

From: [Greg Gentz](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: 2021 Res-157
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 11:38:49 AM

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PHMDC-

As a citizen of Dane County, I would like to hear ALL the OBJECTIVE articulable evidence our health officer is using to mandate Dane County be the ONLY county in WI to impose a mask mandate on it's citizens.

Government has clear limits of authority within which it must function. Authority that is vested within the individual citizens, temporarily given to government to use on the individual's behalf to establish a tranquil society. A free society does not exist within a government which does not acknowledge it's limits of authority.

From time to time government becomes overzealous in its desires to regulate, exceeding the fundamental principal of our country, that of presumed Liberty. DESIRE to regulate must never subordinate Liberty without CLEAR strict scrutiny concerning constitutional protections. PHMDC has recently exceeded its limits of authority in shutting down schools in Dane County, exhibiting poor judgement in this area.

Please, at minimum live up to the legal standard of strict scrutiny, in which you MUST enumerate the articulable objective facts that the government interest to narrowly and specifically infringe individual Liberty is reasonable to advance the interest of society concerning the mask mandate. Do so to the public and county board within a public hearing.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Gregory Gentz

Gregory Gentz

From: [Erika Treichel](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: 2021 RES-157
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:39:35 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of 2021 RES-157 Urging the Director of Public Health Madison Dane County to Pull Back Her Emergency Order Until Public Input and the Consent of the Governed Has Been Achieved.

Masks have definitely had a negative impact on my life. I was willing to live with them for a while to slow down the virus but now we have the option of vaccines. I know that vaccines are not perfect and that there is still a risk of illness even after vaccination. Masks can help decrease the risk as well but again are not perfect. However, life carries risks and I feel that continuing the mask mandate is negatively impacting me and society as a whole.

It seems the virus is here to stay. Are we going to be wearing masks for the rest of our lives? Why were vaccines encouraged if we still have to wear masks?

I can no longer play hockey with my indoor hockey group because masks are required and I can't breath while playing hockey in a mask. I have to wear a mask when I go to the gym so I can't work out very hard. Not only is my cardiovascular health suffering but these things are a big part of my social life so I continue to feel cut off from my friends. I know I am not alone in my concerns about decreased physical activity. During the COVID pandemic the amount of exercise that people get on a daily basis has been decreasing.

I urge you to reconsider the mask mandate.

Erika

From: p.hampton@charter.net
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: 2021 res-157
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:12:50 PM

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First, let me just say thank you for doing the work that you do. I am sure it hasn't been an easy rode deciding how to handle the lives of so many in this county. Unfortunately, I cannot attend the Dane County Board of Health virtual meeting but want to give my support for 2021 Res-157. To me it seems an abuse of power to have issued 21 emergency orders in 21 months and never get the input from the county board or the voters who make up the governed of Dane County. It would seem a stretch to think that Dane County Health Director has a higher level of understanding than all the other County Health Directors. The Milwaukee County Health Director, who oversees a much larger county, has chosen not to issue another mask mandate because she doesn't see enough evidence to show that the masks are making a difference in preventing Covid-19 spread. I for one agree, there has not been enough conclusive evidence to show that masks worn by the majority of people really do prevent the spread of Covid-19.

One of the reasons given for extending the mandate for another month was that you needed to see more children vaccinated. How could this be a reason since the CDC's own website has not shown a single death of anyone under the age of 18 since March of 2020. 21 months and no deaths and you want to have children vaccinated before you relax the mask mandate. 21 months has shown that children are not showing severity to this virus, so how could that play into your decision. With so many emergency orders you really are losing your credibility with the public. Chicken Little could only cry the sky is falling so many times before the people of the town stopped listening. Sorry but these mandates have shown that you have cried the sky is falling too many times. We live in a world where disease and death have always been a reality in our lives. Covid-19 has just been another disease that we are going to have to live with just as we do heart and lung disease, flu, cancer, and many more afflictions that affect our health. After 21 months, the data does not show this to take more lives than heart and lung disease. This virus is probably here to stay and I don't believe masking up for a lifetime is the solution to preventing it

Sincerely,

Pete Hampton

From: [S Arnz](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 67236
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 11:23:30 AM

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Hello,

I am writing in support of Agenda Item 67236. I have also attached an article that reviews 400 studies that discuss the failures over the last almost 2 years of these health policies. Dane county is the only county in this state that continues with mask mandates. It is a breath of fresh air (literally) to travel to neighboring counties to shop (grocery and other misc), which we do frequently, affecting the economy of this county. I believe this is a complete overreach of the Dane County Health Department to put forth a mask mandate that is not a law nor enforceable. People must have the freedom to choose what is best for them and their family-most importantly, our children. This policy has taken a tremendous toll on the mental health of our children and adults alike, which Dane county can bear responsibility for.

I look forward to the positive news that this mandate is over ASAP.

Sue

<https://brownstone.org/articles/more-than-400-studies-on-the-failure-of-compulsory-covid-interventions/>

From: [Forrest Herschelman](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Board of Health Dec 1st 2021 Written Comment
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 3:02:42 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

As a resident of Madison and Dane County, I Forrest Herschelman strongly support Dane County Board Resolution 2021 RES-157. This resolution requests canceling all Emergency Orders until public input has been heard. I'd also like to see that consent of a majority of the governed has been secured by voters via referendum before any additional Emergency Orders are issued relating to COVID-19. Emergency Orders should be reserved for just that, true emergencies. It is a generous stretch of logic to claim an emergency still exists 18+ months after the event began.

