

Debra Thompson

From: Malena Marvin <malena.marvin@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, November 5, 2021 12:42 PM
To: Assembly
Subject: We support masks in Petersburg

Hello to our hard working Petersburg Assembly,

I just wanted to offer my support for masks in public buildings in the Borough. All of our community members should have the right to public life without unnecessary risk of illness. The studies are really stacking up showing the effectiveness of facial coverings and distance when it comes to limiting the spread of COVID. ([Here is one that caught my eye yesterday](#), showing masking on public transport reduces infection spread by 93% and 98% when combined with distancing).

I support a public health-based approach to COVID prevention that takes risks and benefits of any action into consideration, and it is now well-demonstrated that the benefits of masking far outweigh any downsides. (This is of course common sense, since health care professionals regularly use masks to safely decrease the spread of airborne pathogens.)

Wearing facial coverings in public buildings is now normal and enforced in a great deal of the country. An enforced Borough rulemaking on masks can help offer clear and even handed direction to businesses while helping vulnerable, older, or immuno-compromised community members enjoy the same rights and freedoms as others in town. I'm looking forward to life with less COVID-related social disruptions, and all the evidence we have points to wide acceptance of preventative measures as the key. We can get there!

Thanks so much for your service to the community.

Malena Marvin

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