

**From:** [Judy Hudson](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Mandatory Face Masks. Vote No  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2020 10:13:27 PM

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Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

I'm sending this email to have my voice heard regarding the mandatory use of face masks in Venice.

City government does not need to dictate this kind of behavior, nor is it enforceable by our finest police officers. The police have other, much more urgent matters to deal with.

Businesses have the right to mandate masks, and we as free Americans also have the right to not spend our money at those businesses if we so choose.

Our Covid numbers are going down without this mandate.

Please vote NO to mandatory masks.

Thank you  
Judy Hudson  
Venice FL

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mask Mandate in Venice  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 8:41:33 AM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

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**From:** Cheryl Child <cchilddo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 7:32 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask Mandate in Venice

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Helen,

Please vote to mandate mask-wearing in Venice.

Studies confirm that the airborne coronavirus plays a significant role in community transmission. Note that the recent study at the University of Florida reported in the following article the live virus from aerosols can be collected at a distance of **7 to 16 feet away**:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/11/health/coronavirus-aerosols-indoors.html>

The lives of your constituents are in your hands. It is a small thing to ask.

Please enter this email into the council meeting record.

We're counting on you to do the right thing.

Thank you.

Dr. Cheryl Child  
Certified Independent Health Coach  
Global Director  
**OPTAVIA**  
(Cell) 515-865-0933



[myesig.com](http://myesig.com)

If you would no longer like to receive emails from this address, please click [here](#) to receive emailed instructions as to how to remove yourself from the list.

**From:** [Christine Woodward](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Mask mandate  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 10:35:45 AM

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Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

As a resident of Venice, I am deeply disturbed that there is yet another push for a mask mandate in the city of Venice.

Our numbers are going down, WITHOUT the government mandating we wear masks. Businesses have been doing a wonderful job of recommending face coverings, and citizens, for the most part, have been complying. Why is it necessary to waste yet another meeting, another vote, to try to force legislation that can not be enforced?

Without a mandate, positivity rate, cases and hospitalizations have been decreasing. Why further encroach on citizens' lives, and businesses' livelihoods, by passing a law that, let's be honest, can not be enforced?

Thank you,

Christine Woodward

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Cynthia Ervin](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Mask Ordinance  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 2:12:55 PM

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Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Dear City Council Members,

Last week, a neighbor of ours (3 houses over) died of covid, and another neighbor (no symptoms), living across the street from us tested positive. He continues about his business, walking around without a mask and actually boasting about it. Do you think this is right? What would you do if it was your neighbor? You're not holding meetings face to face, so you obviously don't want to risk getting sick.

We have read all of the correspondence for and against, so no need to address all the points here. But unfortunately, this has become a political issue, when in reality it is a public health issue. It is not a civil liberties issue, but common sense, and a very small sacrifice to make, in order to prevent spreading a disease that could be deadly for most of us seniors.

Please do the right thing and vote yes on August 25th.

Thank you to the Mayor and Council Members that are for this ordinance.

Respectfully yours,

Cynthia and Gerard Reinhart

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mask Mandate  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 11:21:33 AM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

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**From:** DEAN VIAU <dviau@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 10:13:14 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask Mandate

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Ms. Moore,  
Please vote for a mask mandate in Venice FL. Our epidemic isn't getting any better, it's getting worse. Anything we can do to slow the progress down is a mandate to save lives.

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: mandatory masks  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 6:14:25 PM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

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**From:** Debbie Clark <clarkdvt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 4:14:01 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Fwd: mandatory masks

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Debbie Clark <clarkdvt@gmail.com>  
**Date:** August 20, 2020 at 4:11:36 PM EDT  
**To:** hmoore@venicetof.com, jneunder@venicegov.com,  
npachota@venicegov.com, cnewsom@venicegov.com  
**Subject:** mandatory masks

Hello,  
I am a resident of North Venice, FL and am asking for your help to stop the spread of Covid. The use of masks has proven to slow the spread of the virus and I can not understand anyone voting against such a mandate.  
Please vote FOR mandatory wearing of masks to protect all the residents of Venice.  
Thank you,  
Debra Clark  
174 Bella Vista Terrace

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please pass a mask ordinance in Venice  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 1:43:52 PM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

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**From:** gretchen lienhop <galienhop@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 1:23:56 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Please pass a mask ordinance in Venice

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Although I don't live in Venice proper, I live in the county and visit downtown Venice to support our local merchants and our wonderful downtown area. I would come downtown more often and spend more money in Venice if I felt protected from COVID with a mask ordinance.

Thank you.

***Gretchen Lienhop***  
***Precinct Committeewoman #321***  
***913-972-1446***  
***[galienhop@gmail.com](mailto:galienhop@gmail.com)***

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mask Ordinance  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 11:21:14 AM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

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**From:** Jon Sue Nelson <jonsuenelson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 10:08:14 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask Ordinance

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

My name is Jon Nelson, and I am a happy and healthy resident of Venice.

My wife and I support a mandatory Mask ordinance for Venice, and hope you will too.

Breaking the back of this pandemic, to save the health and lives of Venice residents as well as all Floridians is paramount.

Wearing masks, what do have to lose? Not wearing a mask risks lives.

No shirt, no shoes, no service is a very acceptable policy, as are other restrictive health ordinances. They make sense, they protect us from harm, and they're enforced and supported.

Please make mask wearing mandatory to help protect We the People.

Thanks,

Jon

Jonsuenelson@gmail.com  
(p) 484 354-6645

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Masks  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 3:34:55 PM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

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**From:** Kit <k.briggs@starpower.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 2:03:51 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Masks

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Please vote for a mask mandate.  
Christmas j Briggs

Kit

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mandatory Masks  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 8:39:45 AM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

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**From:** mcolakeland@gmail.com <mcolakeland@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 6:59 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Cc:** American Express PIN3244 <mcolakeland@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Mandatory Masks

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Helen: COVID-19 continues to have a devastating impact on both the quality of life and the economics of our great state. Without mandatory masks we run the risk of continued infection and economic peril. Please reconsider your support of mandatory masks in the City of Venice and surrounding areas. As a resident of the Venetian Golf and River Club, my life depends on it. Thanks for your consideration.  
M.C. Olson  
mcolakeland@gmail.com  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mask mandate  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 11:22:09 AM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

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**From:** mpk3@roadrunner.com <mpk3@roadrunner.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 10:38:49 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask mandate

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Dear Councilwomen Helen Moore,  
Please, let's do the right thing for all Americans. Please require mask for all people in our community. This virus is not going away unless we all do our part. For whatever reason, some folks will not wear a mask unless they have to. If they cannot go into stores and business that they rely on unless they mask up then they will not comply.  
I want to feel safe again going out in public and supporting our economy.  
Thank you for your effort in this matter.  
Mary Pat Kahler

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: MANDATORY -- WEAR A MASK!  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 7:56:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [FFC5F233272B4E13AC2B786286455089.png](#)

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Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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**From:** [Charles Newsom](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 5:57 PM  
**To:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: MANDATORY -- WEAR A MASK!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

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**From:** loft1000@aol.com <loft1000@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 9:11:37 AM  
**To:** Charles Newsom <CNewsom@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** MANDATORY -- WEAR A MASK!

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

**To Whom It May Concern,**

We would like to return to our home in Venice sooner rather than later. However, our Michigan medical doctors instruct us not to return to FL until the virus is under better control. And that won't happen until there is much better compliance with wearing masks.

More studies confirm that the airborne coronavirus plays a significant role in community transmission. Note that the recent study at the University of Florida reported in the following article the live virus from aerosols can be collected at a distance of **7 to 16 feet away:**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/11/health/coronavirus-aerosols-indoors.html>

The lives of your constituents are in your hands.  
And we would very much like to return to Venice.

Please enter this email into the council meeting record.

We're counting on you to do the right thing. This is a life issue.

Roger and Jeri Quinn  
101 Mestre Ct.

North Venice, FL 34275

**From:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Face Masks in Venice  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 7:56:44 PM  
**Attachments:** [47EEA32A18794BCB9DCF750F190800F1.png](#)

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Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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**From:** [Charles Newsom](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 5:52 PM  
**To:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Face Masks in Venice

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**From:** suen9851@gmail.com <suen9851@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 3:07:47 PM  
**To:** Charles Newsom <CNewsom@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Face Masks in Venice

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Chuck,

We own a home in the Venetian Golf and River Club in North Venice and would like to return to our home there as soon as possible. However, our CO medical doctors instruct us not to return to FL until the virus is under better control. And that won't happen until there is much better compliance with wearing masks.

I understand that you refuse to vote about the face mask issue.

How can you possibly refuse to discuss or vote about such an important topic? You are not representing me and my concerns on the Venice Council.

The lives of your constituents are in your hands.  
And we would very much like to return to Venice.

Please enter this email into the council meeting record.

We're counting on you to do the right thing.

Sue Nichols  
102 Montelluna Dr, North Venice, FL 34275

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Face Masks in Venice  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 3:36:00 PM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

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**From:** suen9851@gmail.com <suen9851@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 2:53:58 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Face Masks in Venice

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Helen,

We own a home in the Venetian Golf and River Club in North Venice and would like to return to our home there as soon as possible. However, our CO medical doctors instruct us not to return to FL until the virus is under better control. And that won't happen until there is much better compliance with wearing masks.