RE: 67236 2021 RES-157 Urging the Director of Public Health Madison Dane County to Pull Back Her Emergency Order Until Public Input and the Consent of the Governed Has Been Achieved

From: [Becky Hutchinson](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Board of Health Meeting - December 1st
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 5:50:34 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Your December 1st Board of Health meeting is still in progress, but I wanted to share my disappointment in not letting the public speak on Item #12 of your Agenda. Many of us clearly registered prior to the 30 minutes and still were not allowed to speak. Due to the disappointment of extending this mandate, public comment should have been allowed, even if this resolution was "for reconsideration."

So, for what it's worth here is my written testimony. If for no other reason, for my personal piece of mind, since I cleared my schedule and was looking forward to talking to the board about my concerns.

Sincerely,
Becky Hutchinson

*First of all, thank you to all you do for making Dane County and the City of Madison a wonderful place to live! We have been a resident here for over 10 years after moving from the area to another state and were so excited to come back to this area. I have always loved the **diversity** that Dane County and the City bring! In a volunteer role that I'm in, I get calls from people out-of-state about moving here and I have always told them it's a great place to raise a family. That is, until the last few months. I have seen something, that has startled me.*

*Mainly, that is the **division** that this mask mandate has caused in our community. We were able to travel out of state this summer for vacation and what I saw was the freedom to wear masks in public OR NOT. When walking into a store, there was a general understanding and signs on the door that stated — wear a mask or don't wear a mask, it's your choice. It was truly refreshing not to be judged or looked at strange if you didn't have a mask on. And adversely, knowing that those who were wearing a mask had one on for a reason or because they wanted to — not because they were forced to! I actually wept tears before returning home, knowing what it would be like when I returned.*

*It has become very **divisive** in our community, so much so that I know so many people who now choose to shop other places, have moved (or are considering moving) from Dane County or the City of Madison and also know of venues that will NOT book events here*

because of the rigid mask mandates — how sad and dangerous for the economy of our City and County. As public officials, I'm sure you are concerned about the impact this has on our community also.

So my question tonight is Why not give the people a choice? Most people will make the right choice, that which is best for them and their family. If we are truly doing this for the kids as the current order state, Why not let the parents decide? Most moms (me included) will NOT put their kids in danger, no matter what the mandate is. So why not give the power back to the people? I don't see this as a Government roll, I see this is a personal responsibility roll — freedom of choice!

In closing, I guess what I'm saying is, why not let your constituents decide, the ones who put you in office — it may just bring unity back to our Community.

Thank you.

From: [Jean Cudnohfsky](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#); [All Alders](#)
Subject: Cat declawing
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 9:39:31 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I support Ordinance 67344. Please put an end to this barbaric practice.

Thank you,
Jean Cudnohfsky
1023 Sherman Ave
Madison, WI 53703

From: bhooten@charter.net
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: comments regarding Item # 67236 for 12/1/2021 meeting
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 2:47:05 PM

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Dear Board of Health for Madison and Dane County members:

I'd like to start by thanking the Board for allowing Item# 67236 to be discussed this evening.

If masks did indeed work - regardless of the publications you use to justify they do work - the simply reality we all lived from October 2020 - February 2021 in Dane County showed first-hand that they did NOT work...otherwise Dane County would not have had the crazy surge in cases during that time frame, right?! Its not anecdotal when we all lived it for months and saw the case counts climb - and yet everyone was wringing their hands "masks work....masks work" while somehow hoping the numbers would drop.

They only dropped once spring arrived - just like the flu season.

Both mask mandates and capacity restrictions for small businesses were in place during that entire time frame - and they did NOTHING to lower the number of positive cases!

And now with your most recent mask mandate in place since August 2021 - how can Dane's case count suddenly jump so much when masks have been in place for so long? One can only imagine our positive case trend for the next four months won't look much different than what it did last year - which certainly mirrors the historic annual flu trend.

Isn't the definition of "insane" doing the same thing and expecting different results? The county is currently batting 0-for-2 in masks lowering the positive case count. Continuing to allow it to continue is a fool's errand, leaves egg on your face and does long-term damage to your credibility with the public.

Another issue I have is from your first paragraph from your latest Order #21 - if "about half" of the positive cases are from the unvaccinated, then that means OVER half of the positive cases are now from the VACCINATED, correct? Because if the vaccinated accounted for "over half" of the case load - you certainly would've reported it as such to continue the hand-wringing. So if we play along and assume your premise that "masks work" is true - then why allow the vaccinated to carry/transmit/spread the virus among other vaccinated people by removing their mask requirement when they're inside a public building when no unvaccinated around?

In other words, why are you encouraging and allowing the vaccinated to so easily spread the virus around among themselves?

It makes zero sense.

And contradicts everything you've reported to the public for the last 18 months!

Either (a) admit that masks don't work to stop the spread of the virus and drop the mask mandate or (b) correct your Order #21 so that vaccinated have to wear their masks at all public indoor situations, since they're just as prone to carry/spread the virus as the unvaccinated.

I honestly don't understand how you can say with a straight face: (1) masks work, (2) over half of the positive cases are from the vaccinated, therefore (3) the vaccinated no longer have to wear masks indoors if they're with other vaccinated people.

