

Polanco, Joanna

From: Owczarski, Jim
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:20 AM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: FW: support for mask ordinance and resolution to provide free masks

One!

Jim Owczarski, CMC
City Clerk
(414)-286-2998
@mkeclerk

From: Laurel Nowak-Boyd [<mailto:nowakboydl@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 11:08 AM
To: Owczarski, Jim
Subject: support for mask ordinance and resolution to provide free masks

Good morning,

I would like to register my full support for the ordinance to require face coverings in public space in Milwaukee. As we continue to see record-breaking numbers of daily new COVID cases in Wisconsin, it is important to remember that we can greatly reduce further spread by wearing face coverings. We must protect our communities in any way we can.

Furthermore, I also support the resolution to provide free face coverings to people who request them. We are all only as safe as the most vulnerable member of our community.

Best regards,

Laurel Nowak-Boyd

Milwaukee 53212

Polanco, Joanna

From: Jeff Bentoff <jeff@bentoff.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2020 8:30 PM
To: Hamilton, Ashanti; Johnson, Cavalier; Kovac, Nik; Bauman, Robert; Dodd, Nikiya; Coggs, Milele; Rainey, Khalif; Zamarripa, JoCasta; Lewis, Chantia; Murphy, Michael (Alderman); Borkowski, Mark; Perez, Jose; Spiker, Scott; Dimitrijevic, Marina; Stamper II, Russell
Cc: Owczarski, Jim; Polanco, Joanna
Subject: Letter from 88 Milwaukee businesses and organizations in support of MKE Cares face mask legislation (Ord. #200426)
Attachments: MaskLetter2020.07.13.pdf

Dear Honorable Members of the Common Council:

I am submitting the attached letter on behalf of 88 Milwaukee businesses and organizations in support of the MKE Cares face mask legislation (Ord. #200426). Signers include the Milwaukee Independent Restaurant Coalition, Marquette University, Visit Milwaukee, United Way, Fiserv Forum, Mandel Group, Inc., Lowlands Grand Cafés, Colectivo Coffee Roasters, Pabst Theater Group, Downer Avenue Business Improvement District, Jewels Caribbean Restaurant & Bar, Belair Cantina and many others.

We would appreciate your kind consideration of our support for this important legislation.

Thank you,

Jeff Bentoff
(414) 791-1215
jeff@bentoff.com

JULY 13, 2020

Dear Honorable Members of the Milwaukee Common Council and Mayor Tom Barrett:

As Milwaukee businesses and organizations, we are writing in support of the proposed "MKE Cares" ordinance (#200426) that the Common Council's Public Health and Safety Committee endorsed on Thursday.

As the Covid-19 pandemic grows in Wisconsin and rages across the country, now is the time for the Common Council and mayor to enact this life-saving measure.

Without a city mandate, many customers will not be willing to come to our businesses. Compliance with requirements a business may establish will be inconsistent at best without a city requirement. Our employees can't be assured of a safe work environment. And the risk is much higher for new outbreaks, which could result in new stay-at-home orders that put us out of business for good.

We support the mask requirement for indoor areas and outdoor areas licensed to our businesses, and we are in agreement with the requirement for masks to be worn outdoors in non-business locations within six feet of non-family members.

We also back the enforcement provisions, which are no different than laws we already manage and enforce to ensure that customers refrain from smoking and that they wear shirts and shoes in our establishments.

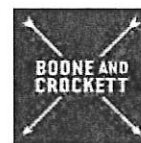
We believe the passage of this ordinance will result in the vast majority of people complying voluntarily, as they have already done for 10 years with Wisconsin's no-smoking law. With this law on the books, we will have leverage needed to educate patrons about the requirement or ask them to leave if necessary.

Milwaukee residents and businesses cannot afford to wait for you to act. We urge council members to vote in favor of this legislation on Monday and for the mayor to sign it into law as soon as possible.

