the other it better be for good thought out reasons not predicted on emotions, but the actual data. I sent you actual data yesterday on the fact without social distancing and improper handwriting masks are useless and the masks that are available to the public provide minimal safety for both the wearer and the public. With the masks we are trading forward motion of the virus for rear and side motion, tell me how is this any better. We've had outbreaks of the virus in nursing homes and hospitals and doctors office where masks and social distancing practices are heavily

adhered to, California barely got out of phase 1 and has had mandatory mask wearing for 2 weeks, but yet yesterday showed their biggest spike. The question is are masks effective enough to take my liberty for? My answer is no. One hundred years later we still have the flu and a vaccine and so far the flu has killed more people than COVID-19, why did we or are we not talking about this? Why are we not talking about studies that show the virus is weakening in strength, why are we not talking about the recent CDC study that shows antibody tests from Florida, Utah and Missouri show the virus infected 11-24 times more people than we originally knew, which means infection rates are higher than even our own testing is showing which means the severity of the virus is lower than we knew, which means we all will either get or have had which means no amount of lockdowns or mask wearing is going to stop it. We need to get use to the fact the virus is here to stay, the studies show unless you are above the age of 60 you are most likely to have no to very low symptoms. I can go on, bottom line the safety of wearing masks does not negate your responsibility to protect my liberties, because the risk of COVID-19 is very low compared to the importance of our liberties.

What does this quote mean: "They who can give up essential Liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." - Benjamin Franklin

Expert Answers

BRUCE BERGMAN eNotes educator | CERTIFIED EDUCATOR

This quote is often shortened/paraphrased to a condensed version: "Those who would trade liberty for safety deserve neither."

In an American context, Franklin's line plays on the idea that liberty is the thing we would be protecting by choosing safety. In opting to give up liberty in favor of safety, we are essentially gaining nothing.

The thing we value most (liberty) is lost if we elevate safety to a place of primary value. The essence of this idea, to me, is that liberty entails some necessary degree of uncertainty. Liberty stands in opposition to tyranny, to paranoia and to knee-jerk militarism.

When people have liberty (freedom of choice, freedom of speech, freedom of action, freedom of movement, etc.), they are not being controlled and so might go "out of control" and use that liberty to harm others. If a position was adopted that sought to curb liberty so that people would or could not go "out of control" then people would effectively be controlled. In opting for safety of this kind, freedom of movement, freedom of choice, freedom of speech and freedom of action would be reduced or eliminated.

Name:

Kaie Filby

Contact Information:

katiefilby@sbcglobal.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

COVID-19

Comment:

“To the Sedgwick County Commission,

I want to express my disappointment in our county leadership regarding your lack of support for Governor Kelly’s face mask order. To argue, as some members have, that they want to protect the liberties of residents in the county, is absurd. Covid-19 is a virus, politics and civil liberties should be left out of the conversation. Government officials should defer to medical experts who are all recommending face masks be worn in public. As a novel virus we, the medical community, have learned a few things in the past several months. Most importantly that wearing face masks does help reduce transmission. That should be everyone’s goal right now. Look at other states who are backtracking now after massive community spread of the virus. Texas, Florida, Arizona, California and many other states are in

crisis mode. We must learn from their mistakes and act now. The consequences of inaction now will be devastating. From shutting down the economy, overwhelming hospitals, jeopardizing schools and universities from restarting, to most importantly illness and death in the community what is your hesitation to act and protect these vital assets?

While you might not be able to enforce this 100% any measure available to reduce transmission should be employed. All offices, businesses, any place where people gather for short or prolonged periods of time, should require a face mask be worn. This is an effective way to protect our community rather than another stay at home order. While a face mask will not stop transmission altogether it will slow down the rapid increase we are seeing and the disastrous effects seen across the country.

As a healthcare worker I have been wearing a face mask at work for months now. Besides wearing a face mask numerous other steps have been taken to keep healthcare workers safe and prevent transmission. It is time for everyone to step up and do their part. We need effective and proactive leadership.

Katie Filby MSN, APRN”

Name:

Jill Weippert

Contact Information:

jill.weippert@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask vote today

Comment:

"I am writing to respectfully request that you vote to make masks mandatory in Sedgwick county.