Unless you WANT the vaccinated to get sick to help drive up the case count? Then it makes total sense.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Brian Hooten
City of Middleton resident

From: [klinnevold](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Declawing
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:46:58 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I am a CVT and I am in support of banning declawing due to long term pain and behavior issues I have seen in the Veterinary field. Unfortunately many of these cats are euthanized due to these issues.

Thank you,
Khrista Linnevold, CVT

Sent from my U.S.Cellular© Smartphone

From: [Melissa Gruenloh](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: End the masks
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 5:31:59 PM
Attachments: [Masks_Dec2021.docx](#)

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

Please see attached regarding the dismissal of the mask mandate. Please make yourselves relevant in your roles and follow common sense.

Thank you,
Melissa Gruenloh

From: [Susan Shepanek](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Favor proposed city ban on declawing cats
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:32:47 PM

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Greetings:

I am completely in favor of the proposal to stop declawing of cats in Madison.

Thankyou,

Susan Shepanek

1459 E Main St, Madison, WI 53703

608/515-2993

From: [Megan Nicholson](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Cc: [All Alders](#)
Subject: HSUS in support of Ordinance 67344
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 11:32:23 AM
Attachments: [HSUS WI In Support ORD 67344 Declaw Ban.pdf](#)
Importance: High

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Chair Halverson and Members of the Board of Health for Madison and Dane County,

As Wisconsin State Director of the Humane Society of the United States and Madison resident, I respectfully submit the attached organizational letter in support of the proposed ordinance to prohibit declawing of cats in Madison (#67344).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Best regards,

Megan

Megan Nicholson

Wisconsin State Director, State Affairs
(608) 400-5464
mnicholson@humanesociety.org
humanesociety.org



The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's most effective animal protection organization, fighting for all animals for more than 60 years. To support our work, please make a [monthly donation](#), give in [another way](#) or [volunteer](#).



From: [DAVE IANNE](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: I support ending mask mandates
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 5:51:11 PM

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To Whom this may concern:

I've been a firefighter for the City of Madison for over 30 years. I gave COVID shots and AEC for about five months (2/2021 to 6/2021). I believed in the cause but now, the science doesn't support the direction the county is taking us with vaccines and it doesn't support the need for public masking any longer.

I feel the health agencies, hospitals, and clinics in this county lost the trust of many residents. There are no studies that public masking slows the spread of infectious diseases, even COVID. Dr. Fauci even said early on that masks really won't do anything to protect people from COVID. He said the COVID molecules were just too small for the masks to stop.

Also, what kind of bacteria is in a mask that one wears 6 to 8 hours in a day. How can that possibly be good for anyone's lungs?

Trust was also lost when we gave millions of covid vaccinations knowing many had already been sick with covid. Did we give polio vaccines to those who already had polio? Did we give vaccines to those who already had measles? How could anyone know the negative side affects from doing this? The drug itself is still very experimental. The science shows, even though hospitals and health centers ignore it, that natural immunity is stronger and much longer lasting than the vaccines...and it is better at protecting against the variants.

Most health professionals have to know all of this. Most Dane County citizens now know it. That is why trust is gone with many, many citizens. Dr. Fauci even pretended to not know that natural immunity was superior. He knows better! Shouldn't antibodies be checked on everyone before any vaccines are given?

Thanks for hearing my concerns,

David Ianne

From: [Laura Kocum](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Cc: weigand.jeff@countyofdane.com
Subject: I wasn't permitted to speak tonight. Please read
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 5:43:17 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I registered yesterday, to speak at your meeting tonight. I support Jeff Weigand's request to withdraw the mask mandate, and let the public give input.

I wanted to address item 12- as your newest emergency order has made this issue relevant (despite your insistence that public comment was welcomed in September- well before you created new and updated rules).

The newest order makes it relevant again. I am stunned that you prevented us from speaking.

Parents know what is best for our kids. Dane County Public Health has proven they do not.

Schools that met in person, after your attempt to make them be virtual, were both highly successful academically, and also at avoiding covid spread.

Parents and school administrators made the successful plans, in spite of the efforts of Dane County Public Health to shut them down.

These same leaders (parents- and school leaders) should be permitted to make decisions about masks in Dane County.

It is time to stop masking our kids. I have three school-aged students. Dane County's forcing them to mask has damaged their educational opportunities.

Masks:

distract them from their teachers

preventing them from learning language by seeing their teacher's faces

isolate students from each other

remove our kids' abilities to compete effectively in sports, against mask-optional teams

Create and enhance anxiety

Take away the joy of a choir performance or theater production

In addition, they are not equitable. Most adults get regular mask breaks. They can take a 15 minute break at work, or even work from home. Many offices allow adults to work mask free when alone. Often teachers can remove masks when students are not in the classroom. Our kids don't have the option to be alone, or to take these breaks. Our high schoolers don't get recess. You are putting our kids in a miserable position, and requiring them to wear germ cloth for 12+hours/day. And you have removed the parents' right to decide what is best for our kids.

The kids who get recess are dropping masks on the playground, in the dirt, then wearing those same, dirty masks, the rest of the day. Kids should not be forced to mask.

You are no longer "following the science." I heard others speak to this at your meeting.

Dane County's students are doing poorly in school. DPI reports 2/3 of kids are not at grade level for language arts. Masks make it harder to learn language, and develop speech.

