

Debra Thompson

From: Steph Romine <stephromine@gci.net>
Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 12:32 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: Health Mandates Input for 11/16 Meeting

Dear Borough Assembly Members,

I wanted to write in support of the health mandates before you tonight. I advocate for the wearing of masks in public spaces and believe it to be a very small price to pay for providing Petersburg its best chance in managing our current health crisis. We must use the tools that we have at hand. Distancing is key, but wearing a mask when you can't distance to protect those around you is highly recommended by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, the American Public Health Association, Alaska Department of Health, and our local experts at PMC. Why would we not follow these recommendations?

I am very close to this issue as an RN at PMC that will be responding to health emergencies that affect you and our community. As we have had time to prepare for these possibilities, it is clear that even a few active cases requiring hospitalization will greatly impact PMC and its resources. As PMC CEO Phil Hofstetter mentioned, our "staffing depth is razor thin." With cases in Alaska increasing to more worrisome levels, the time to act is now.

Respectfully,

Stephanie Romine, RN