

Chris Taggart

From: Marisa Neyenhuis <marisa.neyenhuis@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2020 8:31 PM
To: Ravalli County Commissioners Office
Cc: Dfarrenkopf@cityofhamilton.net
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Help Us Keep Our Communities Safe

Hello,

I'm writing tonight as both a business owner and resident in Hamilton.

From the perspective of a business owner, we need your help! As one of a limited number of businesses in Hamilton currently requiring masks for all staff and customers, we have people coming in every day, refusing to wear a mask, yelling at us and declaring that they will take their business elsewhere. It is exhausting and disheartening. I am beginning to feel anxious every time someone enters the store who isn't already wearing a mask as I have to steel myself for a potentially unpleasant interaction. If the Commissioners and Mayor would lead by example and support and enforce the mask mandate in Hamilton and Ravalli County, it would make keeping my doors open so much easier.

As a resident of Hamilton, I understand that you are getting a lot of pushback from folks on both sides of the mask issue and I know that has to be difficult. Please put politics aside, look at the science and support mask wearing to keep our children, our elders and our entire county safe and healthy. Masks are not a cure-all for Covid, but anything we can do to slow this alarming spike we're seeing is worth it.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to making this valley a safe place for everyone.

Sincerely,
Marisa Neyenhuis
Hamilton

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