In addition, it is nearly impossible to get a counseling appointment for a child, as the mental health has rapidly declined in Dane County. These declines are the direct result of your policies (some of which have already been stopped by the Supreme Court- this does not speak highly of your decision-making.

I hold you all accountable for these failures. Your policies have created the problems we are living. Remove mandatory mask orders now- and let us decide what is best for our kids. Our track record has proven successful to look out for our kids.

Laura Kocum

From: wordofmouthrevisited@gmail.com
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Keep extending the mask mandate
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 5:50:28 PM

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It ain't over until it's over. My children can't get vaccinated yet. We are all in this for the long haul.

Max Scoll - Dane County resident

From: [Matt Powers](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Mandate
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:58:31 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please maintain the mask mandate. I have stage 4 cancer and need the hospital accessible and safe. Put a mask on people. It isn't that hard to be part of the solution.

Matt Powers
Madison

Sent from Matt Powers

From: [Jen Powers](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Mask mandate
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 5:04:37 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please keep the mask mandate. It is helping our county.

Thank you!
Jen Powers
Madison WI

From: [Katie Knill](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Mask mandate
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 6:20:12 PM

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Hello,

I'm sending this message to voice my support as a Dane county resident, and parent of a child who cannot get vaccinated, for the current mask mandate. I would like to see the mandate kept in effect for as long as transmission is high and until all children can be vaccinated.

Thank you,
Katie Knill

From: [Daniel B](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Mask mandates (public opinion)
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 2:24:44 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello, I am writing in regards to the announcement that the public can write in with opinions on the mask mandates we are extending.

I feel wholeheartedly that it is time to drop these restrictions, it feels like a game when you are required to mask up before walking into a restaurant with 70 people eating unmasked, just to go sit at your table and take it off. We're extending the masks just to make it look like we're on the right side of the political line in my opinion. We are one of the most vaccinated counties in America, if anyone is not vaccinated at this point it is completely on them. It is not our responsibility to enforce these strict mask mandates when it's not proven to even help slow the spread. The bottom line is its all optics and I'm tired of it, I went into a restaurant yesterday and was instantly asked to wear a mask. I ordered my food and sat down when I looked up and saw the same worker who quickly made me put one on just walking around the dining area with his mask around his chin. The mask mandates are not helping anything and it's just making me tired, it's time for them to go.

Thank you for taking the time to read my opinion,

Daniel Berry

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Eli Bowen](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Mask mandates
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 3:58:42 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Mask mandates do not work just like the vaccine does not work. Dane county is basically the only county that is requiring these mask mandates ! We have people who were the masks, are fully vaccinated and still get Covid. Covid must just run it's course. The vaccine is not like a typical vaccine and a vaccine cannot be rushed in its production or you get something that has potential complications after the vaccine is given and does not keep the individual from contracting Covid. It's never a good idea to rush something as important as a vaccine especially when this vaccine was never fully tested for issues or effectiveness.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Gary Cohen](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Meeting of Health Department on Dec. 1, 2021 - Agenda item #12
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 2:00:35 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

To whom it may concern,

I strongly support item #12 that Rosanne Lindsay offered for this meeting. She stated: "2021 RES-157 Urging the Director of Public Health Madison Dane County to Pull Back Her Emergency Order Until Public Input and the Consent of the Governed Has Been Achieved." Another name for this is DEMOCRACY. Something that has been eliminated in the City of Madison for the last two years. Without input from differing viewpoints a society can never reached the best course of action when problems arise.

Mask wearing. The purpose of mask wearing was to "flatten the curve." Why do that? The reason was to keep our hospitals and healthcare workers from being overwhelmed with sick people. That never happened in Madison or practically anywhere else.

The other reason, which strangely was never publicly mentioned, was to give healthcare personnel time to figure the best treatments, and preventions. That was mostly achieved sometime last year.

So what other health reasons were there to wear masks. There were none. If we had a democracy in Madison we could have had a rational public debate, but we haven't.

IMO and those of many others, the Emergency Orders have been a disaster to our community. COVID-19 kills almost no young and middle-aged people, and kills a very small number of older people with comorbidities, and the very old who are weak and frail. I'm referring to those who are unvaccinated.

Mask wearing and staying indoors has reduced people's vitamin D3 levels by avoiding the little sunlight we get here in Madison. Without D3 you don't have an immune system and protection from viral diseases. Even vaccines don't work without your immune system functioning properly.

Furthermore, many have lost their livelihood by the lockdowns. Don't they count for anything?

Gary Cohen
Madison, WI

From: [Lisa Luz](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: My support to stop declawing
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 12:22:39 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I'm supporting cats and the surgery to remove their digits is cruel.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kristi Jones](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Please keep mask mandate in place!
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 6:58:02 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to strongly urge the Board of Health to keep Dane County's mask mandate in place. With the holiday case surge, winter cold and flu season, and the potential for Omicron spread, it is vital that everything possible be done to keep Dane County residents as healthy and safe as possible.

The science shows that masking is helpful. As a public health professional, I am proud that Dane County Has had a strong track record of following the science. I ask you as the Public Health leaders on our Board of Health, please continue to follow the science now and keep the mask mandate in place.

