

Debra Thompson

From: Cindi Lagoudakis <trembladakis@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 4:24 PM
To: Assembly; Debra Thompson; khagerman@peteresburgak.gov
Subject: Comments on the mandate for face masks

Dear Assembly,

I wish to comment briefly on the proposed mandate for wearing face masks in public. While I don't enjoy wearing mine, I recognize the importance of protecting others in this time of national and global emergency. Some have tried to make this an issue of personal rights. We are facing an extraordinary time and need to take some extraordinary measures. Wearing a mask is not any bigger a burden or infraction of rights than wearing a seat belt or a bike helmet, or wearing shoes and shirt in a restaurant. It is not even a permanent mandate. It is a temporary measure designed to protect us all, and does not even have to present a financial burden. Many local sewers are creating masks and donating them.

It will likely be unpopular to pass such a mandate, but most people recognize we care about others in this community and are willing to work together to keep each other safe. The first year I lived in Petersburg, it just so happened that I attended eight funerals. I hope never to have to do that again. If wearing a mask for a few weeks or months while in public could help prevent that, I'm happy to do so.

I urge you to vote for the mandate, and appreciate the time and thought you consider this measure.

Cindi Lagoudakis