The lives of your constituents are in your hands.  
And we would very much like to return to Venice.

Please enter this email into the council meeting record.

We're counting on you to do the right thing. This is a life issue.

Sue Nichols  
102 Montelluna Dr, North Venice, FL 34275

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mask Mandate for Venice  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 11:20:24 AM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

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**From:** Tom O'Donnell <todonnell101@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 9:50:34 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask Mandate for Venice

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Good Morning Ms. Moore,

As local residents who dine, shop, and attend a great number of events in the city of Venice, we ask that you support a mask mandate at your next council meeting - for the health and safety for everybody.

Thank you,  
Tom O'Donnell & Leslie Curley  
21224 St. Petersburg Dr.  
Venice, FL. 34293

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mask mandate  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 10:30:41 PM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

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**From:** Ronni Shulman Mallozzi <ronnshul@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 21, 2020 2:37 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask mandate

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Cities and countries that have mandated masks for COVID have done much better at controlling the virus than we have.

The ONLY way to get this under control is to mandate masks and social distancing. It has nothing to do with politics or “freedom.” It has to do with basic concern for others. It’s selfish to resist.

We have no smoking areas because secondhand smoke is a health risk to others. Should people be allowed to smoke wherever they wish because “it’s a free country?”

There is NO reason for you or any other council member to vote against these practices. Because it can’t be enforced? Should we not have speeding laws because people will speed anyway?

Please show your concern for all Venice citizens and visitors by voting to mandate masks. It’s ridiculous that this issue can’t be resolved.

Thanks.

Ronni Shulman Mallozzi  
345 Montelluna Dr.  
North Venice

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mask Mandate  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 10:33:17 PM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

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**From:** Don Anthony <danthonygpe@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 21, 2020 1:09 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask Mandate

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Ms. Moore,

I am writing to you to encourage your vote for a mask mandate in Venice. It will benefit the local economy. My wife and I will not enter a retail establishment that does not enforce a mask requirement for safety reasons. Without a mandate in place, small retail owners are put in an unfair enforcement position.

The argument that citizens have a right to not wear a mask simply doesn't stand. The famous quote "that your right to swing your arm ends where my nose begins" captures the issue. If the mask was solely for the protection of the wearer, then the mandate wouldn't be required but a mask, as shown in numerous medical studies, primarily restricts the exhalation of droplets by the wearer from reaching others. Just like we don't ban individuals from smoking but we do ban it where second-hand smoke can harm others. You don't have to wear clothes in the privacy of your home but you do in public where nudity might offend others.

Your support is appreciated.

Best regards,

Donald Anthony

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mask mandate  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 10:29:34 PM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

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**From:** Darla Anthony <danthony20@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 21, 2020 12:29 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask mandate

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Dear Ms. Moore,  
I am asking you to please support a Mask Mandate for the city of Venice. I would love to get back to supporting the businesses in downtown Venice, but I will not be able to until the atmosphere there is as medically safe as possible. It is a kindness and a civic responsibility to ensure we are doing all we can to prevent this virus from spreading and infecting our citizens and visitors.  
Thank you,  
Darla Anthony  
122 Portofino Dr.  
North Venice, FL. 34275

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: PLEASE VOTE FOR ORD. NO.2020-24  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 10:31:22 PM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

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**From:** Karen Hoffschmidt <khoffschmidt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 21, 2020 2:50 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** PLEASE VOTE FOR ORD. NO.2020-24

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

To Council Member Helen Moore:

I urge you to vote for ORD. NO. 2020-24/Requiring Face Covering on August 25th. This is your last chance to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and do the right thing for the City of Venice.

Just FYI, I have **not** shopped in person in any store or eaten in any restaurant or ordered even one carry-out meal in the City of Venice since the end of February. Your lack of action has made all of these activities completely unsafe for six months. I wonder how many other residents have reacted the same way, and when or if the local economy will recover.

Karen Hoffschmidt  
931 Circle Drive, Venice  
Cell: 708-262-9279

**From:** [Wayne Hastings](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Face mask  
**Date:** Thursday, August 20, 2020 6:16:57 PM

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Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

I am saddened and disappointed that the mandatory face mask policy was not adopted. Also disappointed that the Chief discouraged It, because it was difficult to enforce! That's ridiculous! "Just do your job" is my responds to that. When does law enforcement dictate health issues?

I am a snow bird that has been coming to Venice for 9 years. Like many of us Northerners, we are watching what Florida is doing to decide whether to return this winter. Sadly decisions are being made politically instead of science in Florida.

I know of several families that have cancelled their plans this winter.  
Sadly it appears we will do the same

From my iPhone  
Wayne

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mandatory Masks  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 10:28:21 PM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

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**From:** Bev Donovan <bevandduane@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 21, 2020 11:32 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mandatory Masks

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Helen,

Please, please vote to make masks mandatory in Venice, for the sake of all of us.  
Beverly and Duane Donovan  
162 Bella Vista Terrace Unit A  
N. Venice, FL 34275

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Face masks  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 8:40:42 AM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

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**From:** joyce Olson <riobellao@me.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 21, 2020 7:38 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Face masks

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Helen

Covid 19 has negatively impacted the well being of our country on so many levels: economically, educationally, socially and emotionally. Scientific evidence indicates that face masks are helpful in getting this pandemic under control. As an elected official of the city of Venice, I ask you to consider supporting the mandate for face masks in our "little piece of paradise". As a resident of the Venetian Golf and River Club, I feel both our lives depend on this mandate. I appreciated your consideration of my input on this matter.

Joyce Adonizio Olson  
Riobellao@me.com  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Laura Hanford](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** mask mandate  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 2:04:55 PM

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**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this in hopes that it possibly will be taken into consideration when discussing the mask mandate issue. I am a resident of Venice and feel like a prisoner in my home. I have underlying medical conditions that I know I can't get this. I can't go anywhere safely with the majority of people not wearing masks. I am not able to retire as I am only 50 and I need to work instead of burning through savings to keep safe! My husband, who also has underlying conditions, made the difficult decision to go to work every day with his mask on around other people who refuse to wear masks putting himself at risk. Is it really so much to sacrifice to have to wear a mask until this "pandemic" gets knocked down to where it can be controlled? I think people's lives are worth it for the short duration! Yes, most will not have a severe case but how do you know who will? How do you know the lasting effects of those who do survive this? My honest opinion from a medical standpoint is that those who are not taking precautions such as not mandating masks either **a.** don't understand the true ramifications and devastation this disease can have on the human body and what it truly means to be on a ventilator alone fighting for your life or **b.** don't know somebody close to them who has gone through this.

I don't want to stay in my house forever. We moved here to be at the beautiful beaches, enjoy the town and dining BUT IT IS NOT SAFE OUT THERE! People do not take this serious and still act like "business as usual". Until this hits close to home you will not understand. If people were to wear masks it would allow this to get managed appropriately and people with underlying conditions could come out and support the restaurants and small businesses. I refuse to go to a restaurant, business or store until masks are mandated that everyone has to wear one.

Suggesting strongly that people wear masks is not enough! I drive through town and there are people right on top of other people not social distancing, not taking precautions, not wearing masks. Please do the responsible choice and mandate masks and protect the people!

Sincerely,

Laura A. Hanford

**From:** [James and Nancy Martin](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Mask ordinance  
**Date:** Friday, August 21, 2020 3:26:14 PM

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Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Council members,

It is time to pass a mandatory public mask ordinance for the health and safety of our community. As city hall council members you took an oath to protect residence of Venice. This is not a civil liberties issue, it is an urgent public health issue. Put politics aside...be responsible stewards of our public safety. Please vote yes for a mandatory public mask ordinance. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Martin  
Venice resident

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Deb Kelly](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#); [Ron Feinsod](#); [Lori Stelzer](#); [Deb Kelly](#)  
**Subject:** Mask Ordinance Venice City Council  
**Date:** Saturday, August 22, 2020 9:13:34 AM

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**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Lori can you please read at the meeting? Thank you

My name is Deb Kelly , I live on Venice Beach Island I need to thank Lori and Chris for their invaluable support in making these very important meetings accessible to so many of us and making it look easy..It is far from easy and i am very grateful.

I will not reiterate facts we are all well aware of by now.

To the Council:

First show up, there is absolutely positively no excuse not to show up . You were elected to represent your constituents, and you have incremental real time ZOOM technology monitored and supported by our own awesome Christophe.

Second, do not attack each other personally. You are better than that, and if you aren't the citizens of Venice most certainly are. We really do not want to hear it and you should not subject us to it.

Third, do not go on with rambling diatribes about yourselves. It really is not that interesting, and most importantly it is not the point. KEEP IT SIMPLE STUPID also known as KISS the mantra and design principle of the United States Navy circa 1960.

Fourth and Finally Please vote in favor of the Mask Mandate. But whatever you do, show up and vote.

Respectfully, Deb Kelly

**From:** [eComment](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please Mandate Masks!!!!!!!!!!!!!!  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 11:27:46 AM

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See below.

Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

---

**From:** Gretchen Dawson <gretchendawson@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 22, 2020 10:13 AM  
**To:** eComment <ecomment@venicegov.com>  
**Cc:** 'Bob Dawson' <bobdawsonvenice@comcast.net>  
**Subject:** Please Mandate Masks!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Please make masks mandatory in Venice. How can Sarasota County expect to recover/fight this pandemic if city governments do not unite in their approach! The brightest infectious disease doctors in our country promote mask wearing to prevent droplets from spreading. Please listen to them and mandate masks!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

*Gretchen and Bob Dawson*

**From:** [John Wallick](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Mask Ordinance (2024-24)  
**Date:** Saturday, August 22, 2020 3:58:37 AM

---

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Dear Venice City Officials:

I have lived in the Bird Bay area of Venice for several years and have often enjoyed Venice's beautiful Main Street for its ambiance, dining, and shopping. I miss it now, not because it is not there, but because when I drive downtown, I see too many pedestrians not wearing masks. I am assuming that, with the lax attitude from city government regarding a mask mandate, there are store people also not wearing masks.

As with many who retire in the area, I am especially vulnerable to contracting the Covid-19 virus, and the scary prognosis awaiting me if I do become infected. Consequently, I am putting City of Venice stores, restaurants, ice cream parlors and other businesses in my personal quarantine and staying away until a firm policy is enacted requiring face masks or coverings in the downtown area.

The very notion that a simple measure to protect citizens and businesses has become a political football is infuriating and frustrating. Every trained doctor, virologist and medical researcher has recommended this simple mitigating measure to protect each other from unnecessary exposure from a virus that is frequently fatal for people of our age. The idea that it's interfering with peoples' "freedom" seems pretty stupid when we see how seat belt mandates, "no shoes, no shirts, no service" mandates and other public service mandates have been accepted as reasonable and necessary to foster public safety and well-being.

I ask that you enact a mandatory mask mandate now! Our economy will never recover to any measure of sustainability until you do. Public safety should always trump political concerns.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Wj S](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Mask Ordinance (2024-24)  
**Date:** Saturday, August 22, 2020 1:42:19 PM

---

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Venice City Officials:

I have lived in the Bird Bay area of Venice for 18 years and enjoy Venice's beautiful Main Street for its ambiance, dining, and shopping. I miss it now, not because it is not there, but because when I drive downtown, I see too many pedestrians not wearing masks. I am assuming that, with the lax attitude from city government regarding a mask mandate, there are store people also not wearing masks.

As with many who retire in the area, I am especially vulnerable to contracting the Covid-19 virus, and the scary prognosis awaiting me if I do become infected. Already, I immediately leave a business when entering to see staff and customers without masks, and intend to stay away until a firm policy is enacted requiring face masks or coverings in the downtown area.

The very notion that a simple measure to protect citizens and businesses has become a political football is infuriating and frustrating. Every trained doctor, virologist and medical researcher has recommended this simple mitigating measure to protect each other from unnecessary exposure from a virus that is frequently fatal for people of our age. The idea that it's interfering with peoples' "freedom" seems pretty stupid when we see how seat belt mandates, "no shoes, no shirts, no service" mandates and other public service mandates have been accepted as reasonable and necessary to foster public safety and well-being.

I ask that you enact a mandatory mask mandate now! Our economy will never recover to any measure of sustainability until you do. Public safety should always trump political concerns.

**From:** [debbiemsalinas@gmail.com](mailto:debbiemsalinas@gmail.com)  
**To:** [LStelzer@Venice.gov](mailto:LStelzer@Venice.gov); [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Ordinance 2020-24 Mandatory Face Covering Requirement  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 7:55:06 PM

---

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

I respectfully request that my comments below be entered into record and read aloud at the Venice City Council Meeting on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

As a City of Venice resident, I strongly OPPOSE a mandatory face covering mandate. I do not believe that there is conclusive science that proves wearing a face mask will stop the spread of this particular virus COVID19 and the masks that are available and worn by the general public are simply ineffective. There are plenty of notable physicians that do not take the position of masking up the public.

The State of Florida has a recommendation to wear a mask only when social distancing is not possible. This is a recommendation, not an order.

I will be avoiding the downtown area if masks become mandatory.

Regards,  
Debbie Salinas  
591 Flamingo Dr

**From:** [greg.murphy](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Vote on mask ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 9:42:47 PM

---

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

We do not want the ordinance on wearing masks that will be voted on this week to pass. If anything, it is now seven months into this COVID situation and it is time to ease restrictions, not increase them.

Sincerely,

Greg and Lucille Murphy

**From:** [Karla Blake](#)  
**To:** [Lori Stelzer](#)  
**Cc:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Opposition to Masks  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 10:16:10 PM

---

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

I am expressing my opposition to a mask ordinance. Masks are for the sick not the healthy. A mask does not prevent the spread of a virus and the ordinance feeds into the fear, instilled by the media and that changes the dynamics of our beautiful small town.

Most people are doing more harm than good to their physical health by wearing a mask. They are wearing disposable masks repeatedly. The N95 is for an oxygen controlled surgical environment, not repeated use. Cloth masks develop moisture. Please stop the madness.

CDC flip flops on their position. Now saying it's not necessary.

I am asking that my letter will be read at the meeting. I want my voice to be heard.

Karla Blake

Venice Resident

**From:** [Larry Wilson](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Mask mandate  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 5:07:24 PM

---

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

I have been told that the city is considering an ordinance to require masks to be worn in Venice. Besides the fact that mask wearing is in many situations not only not beneficial but beyond that often harmful, government entities which require them under penalty of law are meddling in the freedoms of American citizens, and I will not obey such an ordinance if enacted. Furthermore, I will actively encourage others to disobey any such ordinance and work to remove any public officials who seek to enact such a policy.

I will be watching to see how this issue is debated and voted on.

Yours truly,  
Larry Wilson  
601 Armada Road S.

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Face mask ordinance - vote NO  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 4:41:33 PM

---

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---

**From:** Lee Carman <lee.carman@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 12:14:54 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Face mask ordinance - vote NO

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Council Member Helen Moore,

As a registered voter living in Venice I am notifying you of my opposition to the proposed mask ordinance up for final vote on 8/25.

There is insufficient historical evidence for mask wearing beyond the very elderly and immuno-compromised individuals. Studies published before March 2020 as well as the voices of hundreds of medical professionals are being ignored in order for government officials like yourself to take power from society.

I will withdraw my support for any elected official that votes in favor of this ordinance.

Regards,

Lee Carman

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: I am writing again to ask you to support the mask ordinance.  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 8:02:38 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

---

**From:** Leslie Chaput <ljchaput37@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 9:20 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** I am writing again to ask you to support the mask ordinance.

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

I did listen to the August 3 meeting and it seemed to me that even though the others diminished the time limit of the ordinance to concur with what it would seem to please you, you voted against it. I was dumbfounded. You stated that you hadn't made up your mind. I think that wasn't truthful. The virus hasn't gone away. Florida is not the desirable destination that it was. Please do your part to support the health of the residents and economy and support a mask ordinance.

Leslie Chaput 860.463.3222. iPhone

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mask ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 11:29:30 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

---

**From:** James and Nancy Martin <nm.jm@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 10:16 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask ordinance

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Council members,

It is time to pass a mandatory public mask ordinance for the health and safety of our community. As city hall council members you took an oath to protect residence of Venice. This is not a civil liberties issue, it is an urgent public health issue. Put politics aside...be responsible stewards of our public safety. Please vote yes for a mandatory public mask ordinance. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Martin  
Venice resident

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Face mask ordinance - vote NO  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 4:42:07 PM

---

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---

**From:** Sea Gal <hcarman2017@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 12:47 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore  
**Subject:** Face mask ordinance - vote NO

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Council Member Helen Moore,

As a registered voter living in Venice I am notifying you of my opposition to the proposed mask ordinance up for final vote on 8/25.

There is insufficient historical evidence for mask wearing beyond the very elderly and immuno-compromised individuals. Studies published before March 2020 as well as the voices of hundreds of medical professionals are being ignored in order for government officials like yourself to take power from society.

I will withdraw my support for any elected official that votes in favor of this ordinance.

Regards,  
Heather Carman

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Venice City Council Mask Ordinance  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 4:43:00 PM

---

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**From:** Sue <sbgilmore3131@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 1:03 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore  
**Cc:** Sue  
**Subject:** Venice City Council Mask Ordinance

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm disappointed, but actually more angry than disappointed! The Mayor has repeatedly tried to get a Mask Ordinance passed in the City of Venice to protect not only the City residents, but all of us who live in the area as well as those who might visit. I am disappointed that some of you decided not to "attend" meetings, thus postponing a decision that should have been made months ago at the start of this pandemic. If you really didn't want to serve, to do the job, why did you run for office in the first place? You are failing us! That makes me angry! It is, or at least it should be common knowledge that wearing a mask protects not only you, but others as well. Some of you even have "medical" background. You should have been leading this cause, not hindering it. You have failed miserably to protect the constituents who live in our area!

Prior to the beginning of this disastrous response to COVID-19, I was a frequent visitor to downtown Venice attending many Venice Theater productions as well as going to many of the area restaurants and shops. Although I do not live in the City of Venice, I do live in Venice. I have not been to downtown since and I will not be visiting until you decide that protecting our citizens is not only important, but prudent and best practice! Until then I will shop in Sarasota where from what I've observed has a Mask Ordinance that is enforced. You need to pass a Mask Ordinance that has teeth, is enforced and actually protects us. You need to do this now without further delay!