Sincerely
Kristi Jones MPH

"It is my aspiration that health will finally be seen not as a blessing to be wished for, but as a human right to be fought for." --Kofi Annan

From: [Judith Burstyn](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Please retain the indoor mask mandate
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 6:24:32 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

To the Dane County and Madison Board of Health:

We wish to express our support for maintaining the requirements for indoor masking in Dane County. As biomedical researcher and recently retired physician, we understand the critical role of airborne transmission in COVID spread. Masking is an essential tool, alongside improved ventilation and vaccination, to control the spread of this disease. As the winter approaches and people spend more time indoors and with limited outdoor air circulation, the opportunity for COVID spread will increase.

We urge the Madison and Dane County Board of Health to maintain its current position in masking in light of the increasing spread of the Delta COVID variant and the emergence of the Omicron variant.

Sincerely,

Judith Burstyn and Stephan Deutsch
830 Ottawa Trail
Madison, WI 53711

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Laura Haak](#)
To: [PH 8021 Support](#)
Cc: [Jeff Weigand](#); lhaakmeister@yahoo.com
Subject: RE: Dane County Mask Mandate Res-157
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 12:44:06 PM
Attachments: [IMG_2314.PNG](#)
[IMG_2315.PNG](#)
[image001.png](#)

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Hello Board Members,

I would like a call to action regarding Res-157 and an end to the "emergency-mask mandate".

A mandate by definition is supposed to be temporary. This mandate has not been temporary and also appears to be without just cause. No other county in the entire state of WI has had a mask mandate and numbers show, Dane county is no better off.

I contacted DCPH months ago asking the reasoning on why DCPH insists on extending the mandate perpetually without just cause and what metrics are being used to determine when the "Temporary" mask mandate will be lifted.

I had to follow up and ask 4 times, still no solid metrics or reasoning provided.

See email chain below.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Thursday, October 7, 2021, 10:57 AM, Corona Virus <coronavirus@publichealthmdc.com> wrote:

Hi Laura,

We consider a combination of factors including the CDC's level of transmission, case rates, vaccination rates, hospitalizations and deaths when making decisions about orders.

Since we do take so many factors in consideration, we do not have one single metric to name. However, I will remind you that the CDC recommends people mask indoors in communities with "high" transmission rates.

To provide some further context on that, for Dane County to fall into "moderate" transmission rates as defined by the CDC, we would need a 7-day average below 10-49.99 new cases per 100,000 per day. Our current 7-day average is 180.7 new cases per 100,000.

That being said, again, we are also taking into consideration overall trends in not only in hospitalizations and deaths but also monitoring the approval of vaccinations for our 5-11 year olds.

Best,

Public Outreach Team

From: Laura Haak <lhaakmeister@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 5:11 PM
To: Corona Virus <coronavirus@publichealthmdc.com>
Cc: Laura A. Haak <lhaakmeister@yahoo.com>; Team RonJon <contact@elections-update.com>
Subject: Re: Metrics to Lift Dane Cty Mask Mandate

Caution: This email was sent from an external source.
Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello Public Outreach team,

Thank you, however, the below does not answer my original question posed.

What are the metrics used to determine when the Dane county mask mandate can be lifted?

Dane county is the only county in the state with highest rate of vaccinations (over 70%) WITH a mask mandate, but yet we remain at high transmission? Statistically, doesn't look like mask mandate is helping Dane county.

If the masking indoors isn't helping, why continue? (Definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over, getting same results)

Again, I ask, what are the metrics used to lift the Dane County mask mandate?

A mandate by definition is temporary and should have some sort of metrics to reach in order for mandate to be removed.

If there aren't any metrics in place, what will the Dane County Public Outreach and Jane Heinrich use to determine when the mask mandate for Dane County can be lifted?

Respectfully,

DANE COUNTY COVID-19 COMPARISON

DATE	AUGUST 19, 2021	OCTOBER 4, 2021
STATUS	FACE COVERING EMERGENCY ORDER BEGINS	FACE COVERING EMERGENCY ORDER EXTENDED
CURRENT 7-DAY AVERAGE CASES/DAY	101	110
CURRENT 7-DAY AVERAGE TESTS/DAY	2,432	3,640
CURRENT 7-DAY AVERAGE % POSITIVE	4.2%	3.0%

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Tuesday, October 5, 2021, 3:52 PM, Corona Virus <coronavirus@publichealthmdc.com> wrote:

Hi Laura,

Thanks for following up. As stated in the [press release](#) about Face Covering Emergency Order #3, we are aligning this order with Centers for Disease Control (CDC) research and guidance that suggest indoor face coverings have an important role in mitigating COVID-19 spread in schools and our community. Dane County remains in CDC's high level of community transmission. Although vaccination is our top priority, we are using a layered mitigation approach, with masks as an extra layer of protection as we navigate our way to lower levels of CDC's community transmission thresholds.

Take care,
Public Outreach Team

From: Laura Haak <lhaakmeister@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 2, 2021 10:50 PM
To: Corona Virus <coronavirus@publichealthmdc.com>
Cc: Laura A. Haak <lhaakmeister@yahoo.com>; Team RonJon <contact@elections-update.com>
Subject: Re: Metrics to Lift Dane Cty Mask Mandate

Caution: This email was sent from an external source.
Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello, (Looping in Senator Ron Johnson)

Just following up again.

As residents of Dane County, we have a right to know what metrics are being used to determine when the mask mandate in Dane County, will be lifted.