When the governor's decision came out this week, I felt a tremendous sense of relief-the first hope in months that I could avoid acquiring COVID-19 until a vaccine or viable treatment is available. Due to pre-existing health risks, without a mask mandate, my family and I will NOT be patronizing businesses that we would have otherwise, since we can't we confident that others will wear them if not required. Wearing masks ourselves is of minimal benefit; our safety is dependent upon widespread use by others. Complainers will adapt, and countless lives will undoubtedly be saved if the governor's order is upheld.

Thank you,

Jill Weippert

Sent from my iPad"

Name:

Lynnett Wright

Contact Information:

lynnett723@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

COVID-19

Comment:

“Hello,

The number of Covid 19 cases in Sedgwick County have doubled since the end of the shutdown.

I am extremely disappointed that the majority of the County Commission failed to act in the best interest of public health.

The best tool to prevent another shutdown and to prevent citizens from getting terribly ill, is to require mask wearing in all public spaces and to strongly encourage, but not require, people to stay home.

Please rethink your decision and require masks. This decision will save lives

Kind regards,

Lynnett M Wright”

Name:

Tiffany Cargill

Contact Information:

adonica@sbcglobal.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Please mandate masks

Comment:

“Good morning!

I’m emailing you all to ask you to please reverse your decision on not requiring Sedgwick county residents to wear masks. I work in one of the hospitals as a respiratory therapist, so I often come in contact with COVID patients. I would love to see the virus numbers decrease, so that I can not be worried daily that I may be bringing it home to my family. Please consider the safety of all of our residents and reverse your decision.

Thank you,

Tiffany Cargill RRT”

Name:

Jessika Mayer

Contact Information:

jessika@jmayergroup.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

No Mask Mandate

Comment:

“County Commissioners:

As a business owner, resident of Sedgwick County for 42 years and a mom of 3, I implore you to leave mandatory mask wearing up to each individual business. Some businesses will be more affected than others if a blanket mandate is issued. A strong recommendation is where the order should stay. Making a mandatory blanket mask order will hurt youth summer sports programs, gyms etc. the most where precautionary measures (extra cleaning, social distancing, temperature checks) are already being taken.

If someone does not feel safe, they do not have to go to that business or have their child participate.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Praying wisdom and guidance over each Commissioner as you make these tough decisions.

Sincerely,

Jessika Mayer
ReeceNichols South Central Kansas
Managing Broker West Office
316.807.4856
RNResidential.com”

Name:

Kris Nicholson

Contact Information:

kris@nicholson4.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Failed us... again

Comment:

“To the 3 commissioners that voted against mandatory the requirement to wear masks...shame on you!!!!

I recently lost my mom who was in a long term care facility & I was unable to be with her in her last days!!! These stories will continue for families if policymakers don't stand up & do what is right!!!!!! You failed the citizens of Sedgwick County!”

Name:

Megan Ann

Contact Information:

mad24baller@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Please mandate masks – Attn: city council

Comment:

“Hello,

I would like to express my opinion in strong support of a mask mandate for Sedgwick County.

I have a new baby and am doing everything I can to protect her and the rest of my family. Without a mask mandate it makes it very difficult to live in this city and enjoy the things it has to offer in a safer manner. Without a mandate, most people just don't and won't wear masks. If only some people wears masks, it doesn't do enough to reduce the cases of Covid19, reduce the potential risks, and protect people like my new baby who is too young to wear a mask.

We pay attention to what businesses require masks and which don't, we won't go to places that masks aren't worn. Frankly, right now that limits where I can spend money. We are lucky enough to both have our jobs and want to support our community but won't sacrifice our safety to do so.

Please help keep my family safe, because the greater public won't without your support for a requirement.

Please mandate masks.

Thank you,

Megan D”

Name:

Linda

Contact Information:

lgstilwell@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Get on board and save our economy!

Comment:

<https://www.facebook.com/348027115701525/posts/944256489411915/?sfnsn=mo>

Name:

Chris Maxwell

Contact Information:

cmaxwell13@cox.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks need to be required

Comment:

“Highly disappointed in the decision not to require masks by Sedgwick County. If recommendations worked everyone would be following the CDC recommendations to use masks and social distance in the first place. Very obvious this does not work. People will continue to spread the virus and those that have other illnesses they are trying to fix will continue to suffer and take longer than they should have to to get medical attention they need.”