Respectfully,

Susanna B. Gilmore

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mask mandate  
**Date:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 11:29:08 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

---

**From:** Susan Donovan <susandonovan70@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 8:24 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask mandate

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Dear Helen,  
Please consider voting in favor of a mask mandate for Venice. Our lives depend on it!  
Thank you for serving on the city council.  
Susan Donovan  
106 Caneletto Way, North Venice, FL 34275  
Sent from Susan Donovan's iPad  
302.438.8180

**From:** [eComment](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Mandatory masks vote no  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 3:39:39 PM

---

See email below.

Lori Stelzer, MMC, City Clerk  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-480-3031 (fax)

---

**From:** Al Filskov <[afilskov@verizon.net](mailto:afilskov@verizon.net)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 11:40 AM  
**To:** eComment <[ecomment@venicegov.com](mailto:ecomment@venicegov.com)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mandatory masks vote no

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

[ecomment@venicegov.com](mailto:ecomment@venicegov.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Al Filskov <[afilskov@verizon.net](mailto:afilskov@verizon.net)>  
To: [ecomment@venicegov.com](mailto:ecomment@venicegov.com) <[ecomment@venicegov.com](mailto:ecomment@venicegov.com)>  
Sent: Mon, Aug 24, 2020 4:17 pm  
Subject: Mandatory masks vote no

To: Venice city Council,  
Reference mandatory masks,  
Please **vote no** to mandatory masks for Venice residents.  
Read the CDC guidelines – – masks are effective when social distancing is not convenient. Short time  
interface particularly outside is unlikely to spread the virus. You have to talk to the person roughly 10  
minutes to become infected – –  
Only for close contact recommend wearing a mask.  
Thank you, Al Filskov, long time senior Venice island resident.

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mask up  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 4:32:11 PM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

---

**From:** Beth Feldman <beth.marie.feldman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 9:43 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask up

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Helen

While I spend summers in Upstate New York, I love my Venice community and look forward each fall to my return. This year, however, I have grave apprehensions. We have been back in our New York home since early June and since then have been following local protocol and wearing a mask each and every time we are out and about. It has become the new norm, I would estimate that 99% of the people adhere to it and it has not affected my ability to enjoy life.

Why has Venice not adopted a similar requirement? Is it because council feels beholden. To follow the weak and ineffective leadership style of Governor DeSantis? I implore you to reconsider this stand and embrace the responsibility of keeping Venice residents safe and healthy. I believe it is your duty to do so.

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 4:30:08 PM

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**From:** Cheryl Gould <racvgould1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 11:50 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:**

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Hi,  
My Name is Cheryl Gould and I live at 699 Lakescene Dr, Venice, FL 34293 and my phone number is 941-408-8185.  
Would you please vote to have a Mask Ordinance in Venice,  
Thank you,  
Cheryl Gould

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Masks in Venice  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 7:33:10 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

---

**From:** Debbie <desimms1@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 6:16 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Masks in Venice

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

> Hi Helen,

> We are writing to implore you to implement a mandatory mask policy in Venice. We are residents of Venice but have spent the last several weeks in CT. We are heading back to Venice at the end of this month. Masks are mandatory when entering any business establishment in CT. There is no fuss or complaining about it regardless of political affiliation- everyone knows the rule and simply follows it. I can't tell you how much safer we feel here versus Venice and as a result have shopped considerably more in the last several weeks than we did in Venice and that was before the spike in cases in FL! Masks have been known to be very effective for some time now. It's really a very small inconvenience and honestly it boggles the mind that we are even still talking about whether or not it should be mandatory. Feeling safer means going out more and spending more money locally. We have not bought on line since being in CT but instead have bought from local businesses. If a mask policy is implemented we will do the same in Venice. If not, it's back to Amazon.

>

> Thank you,  
> David and Debbie Simmons  
> 187 Valenza Loop  
> Venice  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Please Approve Mask Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 4:30:52 PM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

---

**From:** Debra Schyvinck <schyvinckd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 12:20 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>; Nicholas Pachota <NPachota@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Please Approve Mask Ordinance

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Please add this email to the public record.

I only go to businesses where the owners demonstrate social responsibility to their customers by wearing masks and asking those who don't wear masks to please leave the area or their establishment.

That keeps me alive and those around me as well. If everyone followed the guidelines, we would be much farther along in stopping this virus from spreading.

People must be willing to sacrifice some of their comfort to stop a pandemic. The price of democracy is the ongoing pursuit of the **common good** by all of the people.

Law; is an ordinance of reason for the **common good**, made by him/her who has care of the community.

Please be public servants, Ms. Moore and Mr. Pachota, and vote YES on a mask ordinance for the City of Venice. I'll be tuned in to see and hear you vote.

Debra Schyvinck  
1701 Auburn Lakes Dr. #23  
Venice, FL 34292



**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Masks  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 9:32:24 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

---

**From:** jane serio <janehcs@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 9:29:25 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Masks

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

I have tried to reach you several times by phone but had been unsuccessful and even unable to lmom.

My name is Jane Serio and I live at 5073 Seagrass Dr. in Venice. I am hoping that you endorsed the need for masks in our community. I know many who refuse to go downtown anymore, we just don't feel safe. I haven't eaten at restaurants and have only done takeout from restaurants that wear masks. Are you going to feel safe with the children in school without masks? Nobody likes wearing them and you can always find some character on Facebook to prove their danger but it is time for common sense to rule.

There are quite a few people visiting from out of state and how do you know they aren't bringing more than money to Venice.

Please use common sense and science or you will have to be held responsible for part of the 10k that have died in Florida.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mask Mandate  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:34:18 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

---

**From:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:33 AM  
**To:** Joanna Hagemann  
**Subject:** Re: Mask Mandate

Thank you for expressing your concerns. What an unfortunate situation you describe. Impossible to understand the attitudes of the workers who were actually invited guests into your home!  
As much as I'd like to respond further, Florida's Government in the Sunshine Law prohibits elected officials from communicating in a venue that other members may also view.  
Respectfully  
Helen

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

---

**From:** Joanna Hagemann <johagemann@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:07:02 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask Mandate

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

A little over a week ago, I had a crew come to my house to install storm windows. They were not wearing masks, but I figured they were going to be mostly working outside, so I didn't say anything. After they started working, I realized that they do have to work inside as well. I didn't say anything, and that's on me. At the end of their work, they wanted to discuss next steps and sat down at my dining room table. I asked them to put on a mask and keep their distance, and they said they don't have masks and won't wear them. They I had to socially distance myself from them since they didn't care about it.

2 days later, I got extremely ill and could not get out of bed for 2 days. I had several Covid symptoms. As of today, I am still not back to normal, but I am better. I called my doctor last week and she said I should get a Covid test. I am still waiting on the results of the test.

I'm telling you this story to illustrate that you can't count on people doing the right thing just based on a resolution to do so. If that company had required masks, I wouldn't be wondering if that crew was the cause of my illness right now. Now, I realize that it might not have been Covid, but it certainly was scary! You can't rely on people doing the right thing. Please vote to mandate masks in Venice.

Joanna Hagemann

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Venice Mask Ordinance - VOTE YES!  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:44:32 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

---

**From:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:44 AM  
**To:** Laurie Priest  
**Subject:** Re: Venice Mask Ordinance - VOTE YES!

Thank you for expressing your concerns.  
As much as I'd like to respond, Florida's Government in the Sunshine Law prohibits elected officials from communicating in a venue that other members may also view.  
Respectfully  
Helen

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

---

**From:** Laurie Priest <lpriest@mtholyoke.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:34:36 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Venice Mask Ordinance - VOTE YES!

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Council Member Moore:

I am writing to request that you support the Mask Ordinance in Venice and that you include this letter into the Council meeting record.

The Surgeon General of the United States and government medical experts support the wearing of masks as a way to slow down the spread of this virus and we in Venice must protect our citizens by requiring this action. Tourism is also critical to the economy of Venice and if we do not take reasonable steps to limit the spread of the virus, I believe that many people will not return to Venice this fall and winter. That would increase the already negative impact we have seen on the Venice economy. As a resident of Venice, I currently will not enter any business or grocery that does not require wearing masks. I want to protect others and also protect myself.

Wearing a mask to protect oneself and others should not be a political issue and I ask that the City Council come together to listen to the medical experts and do the right thing for our City, residents and tourists.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laurie Priest  
860 Whitecap Circle  
Venice, FL 34285

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: masking in Venice  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 9:31:31 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

---

**From:** Leslie Mass <mass.leslie1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 9:21:18 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** masking in Venice

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

My disabled husband and I shop and dine regularly in Venice. Please vote for the mask ordinance so that we can continue to support Venice businesses and be safe ourselves. A thin cloth mask on customers and staff is very little to ask for the safety and good health of all.  
Thank you. Leslie Mass  
1779 Manasota Beach Rd  
941 473 2542

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Venice Mask Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:00:41 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

---

**From:** Linda Roe <lroe03@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 9:56 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore  
**Subject:** Venice Mask Ordinance

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Ms. Moore,

I find it unbelievable that you are against this ordinance! We ventured went out to have lunch down town on Saturday to TJ Carney's. We sat out side.