As a tax paying citizen, I am requesting a non-canned, thoughtful and fact-filled reply detailing the metrics and if none, outline the rationale and reasons why and what is being used to determine when the temporary mask mandate will be lifted.

Respectfully,
Laura Haak

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Wednesday, September 29, 2021, 10:50 AM, Laura Haak <lhaakmeister@yahoo.com> wrote:

Hello,

Thank you so much.

What are the numbers the county needs to get to in order for the mask mandate to be lifted and kept lifted?

We are the only county in the state of WI with a mask mandate, and seemingly without an end in site without any metrics to follow, unless I'm missing something.

Please advise.

Thank you so much.

Laura

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Wednesday, September 29, 2021, 9:54 AM, Corona Virus <coronavirus@publichealthmdc.com> wrote:

Hi Laura,

Thanks for reaching out. The order will expire on October 8, 2021. We will be closely monitoring our [county data](#) and the latest recommendations from the CDC and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to determine if the Order needs to be extended in the future. Due to the unpredictable nature of this pandemic we cannot comment on future orders, but please stay tuned for any updates.

You can find information and data about the order here: www.publichealthmdc.com/news/public-health-issues-updated-face-covering-emergency-order

Take care,
Public Outreach Team

From: Laura Haak <lhaakmeister@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 9:04 AM
To: Corona Virus <coronavirus@publichealthmdc.com>
Cc: Laura A. Haak <lhaakmeister@yahoo.com>
Subject: Metrics to Lift Dane Cty Mask Mandate

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

I am a resident of Dane county. I tried calling, but that's not a viable option, therefore I'm emailing.

Where can I find the metrics that are being used to determine when the mask mandate for Dane County can be lifted?

Can someone provide me the link or metrics via email? (I've looked online but cannot find them)

Thank you.
Laura A Haak

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Also, the Dane County dashboard has not statistically or significantly changed for months therefore providing more evidence that the mandate should be reconsidered and lifted.

How can Janel Heinrich have the authority to dictate a perpetual mandate without just cause especially when no metrics in place to determine when mandate can be lifted?

Especially when it comes to the emotional and social well being of our children who are getting robbed of their childhood school days by missing out on seeing each other smile, laugh, talk.

Cannot see their teachers mouths when trying to learn, cannot hear many times since words are garbled and for what? Since case count is not the same as hospitalization or death count:

We can see BOTH hospitalization and death counts are near to zero for children 0-29.

Why keep children masked for up to 10 hours a day? (School, then after school care)

When cloth masks are full of food, snot, dropped on ground put back on, stuck under chin... not very sanitary by any means and for what?

Lastly, there have been staphylococcus infections, impetigo all from mask wearing and for what? Plus new variant has proven to have mild symptoms not requiring hospitalization.

Again, basically 0 hospitalizations and 0 deaths for 0-29yrs.

ALL other counties in WI remain mask free and appear to be managing the Covid Endemic.

Endemic, which is what this will be and what we have to learn to manage as well.





IMG_1879.PNG



3:56



publichealthmdc.com

Dashboard

People Hospitalized & Deceased

Total people ever hospitalized

1,933

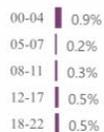
Percentage of people hospitalized in each ethnicity category



Total people who died

351

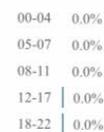
Percentage of people hospitalized in each age group



Percentage of people hospitalized in each race category



Percentage of people who died in each age group

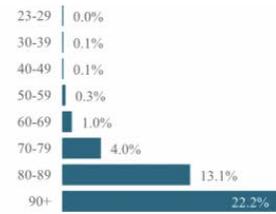
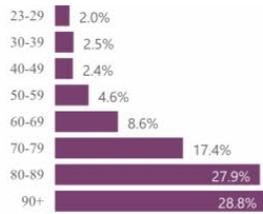


Percentage of people who died in each ethnicity category

Not Hispanic
Hispanic
Unknown

Percentage of people who died in each race category

White
Black
Asian
AI/AN
Other
Unknown



Perc
Long
statu
Not

The graphs on this page represent the percentage of people who tested positive who were hospitalized or who died within each group. You would read the h
age 40-49 years who tested positive for COVID-19 were hospitalized.

Microsoft Power BI



8 of 9

12:23



publichealthmdc.com

[Public Health](#) / [Coronavirus](#) / Dashboard

Dashboard

People Hospitalized & Deceased



Percentage of people hospitalized in each age group

Percentage of people hospitalized in each ethnicity category

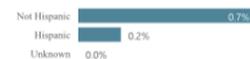


Percentage of people hospitalized in each ethnicity category



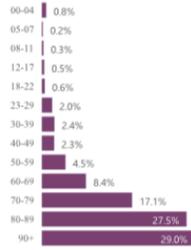
Percentage of people who died in each age group

Percentage of people who died in each ethnicity category

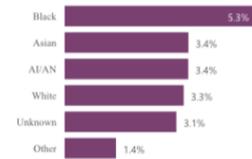


Percentage of people who died in each ethnicity category

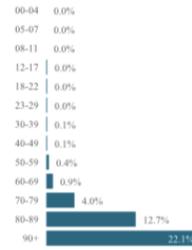
hospitalized in each age group



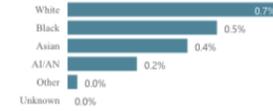
each race category



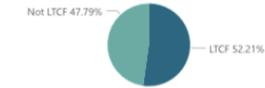
who died in each age group



each race category



Percentage of people who died by Long Term Care Facility (LTCF) status



The graphs on this page represent the percentage of people who tested positive who were hospitalized or who died within each group. You would read the hospitalizations age graph as x% of people age 40-49 years who tested positive for COVID-19 were hospitalized.