Name:

Sheila Mai

Contact Information:

joan123113@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask Requirements

Comment:

“Unbelievable you can’t see what’s happening in this country and making something so simple, as a requirement to wear a mask did not pass. Let me guess those who voted against it believe it’s easier to treat than to avoid and this virus is just a hoax. I choose to wear a mask and have been wearing one since the middle of March for I would rather wear a mask than a ventilator.

I didn’t voice my opinion before your meeting because I thought it was a no brainer and would be a unanimous vote to enforce masks. God help us all.

Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

Kevin Le

Contact Information:

kevinle628@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask Mandates

Comment:

“Dear Sedgwick County Government,

I am extremely disappointed in your decision to not enforce the mask mandate. We have seen how effective mask can be at containing coronavirus yet you refuse to require masks especially when so many people are refusing to wear them because they are inconvenienced. I just want you to know that from now on, anyone who goes to the hospital or anyone who dies from coronavirus is because of you and your failure to take actions as leaders. You all are cowards who value your political career more than the people you have sworn to protect and serve. I hope this decision haunts you for the rest of your life and you will always remember how many people you could have saved and how many families you could have kept together.”

Name:

Linda Stilwell

Contact Information:

lgstilwell@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

COVID and Masks

Comment:

“Shame on all of you for not mandating masks! The numbers will continue to go up. Ask ANY MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL and they will tell you it could help.

Don't let those who are too uninformed and ignorant to know it's been proven that cases could be lowered or at least stable if we just wear masks.

GET SOME SMARTS AND QUIT WORRYING ABOUT HOW TO ENFORCE MASKS! We need revenue, well there ya go. Hand out mask violation tickets, you allow parking tickets. GOOD GRIEF!

PLEASE HELP US GET A HANDLE ON THIS!

Linda Stilwell

Wichitan”

Name:

Joe

Contact Information:

joe5167215@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask

Comment:

“Please no mask
Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

Ian Cunningham

Contact Information:

ian@pf24-7.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Gyms

Comment:

“Hello,

I wanted to check about the mask mandate. How will this affect gyms and it's members. If we already have social distancing is happening in our gyms, will members be required to wear mask while working out?

Thank you

Ian Cunningham-Osterman

Regional Manager- Topeka/Wichita KS

Planet Fitness- Sutherland Group

Home of the Judgement Free Zone®

6592 E. Central Ave Wichita KS, 67206

Office: 316-260-1918

Cell: 620-899-1064”

Name:

Kathryn Griffin

Contact Information:

twogriffinspainting@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks make them mandatory

Comment:

“Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

Mark Beeson

Contact Information:

markdbeeson@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks

Comment:

“Mask should not be required in Sedgwick County. Thank you
Mark Beeson
Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android”

Name:

Deznee Soza-Trevino

Contact Information:

dsoza@usd259.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Please MANDATE mask wearing

Comment:

“Please support our community by enforcing our governor’s mandate to make mask wearing mandatory. This should not be up for debate as we as the community want to get back to “normal” as soon as we can. And the only way that is going to happen is to help slow the spread of the virus by WEARING MASKS! Please look at the numbers and make your decisions based on data if not from your hearts! Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

Gloria Grace Prosper

Contact Information:

prospermusic@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Regarding the Kansas State Governor's Face Mask Mandate Commencing July 3, 2020

Comment:

"Dear Members,

I am a resident of Wichita, KS 67212.

I respectfully request that you join the majority of counties in Kansas in declining to enforce this latest face mask mandate from our governor.

I read that the mandate specifies a "face mask or other covering". That wording, in itself, weakens the necessity for "protection" via face mask.

I am 80 years old and considered a "high risk" for Covid-19. That does not trouble me.

What troubles me is the obvious "overkill" of the governor's reaction to this virus.

I do not agree with her mandate.

In addition, I am one of many whose Oxygen levels plummet and whose Blood Pressure rises while wearing the face mask.

