

## Chris Taggart

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**From:** Archie Thomas <archie5463@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 31, 2020 1:43 PM  
**To:** Chris A. Hoffman; Jeff Burrows; Ravalli County Commissioners Office  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] COVID prospective

This is was not written by me but I agree with its meaning and intent. The reason I sent it to the commission is as county leaders your mixed message to residents includes to be considerate of others and take personal responsibility. The mixed message is conveying that is OK to not wear a mask or or adhere to related guideline if personally an individual don't agree with the guidelines. You can't on one hand ask people to be responsible, before first agreeing to what responsible behavior is, communicated it clearly and consistently and further sanctioning residen'ts irresponsible behavior if they disagree with guidelines.

Archie Thomas

A community is only as big as its conscience can be-- have been wearing a mask in stores (and limiting my trips) since March when this whole thing went down. I'm not sure how being considerate to others for the common good is now being mocked by some who are calling it "living in fear", but it needs to stop. When I wear a mask over my nose and mouth in public and in the stores/Supermarkets/Pharmacies/Offices - I want you to know the following:

- I'm educated enough to know that I could be asymptomatic and still give you the virus.
- No, I don't "live in fear" of the virus; I just want to be part of the solution, not the problem.
- I don't feel like the "government controls me." I feel like I'm an adult contributing to the security in our society and I want to teach others the same.
- If we could all live with the consideration of others in mind, the whole world would be a much better place.
- Wearing a mask doesn't make me weak, scared, stupid or even "controlled." It makes me caring and responsible.
- When you think about your appearance, discomfort, or other people's opinion of you, imagine a loved one - a child, father, mother, grandparent, aunt, uncle or even a stranger - placed on a ventilator, alone without you or any family member allowed at their bedside...Ask yourself if you could have helped them a little by wearing a mask.

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