This Page

[Dashboard Update Schedule](#)

[Read Data Snapshots](#)

[Download Weekly Core Data XLSX](#)

[View Vaccination Data by Census Tract, Municipality, School District, and ZCTA](#)

[Dashboard Video Demo](#)

Therefore, I am calling the Board of Health for Madison and Dane county to action in considering [2021 Res-157](#) to insist the Director of Public Health Madison Dane County (Janel Heinrich) **Pull Back Her Emergency Order Until Public Input and the Consent of the Governed Has Been Achieved.**

Respectfully,
Laura A Haak

Tax paying citizen and caring, concerned Mom of a child who has been masked since they began school.

From: [Allison Johnson](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Cc: [Derek Johnson](#); kiefer.timothy@countyofdane.com
Subject: Res-157
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 11:15:36 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello, my husband Derek and I would like to express our concerns about the ongoing mask orders in Dane county with no credible evidence to support these ongoing mandates. We are in the most vaccinated county in WI and given that and the lack of evidence supporting cloth masking (Randomized Control Studies being the gold standard of scientific evidence) specifically this needs to be optional for residents at this point and moving forward. We would like to see Res-157 discussed this evening and voted on to be repealed.

We are specifically concerned about ongoing orders that affect masking children in our schools. We look around town and when in Walgreens, Target, Ace Hardware, etc some residents are masked, others are not most likely due to various conditions or beliefs, yet we are requiring our children to be masked in schools for 8-10hrs/day including for PE class, etc. This is unacceptable with no data specifically on cloth masking and the potential benefits of that for children and more concerning the lack of knowledge on the long term affects of masking children on development overall, particularly for the very young at 5yrs and under. This is a very unknown variable but what is known is the low risk of severe disease, hospitalization and death from Covid to healthy children age 18 and under. Please see attached info on current Covid survival in Dane Co. by age group.

****As well it is easy to see that there are little to no Covid case differences in places where there are mask mandates (county and school) and places where there is not. Using school Districts as an example please see attached graph of weekly community Covid cases looking at Oregon School District, Jefferson School District and Ft. Atkinson School District from March-the present. Oregon has had a masking policy in the District following PHMDC, Ft. Atkinson has no county mandate and mask optional for grades 7-12 since 10/28 & Jefferson also has no county mask mandate and all grades have been mask optional since 9/13. This is all from publicly available data.**

We have 4 children, 9th grade, 5th grade, 3rd grade and preschool. 3 are in the District and 1 is receiving speech therapy services in the District on an IEP. We have daily ongoing issues with each child and mask wearing ranging from being constantly too hot at school, no school related mask breaks, dizziness, distraction, & frustration and anger from our preschooler to the point he cannot wear a mask for longer than 2-3minutes. As well our children have shared with us incidents of PE teachers not allowing mask breaks, even when students are doing fitness testing such as the 1 mile run on a treadmill, all citing "Dane county order & therefore school policy". This is unnecessary and likely unsafe specifically in a PE class. Our 5th grader had a friend pass out in class last month citing she felt "hot and dizzy" and is otherwise healthy.

We are in an ongoing conflict with WCSD in allowing our 4yr old to receive speech therapy indoors unmasked as he did the entirety of last school year. He has been receiving these services outdoors for the last few months unmasked with great success. With temperatures dropping they do not want to see him outdoors any longer and he should be able to continue to be successful and move indoors for unmasked speech therapy as he had last year (43 sessions of unmasked speech therapy occurred in doors for our son last school

year) For him specifically any mask wearing creates frustration, lack of focus and lack of attention which is counter productive to the goals of being successful in speech therapy. Repealing the current mask mandate would allow him and many others to continue with this needed service in the mode that will create the most success.

**We also know that most school Districts in Dane co. have updated HVAC/air filtration systems. Our District here in Waunakee uses a NPBI (Needle Point Bi Polar Ionization) system which is superior in air filtration and creating healthy air indoors. The company Waunakee has used is Global Plasma Systems which uses 3rd party testing to see if their systems reduce bacteria and viruses in the air showing good results. See this link: [Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization Test Results](#)

Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization Test Results

Global Plasma Solutions

We put our needlepoint bipolar ionization (NPBI®) technology to the test: Third-party testing confirms it limits...

These mitigation factors along with continued cleaning, hand gel stations and hand washing should be sufficient in schools and all other indoor businesses/facilities at this point. Please consider these points regarding schools and masks being optional in Dane co. for all residents.

Thank you,

Allison & Derek Johnson : Waunakee residents

From: [Lu](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Support ban on de-clawing
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 8:37:39 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Please support ordinance 67344 and ban de-clawing. It is very cruel and results in pain, chronic health issues for cat and some adverse litter box issues. Thanks. Lu M. Kummerow, 5717 South Hill Drive, Madison, WI 53705. Lu

From: [Lynne Pitts](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Cc: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support for Board of Health Agenda Item 67344
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 11:49:12 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

I am extremely happy to see this ban on declawing cats being addressed in Madison, and am incredibly in favor of its passing.