In my opinion, as a registered voter, there is not sufficient evidence to support this mandate, and I will be certain to support my opinion in the next gubernatorial election.

Thank you for your consideration to my request.

Sincerely,

Gloria Grace Prosper”

Name:

Caroni Lombard

Contact Information:

caronilombard67@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Face Masks

Comment:

“I would like to express my view about whether or not the county should enforce Governor Kelly's mandate. My answer is absolutely! It's about time that the residents of Sedgwick County should do the responsible thing. It's just surprising that so many of them need to be told to do it in no uncertain terms. It doesn't say much for their intelligence and concern for others.”

Name:

Debra McMullin

Contact Information:

brewerd0658@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

No Masks

Comment:

“Do the right thing. It should be my choice not the governors. Its stupid if you think about it. We wear mask on face but can catch with arms, legs, hands, rest of face. Its ridiculous. Vote no mandatory masks. You want to ruin the econony again? People are going to quit supporting stores that mandate mask. Be strong like the other counties that have already said no.”

Name:

Vicki Gutersloh

Contact Information:

pink5@sbcglobal.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks should be enforced

Comment:

“Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android”

Name:

Jeanette

Contact Information:

jenneking@cox.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Wearing masks

Comment:

“I am FOR MASK WEARING!!! SINCE the restrictions lifted we have gone up in active cases 257%. People don't do the right things. More people concerned about themselves and not others. I work in health care and if you were in our shoes you'd understand the importance. I've heard from friends who work at the ER's in town and day many more sent home that told to stay home but not tested as not severe so numbers much higher. It's the easiest thing to do. JUST WEAR THE DANG MASK!!! My fear is if we don't mandate this we will have to close everything down again!!

Sent from my iPhonei”

Name:

Tim Workman

Contact Information:

tim_workman@ymail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks

Comment:

“If we ever expect to fully or even at this point partially recover economically as well as physically it is vital that everyone wear masks. This is not a political issue. We are in the midst of a public health crisis that must take precedence over all other issues. Our very lives depend on it. Please make the right decision and mandate masks.

Thank you very much,
Tim Workman”

Name:

Beth Winger

Contact Information:

jwinger1@cox.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask

Comment:

“I Do not think the mask should be mandated-We live in America- & have freedom of choice -I can't breathe with that thing on!!!! I understand if you are a doctor or dealing with medical issues -but We are adults -& if you are healthy -wash your hands-be wise -but don't force someone to wear & mask . Their are pros & cons of how effective it really is . I say No to mask mandate ! Thank you, Joe & Beth Winger

Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

Elizabeth McClure

Contact Information:

emmcclure103@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks

Comment:

“We feel strongly that actions taken now in requiring to wear masks in our city and state will help determine the trajectory of COVID19 deaths, our kids and teachers being able to go back to school safely and help our economy reopen/avoid more shut downs. We believe the multitudes of research and physicians that mask requirements will help.

Thank you,

Elizabeth McClure

Sent from my iPad”

Name:

Daria S Nelson

Contact Information:

dm.scriven@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Face Coverings & Masks

Comment:

“Good Afternoon,

I currently hold the elected seat, as our local Head Start Policy Council Chairwoman. I have 2 children enrolled in the Child Start program, and I assist in overseeing and leading monthly meetings regarding policies for Head Start in a tri-county area.

I'd like to make it known I am fully against any mandated order which requires the public wearing of face coverings. National publications and scientific research on the benefits of face coverings, stopping or slowing the transmission of disease are mixed. Since there is no conclusive evidence of face coverings/ masks stopping rates of COVID-19 infection, I am opposed to this practice.

Enforcement of such an order is a clear violation of our inherent personal rights, civil liberties, and person freedoms.

Thank you for your time in reading this email.

--

Best Regards,

Daria Scriven Nelsen
316-618-3640”

Name:

N/A

Contact Information:

humboldtgrrl@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Sedgwick County & CV Reopening – Mandatory Masks will save the Economy!