While all front line workers in the restaurant and customers were following CDC guidelines many people walking on the sidewalk did not have on masks. You know that area, there is no chance at social distancing, so as we sat there unmasked trying to eat our food, people not using masks were still putting us in danger.

I am incensed that you are allowing all of your constituents, business owner, our city to be put in this situation. We very much want to support our local merchants! We were not safe, your unwillingness to do what is necessary To protect our community is appalling.

Linda and Jim Roe  
801 Turf  
Venice, Fl. 34285

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mask mandate  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 9:30:54 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

---

**From:** Marc Antine <marcantine341@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 9:18:20 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask mandate

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

My name is Marc Antine; my wife and I reside at 341 Turtleback Crossing in the city of Venice. We believe that it is the first priority of government to protect its citizens. During the present pandemic, the reality is that our only present weapons against the COVID-19 virus are the wearing of masks and social distancing. It is also clear that it is impossible to effectively restart our economy until we dramatically lower the spread of the virus.

We strongly urge you to vote in favor of a mask mandate in the city of Venice. Voluntary measures such as passing a resolution with no force of law behind it have proven to be wholly ineffective. It is wrong to conflate passing a needed health regulation with the idea of stifling freedom of speech. I can speak quite well with my mask on!

Marc Antine.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mask mandate  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 4:39:53 PM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

---

**From:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 3:39 PM  
**To:** Marianne Richards <maryrichards@hotmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Mask mandate

Thank you for expressing your very valid concerns.  
As much as I'd like to respond, Florida's Government in the Sunshine Law prohibits elected officials from communicating in a venue that other members may also view.  
Respectfully  
Helen

---

**From:** Marianne Richards <maryrichards@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 1:09 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask mandate

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear Helen,

I understand you are taking a vote Tuesday morning about a mask mandate for the city of Venice, my new home town. As a retired Physician Assistant who is concerned about the health of Florida and someone very concerned about the economy also, a mask mandate is the fastest way to improve both situations. The seniors in my community do not feel safe going in to town so we are staying home. We would love to be back having Italian food on Venice Avenue or shopping in our favorite stores but the CDC doesn't recommend seniors to be in public until Phase 3. We need to get the local virus count down to a much more acceptable percentage before we will feel safe venturing out again. Even in Phase 3, seniors still are recommended to social distance and wear masks. As you know, seniors make up a huge part of our local economy.

Since I attended your previous zoom meeting about the mask mandate, I know that one of your prime concerns was enforcement. What is happening across the country is that there are still uninformed holdouts that refuse to wear masks but that a higher percentage of citizens will wear a mask if it is required (but not if it is not). They are compliant if it is a law. Even

if we don't get 100% compliance, a mask mandate would make a difference. My friends here will not enter a store or restaurant where there is not a mask mandate (with the understood removal for eating, of course).

I know from the prior meeting that you personally have chosen to wear a mask when in public.

I thought you might enjoy reading this article about the importance of masks.

<https://www.ucsf.edu/news/2020/06/417906/still-confused-about-masks-heres-science-behind-how-face-masks-prevent>

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Please make this decision using science. When science guides our decisions, politics has no place (only facts).

To your health,

Marianne Richards, PA-Emeritus

Juice Plus and Tower Garden Representative

Inspiring healthy living around the world

[www.richardsgardens.juiceplus.com](http://www.richardsgardens.juiceplus.com)



**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mask Ordinance the very least we can do  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 9:36:46 AM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

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**From:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 9:36 AM  
**To:** Marsha Davis  
**Subject:** Re: Mask Ordinance the very least we can do

Thank you for expressing your concerns.  
As much as I'd like to respond, Florida's Government in the Sunshine Law prohibits elected officials from communicating in a venue that other members may also view.  
Respectfully  
Helen

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

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**From:** Marsha Davis <marsharialdavis@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 9:33:45 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask Ordinance the very least we can do

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Hello Ms Moore,

My husband and I are Venice residents ( 121 Castile Street ..on the island) and we are writing you to ask that you support a mask ordinance for Venice.

Our address and phone # are 121 Castile Street, Venice Fl 34285 Phone # is 518-755-2648.

My husband is a physician and I am a nurse practitioner with an advanced degree. We both have extensive experience in the field of public health. Mandating mask wearing is one of the simplest actions to help prevent the spread of Covid 19 which continues to devastate Florida. We know from the science that masks work. But it works best if everyone is wearing one.

Countries in Europe that mandated mask wearing are the first to open up fully and thereby helping their economies during this pandemic.

Thank you for your time.

Marsha and George Davis

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Masks  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:34:57 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council

---

**From:** Patricia Shreeve <pattishreeve1@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:21 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore  
**Subject:** Masks

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Please vote to require masks in stores and restaurants in the city of Venice and outside when social distancing is not possible. Thank you for helping to protect the health of the citizens of Venice. I am a voter and have owned a home in Venice for 16 years.  
Thank you, Patti Shreeve.

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Vote on Mandatory Mask  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 4:36:19 PM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

---

**From:** soonerpatriot@ionet.net <soonerpatriot@ionet.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 1:04 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Vote on Mandatory Mask

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Helen,

Vote no on the mandatory mask item on the city council's agenda. There is nothing wrong with leaving it to individual choice. The mask has been proven not to work, but if people want to inhibit their breathing by wearing a mask and feeling safer, then by all means let them wear a mask.

Let's not resort to DRACONIAN AUTHORITARIANISM and mandate that everyone wear a mask. It will only resort to petty people forming a mask gestapo and more division in our city than what already is due to politically motivated activities such as this.

VOTE NO on mandatory masks - leave it to individual discretion.

God Bless America,

Randall Wedin

**From:** [Sam Beiler](#)  
**To:** [eComment](#)  
**Cc:** [Melody Beiler](#); [Chris Beiler \(Chrisb@nooksports.com\)](#); [Monica Beiler](#); [Matt Beiler](#)  
**Subject:** Comment regarding Mask Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 1:05:09 PM

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**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Good afternoon. I am writing with regard to the proposed mask ordinance under consideration.

I am OPPOSED to this ordinance and respectfully request the council not implement this. We are residents on Casey Key and following Sarasota city mask rules, moved all of our dining out (nearly every night) to Venice. We love the charm of Venice and simply don't want this as part of our experience. No matter the good intentions, this will come with "mask enforcing Karen's" that change the dynamics of our very positive experiences on Venice and Miami Avenues.

Of course, we will respect, or choose to go elsewhere, if a proprietor of a business requires masks. A government mandate with fines attached is simply not a good idea.

Sam Beiler

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Mask Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 4:31:18 PM

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Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

---

**From:** Sandra Murphy <sandra.murphy98@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:48 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask Ordinance

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Helen Moore:

My name is Sandra Murphy. I am asking you to support the Mask Ordinance proposed for Venice. My address is 647 Lakescene Drive and phone # is 781-264-4107. Please vote YES. Thank you.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** [Kim Savage](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** SMH support for mask ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 1:41:14 PM

---

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

We appreciate you forwarding this joint statement of support from Sarasota Memorial Health Care System to the Venice City Council in advance of tomorrow's reading of the city's proposed mask ordinance.

Thank you,  
Kim Savage, PIO/Spokesperson  
Sarasota Memorial Health Care System  
(941) 917-6271 / (941) 893-7649 Cell

**TO:** Venice City Council  
**FROM:** Sarasota Memorial Health Care System  
**DATE:** Aug. 24, 2020

Wearing masks and social distancing are reducing the spread of the novel coronavirus in our state and communities. At Sarasota Memorial Hospital, we are heartened to see infection rates and hospitalizations declining, and are grateful for the safety precautions people are taking to keep their families, friends and communities safe.

As Florida schools reopen and flu season approaches, wearing a mask and physical distancing is more important than ever. We encourage ongoing diligence as our nation continues to develop better treatments and a vaccine to blunt the severity of COVID-19.

We strongly support local mask ordinances and urge the Venice City Council to require cloth masks be worn in public places during these uncertain times. We know it's not easy, but it's critical to minimize the spread of the virus in our region.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

**David Verinder, President & CEO**  
Sarasota Memorial Health Care System

**James Fiorica, MD, Chief Medical Officer**  
Sarasota Memorial Health Care System

**Manuel Gordillo, MD, Infectious Disease Specialist**  
Medical Director, Sarasota Memorial Infection Prevention and Control

\*\*\*\*\*

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you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender and permanently delete the e-mail and any attachments immediately. You should not retain, copy or use this e-mail or any attachments for any purpose, nor disclose all or any part of the contents to any other person.