Declawing cats is a very serious, crippling, amputation of every toe on the animal's paws, leading to chronic pain, arthritis, deformity, and stress for the animal.

In general it makes them anxious and fearful as they have been deprived of natural defenses. It affects their gait; it limits their ability to stretch and strengthen their muscles.

And worst of all it does not keep them out of shelters; because of the behavior issues (from being anxious and fearful) what would have been a sweet loving pet is often timid and skittish and sometimes aggressive, resulting in - being dumped at a shelter.

Thank you very much for considering this ban, and helping Madison to lead the way in joining with so many other compassionate, enlightened states and countries!

Respectfully,
Lynne Pitts
414 Bailey Dr., Madison, WI 53718
603-366-6363

From: [E](#)
To: [All Alders](#); [Paw Project](#); [Lemmer, Lindsay](#); [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: SUPPORT IRREPROACHABLE Ordinance 67344!
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:54:42 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Good afternoon Board of Health, Alders, and activists,

I am looking forward to this legislation finally outlawing the completely unnecessary and barbaric practice of declawing our feline companions passing this evening. It is a science of good and evil, in which a rational approach to ethics becomes possible once we realize that questions of right and wrong are really questions about the happiness and suffering of sentient creatures. If we are in a position to affect the happiness or suffering of others, we have ethical responsibilities to them - and many of these responsibilities are so grave as to become matters of civil and criminal law. The time for this is long overdue!

Who benefits? Who is burdened? And who does not have a seat at the table? There are clearly right answers and wrong answers, and this ordinance is beyond reproach.

Thank you Alder Lindsay Lemmer for spearheading this effort and I look forward to supporting a Dane County ordinance change as well!

Erik Anderson

From: [Lindsey Dalton](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Cc: [All Alders](#)
Subject: Support of proposed cat declaw ban
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:34:41 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

I am writing in support of the proposed ban on cat declawing in the City of Madison. I am a resident of Middleton, but I frequently use pet-related services in Madison, like buying pet supplies from Mad Cat and Earthwise. I also use UW Veterinarian.

Cat declawing is cruel, and causes unnecessary pain and long-term negative effects on cats. Many vets are strongly opposed to it. Declawing is not performed in most countries of the world. Cats who are declawed are far more likely to bite, and, according to the Mayo Clinic, 1 in 3 people who receive a cat bite require hospitalization. It isn't just cruel to cats, declawing is also harmful to humans.

There are countless non-invasive alternatives to declawing that don't risk the health of cats or humans.

Please pass this proposed ban on elective declawing for the welfare of both cats and humans.

Thank you,

Lindsey Dalton
Middleton, WI

From: [Mike Kohn](#)
To: [PH BOH Support; All Alders](#)
Subject: Support Ordinance
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 8:34:17 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Dear Dane County and Madison Boards of Health, also City of Madison Alders:

I strongly support Ordinance 67344.

Sincerely,
Mike Kohn DVM
Petinary Clinic
Madison, WI 53703
yellowlabone@gmail.com
www.petinarymadisonwi.com

From: [Lora Moody](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Cc: [Timothy Kiefer](#)
Subject: Support Res-157 and end masking
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 1:10:48 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Good Afternoon~

My husband Brian and I would like to see Res-157 discussed this evening and voted on to be repealed.

Dane County's ongoing mask orders are supported by no credible evidence to continue these mandates. We are in the most vaccinated county in WI yet the ONLY county with masking? How can the other 71 counties statewide have it figured out yet Dane Co--surrounded by prestigious healthcare organizations--can't seem to figure out a way to proceed with masking optional? Without a doubt, masking needs to be optional for residents at this point and moving forward.

We have 2 daughters in the Waunakee schools. It is unacceptable our children are masked in schools for 8+ hours including for PE class and sports. Over the last several months I have emailed PHMDC, Covid Response teams, Tony Evers and many more asking for the data from which the mask mandates are derived from. I have yet to receive a reply with answers. I have asked for the metrics the county is trying to hit on order to become mask optional and have yet to see anything. NOTHING in reply.

WILL (Wi Institute for Law and Liberty) deemed PHMDC/Janel Heinrich's school lockdowns last year as "Unnecessary and illegal". Janel Heinrich has at least 2 more cases pending at the Wi Supreme Court. **You don't land yourself in the Supreme Court unless something is very wrong...**it is evident the continued overreach of power is unacceptable.

Please vote to support Res-157 and put an end to masking.

Sincerely,
Lora Moody

From: [Ben Nerad](#)
To: [PH BOH Support](#)
Subject: Writing in opposition to 2021 RES-157
Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 4:37:16 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an external source. Avoid unknown links and attachments.

Hello,

I'm writing to express my opposition to 2021 Res 157, agenda item 67236. Removing the current public health order, which has kept Dane County as one of the lowest counties in Wisconsin in terms of COVID-19 cases per 100,000 residents, is dangerous and misguided. The resolution rests on falsehoods about the effectiveness of masks (multiple studies have shown their effectiveness) and puts Dane County residents at risk just as another variant of concern (omicron) has been identified.

Please support the continuation of the current order. Please support science in guiding our public health policies.

Thank you,

Ben Nerad
209 Division St, Madison, WI 53704