Comment:

“

Name:

Andrew Grantstein

Contact Information:

agrantstein@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

N/A

Comment:

“Dear Sedgwick County Commission,

I ask that you enforce the Governor's Executive order to wear face masks. I work in healthcare and things are not looking good in regards to COVID. I also have a unique perspective in that I am a 2x cancer survivor. I am not vulnerable anymore, but I know this community and I am in touch with their needs.

I don't want Kansas to become Texas, New York or Florida. We can defeat COVID together.

Sincerely,

Andrew Grantstein”

Name:

N/A

Contact Information:

ihs4us@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks

Comment:

“Please don't make masks mandatory. We need to make that decision for ourselves. Please don't take away our freedom. Some people can't wear masks everywhere based on other health concerns. Thank you”

Name:

Marsha Helmer

Contact Information:

mlhelmer@cox.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Wearing Face Masks

Comment:

“I personally feel it is the right thing to do to wear a mask in public when it is not possible to physically distance from other people. Slowing the spread of the virus is important to keep from overtaxing health care personnel and health care systems. Additionally, people who do not have COVID should be able to get the care they need which will not happen if health care personnel and systems are overwhelmed.

This virus is no joke. Just ask anyone who has lost a loved one or watched a loved one struggle for weeks to recover from it. We have the ability to make a difference by wearing a mask. It seems a small thing to ask.

Given that there is no practical way to enforce an “order”, there are people who will refuse to wear a mask. I just hope none of us will live to regret the decisions we’ve made.

Thank you,

Marsha Helmer

Sent from my iPad”

Name:

Susan Reusser

Contact Information:

SusanR52@cox.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask wearing a must when in public

Comment:

“Wearing a mask is NOT: 1) a political statement 2) a constitutional right to decide 3) a visual acknowledgement of Trump Support or nonsupport. It IS: 1) a small concession to make out of consideration for the vulnerable 2) proven to lessen the spread 3) lessen the growth of the current surge

Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

Michelle Drinkwater

Contact Information:

mdrinkwater@cox.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks

Comment:

“I support Governor Kelly's mask order. I hope the commission will also.

Michelle Drinkwater”

Name:

Morris Floyd

Contact Information:

floydm@newmanu.edu

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Face Masks

Comment:

“Sirs,

It is my strong belief that the governor does not have the legal authority to require me to wear a mask or put anything on my body that I do not wish to be there. I feel the order tramples my individual liberties and removes my personal responsibility to make decision for myself and my family. I do not need a government official telling me what is best for me to do and will not comply with any ruling concerning face masks. That being said, I wish you all would put the responsibility for our health decisions on us and not the government.

Thank you,

Mo Floyd

Newman University

Director of Security

School Extension 2911

316-253-7580

Name:

Jules Pitchford

Contact Information:

julespitchford@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks

Comment:

“PLEASE! No masks!!! Please allow adults to make their own adult decisions. Thank you for your time.

Jules Pitchford

Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

Kathy Penner

Contact Information:

lkpenner2@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Governor's order

Comment:

"I fully support the governor's order. Kansas and Sedgwick County have not done much to mitigate. Please act, and not ignore the order. Thank you.

Kathy Penner

Sent from my iPad"

Name:

Jean Tan

Contact Information:

chinvest@cox.net

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask Wearing should be optional

Comment:

“Medical doctors have stated repeatedly that wearing face masks can impair the immune system due to a number of factors. Also stated by Dr. Fauci, that mask wearing is not effective in stopping the spread of the virus.

Mask wearing should be optional.

Respectfully,

Jean Tan”

Name:

Jo Jean Knard

Contact Information:

jojeanknard@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks

Comment:

“Thank you to everyone for your service and efforts during this time. You are all good Americans.

I would like to request you vote to override Gov. Kelly on the mask issue. My reasoning is that in spite of everyone's best intentions, we really don't know a lot about this virus, and it should not have the power to interfere in people's lives beyond its own existence.

We don't know how good the science is. We don't know if we can trust the science. Some science says that the masks block our access to oxygen. I am one that battles asthma and I need access to oxygen. I do a good battle and usually get the victory, but I don't need a mask. Thank you again for your willingness to be servants of the community.