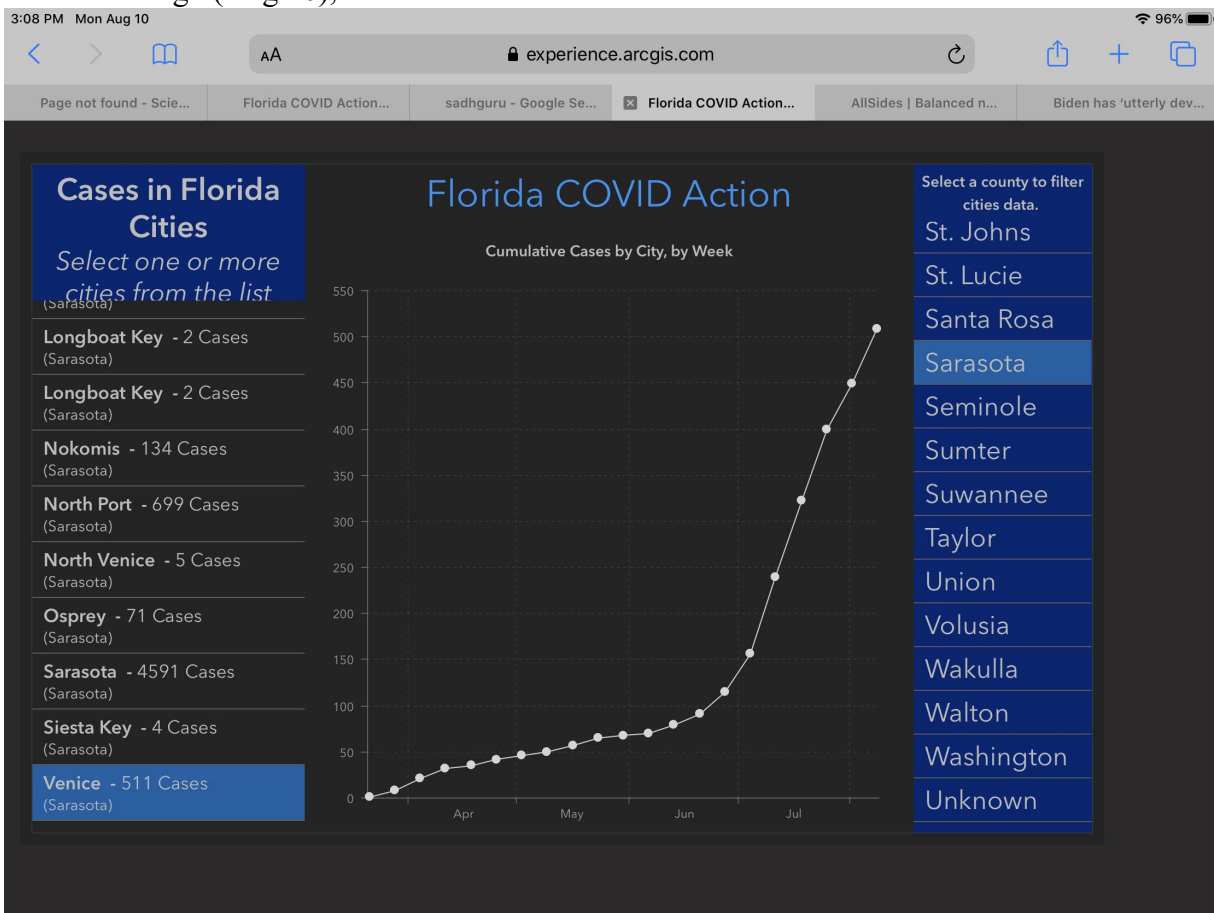
**From:** [Elizabeth Stone](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Mask Ordinance  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 2:54:45 PM

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

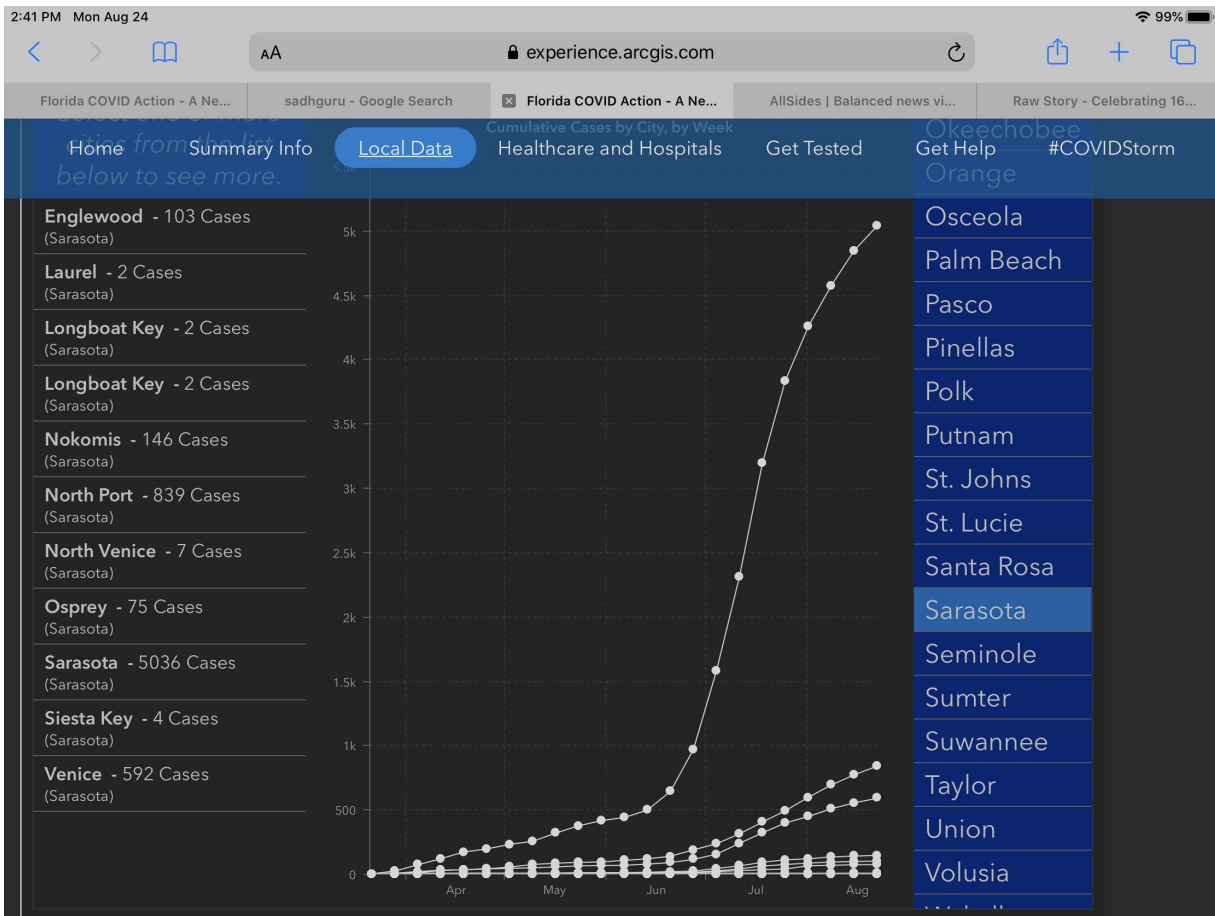
To all City Council Members,

Again, I urge you to pass a mask Ordinance! While it is not a cure-all preventative for Covid, wearing a mask will certainly better protect the wearer AND those nearby than not.

Two weeks ago (Aug 10), these were the stats:



Today, these are the stats:



An increase of **81 cases in 14 days.**

PLEASE pass this sensible measure to protect all the citizens of Venice.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Stone

--

**\*\*Be the change you wish to see in the world\*\*** Mahatma Gandhi

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Face Mask Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 7:32:22 AM

---

Helen Kirchner Moore  
Venice City Council Seat 3

---

**From:** Sue Herbst <suzanneherbst@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 6:13 PM  
**To:** Helen Moore <HMoore@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Face Mask Ordinance

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

I am writing today ask that you support the mask ordinance for Venice. Many, many studies have shown that wearing masks with slow the spread of COVID 19. Venice's population is mostly an older one. For the sake of the citizens of Venice and those that work in our community, please do the right thing.

On a personal note, my husband I do not patronize any business where the employees and staff do not wear masks and do not require that customers to wear them. The notion that it infringes on people's rights is ridiculous. We all wear a seat belt, are expected to abide by laws and not smoke in public places aren't we?

Thank you.  
Suzanne Herbst-Ecker  
194 Bella Vista Terrace  
Unit C  
N Venice  
215-519-6066

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad

**From:** [Helen Moore](#)  
**To:** [Mercedes Barcia](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd:  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:43:14 AM

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**From:** Tiffaney <siestatiff@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:36 AM  
**To:** Helen Moore  
**Cc:** ♥ Tiff  
**Subject:**

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Hi! I walk my dog every night on Venice island. I do not like being made to wear a mask when I do this. I'll find other places to walk if I'm made to wear a mask outdoors.  
Thank you,  
Tiffaney Conner

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

**From:** [Tony Palermo](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Mask Mandate - For it.  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 11:26:42 AM

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**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Does the City have a mask mandate or not? I am for it, as are the majority of citizens.

Thank you.

**From:** [Judy Viola](#)  
**To:** [eComment](#)  
**Subject:** NO Masks  
**Date:** Monday, August 24, 2020 2:32:58 PM

---

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Please have the good sense to vote NO to the mask mandate. If we care enough to vote for you, trust us to have the good sense to keep our distance.

In addition I will not support any business that forces the issue when this plandemic is over.