Sincerely,

Jo Jean Knard

Name:

Sanford Alexander

Contact Information:

sjalexander3@icloud.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Governor's mask order

Comment:

"The mask order is not, as we are being told, "the right thing to do." That is, unless, you want to promote civil distress as people suffering from psychological disorders lash out at people they perceive as representing a danger to them. It is the right thing to do if you are looking for ways to assist individuals seeking to hide their faces from the public in the commission of crimes. We see emboldened behavior in this area in NYC after the release of dangerous criminals was coupled with an order to wear masks and a proposal to drastically reduce police funding. But it is not the right thing to do if you are looking to protect people's Constitutional rights. Mask orders coupled with interrogations regarding why individuals are not wearing them because of health concerns, violate both HIPAA and ADA protections. OSHA guidelines spell out the dangers resulting from oxygen deprivation and forced inhalation of recycled carbon dioxide; it is clear that wearing masks produce adverse, irrevocable damage,

even for healthy people. The governor is acting beyond her authority and the welfare of Sedgwick County's population and business community should not be imperiled by following her misguided decree. Act for the good of the people and reject her harmful order. Protect our children and safeguard our school tax dollars by fostering sane policies for the start of the school year, avoiding long-term psychological damage to our children. Thank you, Sanford

Sanford Alexander
5321 Plaza Lane
Wichita KS 67208"

Name:

Nick A Harris

Contact Information:

nhksfarm@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks in public

Comment:

“Please vote no to Gov Kelly's edict for everyone to wear masks in public. For some like me it would actually compromise our immune systems.

This is unacceptable..

Thank you.”

Name:

Jamie Zirkel

Contact Information:

dazjaz@ymail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks

Comment:

“Please support the requirements to wear a mask in public to help protect all of your constituents.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jamie Zirkel

Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

Linda Fritze-meier

Contact Information:

pookfritz@icloud.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks

Comment:

“Just wear the masks. Every Rep Governor is now behind it! If you play politics, my Husband and I will vote against any commissioner who votes against wearing masks!

Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

Kenneth Sublett

Contact Information:

kennethmsublett@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

COVID

Comment:

“.0025 percent of the population of sedgwick County has tested positive and .000054 percent have died and you are sitting on your hands and saying nothing about the governors mask mandate! I expect more from you...”

Name:

Kenneth Sublett

Contact Information:

kennethmsublett@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask Wearing

Comment:

“I saw a report saying you won't take Governor Kelly's mask mandate until next week. If this is true, its unacceptable. O understand she timed it for over the holiday, but we need guidance from you now on how to proceed over the holiday weekend. It is a ridiculous mandate to begin with and I know you can put something preemptive out there when you want to, I'm saying it's behooves you to do something before the weekend. Say something do your job or we will find other people who will.”

Name:

Diane Hall

Contact Information:

mdianehall@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask Policy

Comment:

“I urge you to support Gov. Kelly's executive order requiring face masks in public spaces. As stated in this mornings newspaper - it is obvious it is time to educate people what to do and help them make a decision. Our family members have been wearing masks for weeks. Often we are of only a handful of people in a store with them on. My eight year old grandson doesn't complain but instead grabs the mask and puts it on because it has become a habit. We want our children and grandchildren to start and continue in school in August and our citizens to continue to work without being furloughed again. It is up to us to do our part to wear masks, wash our hands and practice social distancing. I urge you to do your part to support and vote to support the mask policy so that Sedgwick County can continue it economic recovery.
Sincerely, Diane Hall”

Name:

Charles Cox

Contact Information:

pccox63@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Masks Mandate

Comment:

“Our constitutional rights as American citizens are being trampled all over. What’s next? Mandatory vaccination? We the people do not support mandatory masks. Stop bowing to the anti constitution agenda. This a free country. Supposedly.

Charles P Cox”

Name:

Allan Warren

Contact Information:

allanwarren56@icloud.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask order

Comment:

“No mask they are not effective and unconstitutional this is nothing more than a political stunt by the democrats numbers are being inflated and people have had enough

Sent from my iPhone”

Name:

Bren Stockdale

Contact Information:

bren_stockdale@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Mask requirement

Comment:

“I will not be complying with Governor Kelly's bogus requirement to mask myself in public. Thank you.

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android”

Name:

Alex Lee

Contact Information:

alee092294@icloud.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Czar Kelly

Comment:

“I do not approve of the overreach and rights suppression our governor Czar Kelly has so graciously bestowed upon us. She’s is out of control and power hungry. This mandatory mask rule is beyond outrageous and I ask you voice this to our tyrannical governor and stop this insanity. I will not comply with her dictatorial demands. Enough is enough! Kansas is at 98% survival and our economy and Citizens have suffered long enough.”

Name:

Angela Griffin

Contact Information:

angelagriffinbiz@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

COVID 19 Questions about Recoveries: Info not on Dashboard

Comment:

“How are recoveries calculated in Sedgwick County? Kansas?

Do the health officials track those who are positive?

Do positive people have to report back? Do they get called back instead?

Do health officials use a specific amount of time elapsed to use to tabulate recoveries?

For those who have symptoms, is it after the symptoms go away. Or is it after another test?

For those without symptoms, how exactly is Kansas or Kansas counties determining that they are noncontagious?

Angela Griffin

316-871-2597”

Name:

Mike McFarland

Contact Information:

kingmac1959@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Wearing of a Mask

Comment:

"I wish to inform you that I and many of my neighbors are fully against the wearing of a mask. 1) I have been an essential worker during the entirety of this so-called crisis. Have worn no mask and am fine. 2) As a Christian, it is written, "Do not fear, do not be afraid " 365 times. If it was that important to the Lord, then it is that important to me. Additionally, the 1st Amendment states that government shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, nor prohibiting the FREE EXERCISE thereof. I intend to exercise that right regarding my faith.

Michael R McFarland, Wichita KS

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android"

Name:

Andy McGinnis

Contact Information:

mcginnis_andy@yahoo.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

COVID-19 Masks

Comment:

“My grandparents were the best people I ever knew. John Kroeker was an immigrant, a Mennonite who escaped to this country from Ukraine after the Russian Revolution (where he saw beheadings as a FOUR year old). He LOVED this country. He proudly served on an Army medical ship in WWII. Hulda Kroeker was the granddaughter of immigrants from the same Mennonite community in Ukraine and grew up in Hillsboro, Kansas. She worked in a factory here in Wichita during WWII supporting the national efforts. They were a part of the Greatest Generation. What made them great was they cared for each other and looked out for one another in this community.

We should honor THEIR sacrifices and follow their lead by caring more for the most vulnerable in our community. Calling on our County Commissioners to please require masks during this time of national crisis.

Andy Schepis McGinnis”

Name:

Kenneth Sublett

Contact Information:

kennethmsublett@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Is the Pandemic Coming to an End at last?

Comment:

<https://issuesinsights.com/2020/07/07/is-the-covid-19-epidemic-coming-to-an-end-at-last/>

Well, firstly, it's not actually us saying this. It's the Centers for Disease Control, which reported that the death rate has fallen so far it's now roughly equal to the threshold for even qualifying as an epidemic, which isn't as severe as a pandemic.

"Based on death certificate data, the percentage of (total U.S.) deaths attributed to pneumonia, influenza or COVID-19 (PIC) decreased from 9% during week 25 to 5.9% during week 26," the CDC noted, adding that this was the 10th-straight week of declining deaths.

So tell me if masks work then why did this all happen prior to mask mandate?"

Name:

Kenneth Sublett

Contact Information:

kennethmsublett@gmail.com

Received By:

This comment was received through the communications email address.

Subject:

Top Doctor explains why COVID reporting is not honest, reveals what the case spike us really about -TheBlaze

Comment:

"According to Dr. Atlas, who was interviewed on Fox News' "The Story," Americans should be cautious of the media's reporting on the apparent COVID-19 spike because it "doesn't really matter how many cases" there are — what is important is "who gets the cases."

That is because, as Dr. Atlas explained, the COVID-19 mortality rate is just .04% for people under age 70 — which is equal to or lower than the seasonal flu — and the case spike is being driven by younger people contracting the virus on a larger scale.

"The overwhelming majority are younger, healthier people," Dr. Atlas said.

"It only matters if we cannot protect the high-risk people, which we are protecting ... how do I know? Because the death rates are not going up."