Judy Viola  
555 The Esplanade N Unit 404  
Venice FL

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Daniel Tucci](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Masks  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 5:37:30 AM

---

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

There should be no reason to revisit this, the China virus is going down Sarasota county and mask really don't work You're making people who might have a medical condition where mask . To quote Ronald Reagan government is not the cure government is the problem please don't be bullied by the Democrat up there. Attached to this is a warning / disclaimer that are on the mass at office Depot also there's a video of Dr fouchy in March talking about how Mass really don't work.

*Sent from my Verizon Motorola Smartphone*

On Aug 13, 2020 5:03 PM, Daniel Tucci <dgtucci1964@gmail.com> wrote:

[https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=PRa6t\\_e7dgl](https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=PRa6t_e7dgl) this is Florida not New Jersey and should not be used like New Jersey politics. You cannot make people wear a mask no one has been convicted of a crime and by doing so I could also violate other laws federal. City council should be involved in other business let the businesses and Venice run their own show like they see fit if they want their customers to wear a mask and they need to have a sign on the door. It's not the city's responsibility to dictate.

*Sent from my Verizon Motorola Smartphone*

**From:** [fred M](#)  
**To:** [rfeinsod@venice.gov](mailto:rfeinsod@venice.gov)  
**Cc:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Mask.  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 3:28:30 PM

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**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Mr. Mayor, for those of us that could not attend the meeting what data was used to support an OUTSIDE mask mandate. According to the State of Florida web site, cases in Florida specifically Sarasota County are dropping even with massive testing efforts. In the Venice Zip of 34285 the last 14 days averaged 1.4 positive per day? That's a zip code with a Hospital and several nursing homes in it! Other than your own agenda and that of your party affiliation, what justifies an outdoor mandate? This just causes tensions to rise among your citizens. Can you or the other members who supported this outweigh the science about the percentage of spread out of doors?

This is not a city of mass crowds. Protect the sick and vulnerable. Let the healthy people live. Let the small business men and woman decide what's best for their businesses. They will continue to suffer when people will shop and dine elsewhere where they are not forced or controlled by local politicians with an agenda?

Sincerely  
Jim M

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [eComment](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Mask mandate  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 3:36:28 PM

---

See email received below.

Lori Stelzer, MMC, City Clerk  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-480-3031 (fax)

---

**From:** Marianne Richards <maryrichards@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 2:34 PM  
**To:** eComment <ecomment@venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Mask mandate

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Dear City Council members,

As a retired medical provider who recently named Venice as her home town (387 Padova Way), I want to thank you for following the science today in your decision about the mask mandate. I attended 2 of your meetings on Zoom regarding this issue and I saw the difficulties you all were experiencing with this decision. You made the best decision you could for the health of the senior citizens in our community. You were brave! Courage is often what is necessary to do the right thing.

I am hopeful that the majority of our community will begin to understand the importance of the mandate and also the science behind it. I am hopeful that we will be rewarded through this action with a lower viral positivity rate. We can keep the economy open through this difficult time. It will take putting the safety of one another first which is what you did today. I am very grateful. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

To your health,  
Marianne Richards, PA-Emeritus  
Juice Plus and Tower Garden Representative  
Inspiring healthy living around the world  
[www.richardsgardensjuiceplus.com](http://www.richardsgardensjuiceplus.com)



**From:** [Peter Lisowski](#)  
**To:** [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Masks  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:25:22 PM

---

Caution: This email originated from an external source. Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information

Dear Council Members:

Please consider a retraction of your mask order.

Why now this mask order? I assume that all of you have been following the statistics?, ALL numbers tied up with this virus are going down! Have any of you researched the science, and again statistics about this blown out of proportion issue? Oh, by the way even if you did reply to my letter to you, please don't!, please do not quote our CDC or Dr. Fauci, He is a big part of this misinformation problem. Another consideration for you to discuss; our normal flue season is almost started - please note past history numbers, you have multiple more cases, many more unfortunate deaths. So, Will you then order more face coverings or? Here's another reference point to think (please think!), I'll call this a 'small' tennis (150 people) population survey: +/- 95% do not wear (unless ordered) any face coverings!

Believe what you want, but please stop trying to be my keeper.

A Very Concerned Citizen

Lori Stelzer

masks

566

**From:** Israel Salinas <israel.salinasjr@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 23, 2020 8:35 PM  
**To:** eComment  
**Cc:** Lori Stelzer  
**Subject:** Regarding Ordinance 2020-24: Mandatory Face Covering Requirement

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

I respectfully request that my comments (below) be entered into record and read aloud at the Venice City Council Meeting on August 25, 2020.

As a City of Venice resident, I strongly OPPOSE a mandatory face covering mandate. I'm writing to make it clear that it is not true that "the majority of people in Venice wish to see a mask mandate" as one person indicated in an email to the Mayor on August 18<sup>th</sup>. I've reviewed the *Written Correspondence 8-3-20 through 8-18-20* and found that correspondents were 4 to 3 in opposition of a mandate until August 4<sup>th</sup> when the Mayor suggested to Dorothy Bowelman that she contact Chuck Newsom, Joe Neunder, Helen Moore, and Nick Pachota; and again on August 7<sup>th</sup> when the Mayor suggested to Tina Marrelli that Helen Moore and Nick Pachota should be specifically targeted to explain their positions.

For those supporters who argue that a mandate will allow them to partake in normal activities outside their home such as dining out, shopping, seeing friends, etc. I contend that even if masks were mandatory, these individuals will likely continue to refrain from these activities due to the ongoing fear driven by the media. As it stands now, we have the FREEDOM as a personal choice to voluntarily partake in these activities with a mask. Most businesses, Walmart, Publix, Lowes, etc. currently require a mask and appear highly successful with compliance – all without a government mandate!

It seems that the media is driving fear by painting a picture that COVID is rampant, out of control in the entire state of Florida. The fact is (according to Google COVID-19 MAP) most of the infections in Florida are seen in South Eastern counties surrounding Miami and the total number of cases across the state have been in decline since peaking in July. As of August 23<sup>rd</sup>, there were 6,980 total reported cases of COVID in Sarasota County; this represents an infection rate of 1.6% of the Sarasota County population (using 2019 US census figures). So in other words, your chances of getting COVID in Sarasota County are a little more than about 1 in 100. There were 180 deaths attributed to COVID in Sarasota County; this represents 0.04% of the Sarasota County population.

Mandating face coverings provides a false sense of security. Medical professionals have previously emphasized that diligent attention to good sanitization practices and the proper use of approved face coverings is paramount to containing the spread of COVID. There are many face coverings that are completely ineffective in protecting the wearer or containing their expelled particulates. As previously submitted by another citizen, a disclaimer from Office Depot for masks being sold states "This product does NOT eliminate the risk of contracting any disease, infectious or virus." I've personally seen many individuals continually touch their face in the process of adjusting their face covering which puts them at substantial risk.

Mandating a mask will most likely have the opposite effect for downtown Venice, causing even more people to avoid going downtown. If a mandate is passed, people who can't wear a mask for medical reasons will fear being subject to harassment and avoid these public areas. So in the end, those currently living in fear of COVID will still remain at home

and those fearing harassment will be added to those numbers. If a face covering is mandated, I for one will avoid going downtown due to the extreme discomfort of wearing a mask while walking in the heat.

Sincerely,

Israel Salinas  
591 Flamingo Drive  
Venice, FL

## Lori Stelzer

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**From:** sharol <sharol2011@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 10:31 AM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer  
**Subject:** Re: Question on providing one slide as public comment for 8/25 City Council meeting  
**Attachments:** City Council mtg 2020.08.25 - from SLSchell.pdf; City Council mtg 2020.08.25 - from SLSchell.ppsx

Hello again, Lori ~

I will send my slide to you for your advice, and for my next action to get it included for tomorrow's meeting.

I would be grateful if you read nothing more than the very top line of the slide!

I'm sending it in 2 formats, as I don't know which is preferable: 1) as a .PDF; 2) as a PowerPoint read-only "show" .PPSX

As always, I appreciate your awesomeness. Stay safe,  
Sharol Louise Schell  
9 year-resident of Venice, FL  
Citizens University 2020

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On 8/24/2020 8:39 AM, Lori Stelzer wrote:

Sharol,

The instructions allow for you to request your comments be read during the meeting, if they are under the word limit. It doesn't have an allowance to show documents. I would have to read your power point slide, if that's what you're requesting. Not having seen the slide, I don't know if that's possible. You can send it to me and make that request. Once I see it I'll let you know if it will work. I can forward your document to city council members also. Thanks.

Lori Stelzer, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Venice  
401 W. Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
941-882-7390  
941-303-3486 (cell)

**From:** T&S <sharol2011@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 8:11 AM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** Question on providing one slide as public comment for 8/25 City Council meeting

**Caution:** This email originated from an external source. **Be Suspicious of Attachments, Links and Requests for Login Information**

Good morning, Lori!

I have one PowerPoint slide I'd like to contribute, to be shown at the 8/25 City Council meeting.

I have no letter to go with it, and I don't need to speak, as it will be self-explanatory. I could include it as a .pdf, or as a .pptx, or as a show (.ppsx)

Q) Is that possible? If so, do I email the slide to ecomment per # 3 (below)? Can you please tell me what time the deadline is today (or if I've already missed it)?

Thank you, AS USUAL!

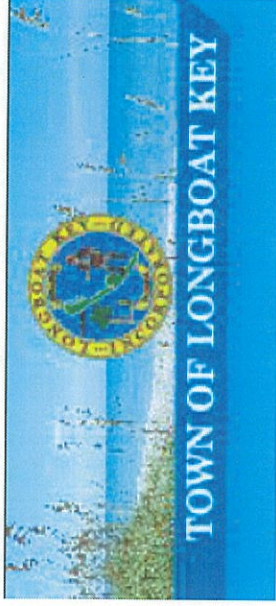
Sharol Louise Schell

Venice resident, Citizens University class of 2020 :-)

Posted instruction # 3:

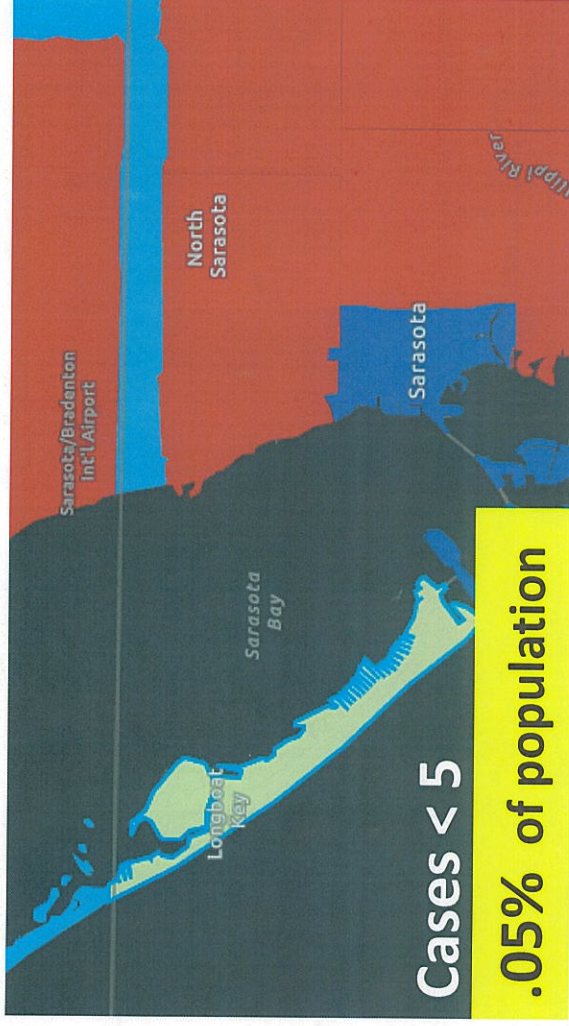
"Watch the meeting online and provide public comment prior to the meeting: You may provide written comments by emailing [ecomment@venicegov.com](mailto:ecomment@venicegov.com) or by regular mail to City Clerk Lori Stelzer, 401 W. Venice Avenue, Venice, FL 34285. Provide your full name and home address and if you are a city business owner, list the business name and address. "

**PLEASE take one minute of silence to review the DATA:**    Sourced as of 08/24/2020 \*



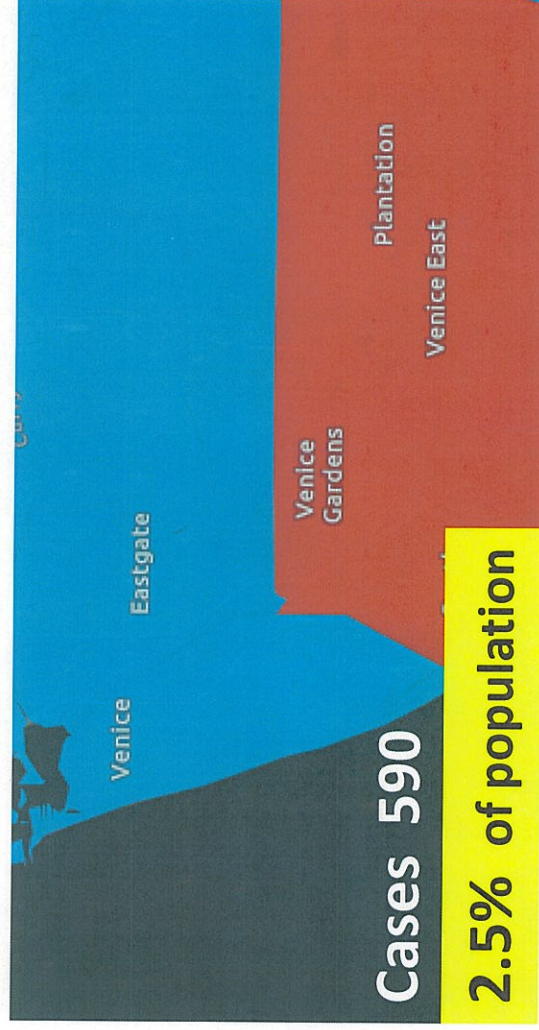
- July 2, 2020 - "The Town of Longboat Key adopted Ordinance 2020-10: **Face masks are required** "

• August 24 



- July 21, 2020 - **Urges** wearing of masks
- August 3 - Mask **ordinance fails**

• August 24 



\* Query: "Post Office = Venice"; Source: FL Dept of Health, Division of Disease Control and Health Protection

**Lori Stelzer**

**From:** Pamela Fiume <pamela@pamelafiume.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2020 1:17 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer  
**Cc:** eComment  
**Subject:** RE: Letter to City RE: MASK MANDATE/MEETING MONDAY

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Hi Lori,

I just learned we are having another meeting about the masks mandate tomorrow? If so, please kindly read my email at the bottom during the meeting again.

Thank you!  
Pamela

**From:** Pamela Fiume  
**Sent:** Friday, July 31, 2020 12:09 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>  
**Cc:** eComment <ecomment@venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Letter to City RE: MASK MANDATE/MEETING MONDAY

Good morning Lori ☺

I will be out of town next week, but I would appreciate it if you would once again read my letter below during the meeting next week. My thoughts have not changed.

Thank you!  
Pamela

**From:** Pamela Fiume  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 23, 2020 4:53 PM  
**To:** Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>  
**Cc:** eComment <ecomment@venicegov.com>  
**Subject:** FW: Letter to City RE: MASK MANDATE/MEETING FRIDAY

Hi Lori ☺

Please read my letter again tomorrow during the mask meeting for the record. I changed it just a little from Tuesday's letter I sent you (see below – it's my final version for tomorrow).

Thank you so much!  
Pamela

Dear Mayor and City Council Members of Venice,

Good morning to you all. I participated in the original City Council meeting regarding a mask mandate on 7/14 (just last week), where the City Council voted AGAISNT a mask mandate. I, and many others I know, are not really sure WHY you are voting on the same issue just 10 days later? It reminds me of the 2016 election when the losing party could not accept the results, so they embarked on a mission to impeach the President that has yet to end.

I, and pretty much everyone I know or talk to, continue to be against the mandate, nothing has changed in 10 days. I still talk to people every day in my business, and in other businesses I visit, that do not agree with a mandate. In particular, younger people who are being forced to wear a mask 8 hours a day, every day, in order to be able to earn a living. One young woman after two weeks of wearing one, thought she was having a heart attack, so she went to the doctor and after countless tests found out, that it wasn't a "heart" attack, but an "anxiety" attack caused by the masks.

If I was a business or a government entity requiring my employees to wear a mask 8 hours a day for months, I would not be able to sleep at night fearing that in a year or so, I would be flooded with lawsuits from people who got sick from wearing them.

I understand that a great number of Venice's population is over the age of 68, and I can understand their fear of catching the virus, but most of them are also retired, don't have to work to be able to pay their bills anymore like the younger and working people do. Which makes it a lot easier for them to stay safe by staying at home, keeping social distancing, and when they do go out, wear a mask and use common sense.

The younger people and we the workers do not have that option; we have to go to work. My question to you is, why do the rest of us have to wear a mask all day risking OUR health's due to the many documented inherent problems of wearing a mask all day, so that retired people can feel safe when they want to go out shopping, etc.?

Like I said last week, there is ample information online to support both sides of the argument, though from the news coming out lately, supporting a mask mandate due to increased cases might be losing the battle, because there are many reports showing that the numbers have been exaggerated by many means all over the country, including reporting "probable" cases as "positive" cases like they did in Texas (they just deleted 3,400 cases from the positive list because they were not confirmed), that the CDC is being investigated by the Federal Government due to poor handling of test kits, and misrepresenting numbers, that 33 labs in Florida misreported statistics, and in our own county, examples of Sarasota Memorial reporting death by COVID when the victim died of an overdose.

What I don't see being used at all anywhere is COMMON SENSE: how does it make sense for everyone to wear a mask when most of them are not worn properly, not clean or disinfected, when people continue to touch their face and in doing so spread the germs on surfaces everywhere they go, and when it has been documented that most, if not all masks, DO NOT hold virus particles, they go right through the masks. The only thing they do prevent is spittle when someone talks, but that's why we have the 6-foot social distance rule, right?

In conclusion, I hope the 4 Council members that voted against it last week will stick to their guns and do so again today. Thank you once more for giving me an opportunity to speak up.

Respectfully yours,



*Pamela Fiume*  
216 870 7273

*"Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly, and leave the rest to God."*