Sincerely, the owners and operators of:



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CAFE HOLLANDER

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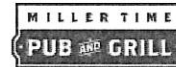
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Restaurant & Bar



Polanco, Joanna

From: Bauman, Robert
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 11:14 AM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: Fwd: City of Milwaukee Mask Mandate
Attachments: MKE Mask Ordinance.docx; ATT00001.htm

Please add to the mask ordinance file.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hyland, James J" <James.Hyland@roundys.com>
Date: July 10, 2020 at 10:43:25 AM CDT
To: "Hamilton, Ashanti" <ahamil@milwaukee.gov>, "Johnson, Cavalier" <Cavalier.Johnson2@milwaukee.gov>, "Kovac, Nik" <nkovac@milwaukee.gov>, "Bauman, Robert" <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>, "Dodd, Nikiya" <ALD05@milwaukee.gov>, "Coggs, Milele" <mcoggs@milwaukee.gov>, "Rainey, Khalif" <Khalif.Rainey@milwaukee.gov>, "Zamarripa, JoCasta" <JoCasta.Zamarripa@milwaukee.gov>, "Lewis, Chantia" <Chantia.Lewis@milwaukee.gov>, "Murphy, Michael (Alderman)" <mmurph@milwaukee.gov>, "Borkowski, Mark" <Mark.Borkowski@milwaukee.gov>, "Perez, Jose" <JoseG.Perez@milwaukee.gov>, "Spiker, Scott" <Scott.Spiker@milwaukee.gov>, "Dimitrijevic, Marina" <Marina@milwaukee.gov>, "Stamper II, Russell" <Russell.StamperII@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: City of Milwaukee Mask Mandate

President Johnson and members of the Common Council, please see attached letter regarding the City of Milwaukee mask mandate.

Thank you!

James J. Hyland
VP Communications & Public Affairs
Roundy's Division
The Kroger Co.
875 E. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202
414-231-5811 Direct, 414-232-9095 Cell
james.hyland@roundys.com
PICK 'N SAVE · METRO MARKET · MARIANO'S

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PO Box 473
Milwaukee, WI 53201

414-231-5000

July 10, 2020

Re: Mask Ordinance (VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL)

Alderman Cavalier Johnson
City of Milwaukee Common Council President
Members of City of Milwaukee Common Council

Dear President Johnson and Members of the Common Council:

I wish to comment on Milwaukee's proposed mask ordinance that will be voted on by the Common Council on Monday, July 13, 2020.

First and foremost, we applaud the City of Milwaukee for their efforts in passing a mask mandate. We clearly encourage the wearing of masks in public places and the majority of our customers do so. Our associates have been wearing masks for the last several weeks and we have taken numerous safety precautions in our stores for the protection of our customers and store associates.

Our concern with the proposed ordinance is with the enforcement/penalty provisions:

The plan would require Milwaukee businesses to enforce the mask requirement or risk being shut down. Any business that failed to enforce the rule could be fined between \$50 to \$500. Under the ordinance, the health commissioner and city attorney would be authorized to "pursue license revocation or a court order closing a building open to the public" if they don't require people to wear masks.

There is only so much a grocer can do to require customers to wear masks. We will ask a person to wear a mask if they do not enter the store with one. If the situation escalates, we will offer them one if they do not have one. If they refuse to wear one and will not exit the store, we feel we have done all that is required of us. Our associates will not confront mask-less customers, for fear of triggering a confrontation. We are not a law enforcement agency, we are grocers.

Also, if a person claims they have a medical condition and will not wear a mask, we have no way to validate their claim as questioning their health status would be a violation of Federal HIPPA regulations. This is a situation that can occur multiple times in a day and seven-fold in a week as over 160,000 customers cross our nine City of Milwaukee store thresholds in a week.

It is our hope that you will consider modifying your enforcement/penalty provisions and develop enforcement language that works for the City of Milwaukee, the Health Department, grocers and their customers.

Respectfully,

James J. Hyland

James J. Hyland
VP, Communications & Public Affairs
Roundy's Supermarkets, Inc.



Polanco, Joanna

From: Bauman, Robert
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:02 AM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: Fwd: Mask's for children

Please add to the mask ordinance file

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeanne Labana <jlabana@wisconsinearlychildhood.org>
Date: July 10, 2020 at 9:52:54 AM CDT
To: "Bauman, Robert" <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: RE: Mask's for children

Thank you so much for your response...quick response. The Health Dept has not been very responsive. They don't understand about child care. Example: during the beginning of COVID19 child care was deemed 'essential' and allowed to operate as usual. At the end of May they sent letters to all programs (out of the blue) that they could operate at only 25%. Who do you tell has to go? They offered no guidance....didn't answer their phone.

So now they are doing it again. A community cannot operate without child care and probably easily 50% of programs will be closing because of the restrictions.

More than you needed to hear..... but again THANKS for responding.

Jeanne

From: Bauman, Robert <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 9:33 AM
To: Jeanne Labana <jlabana@wisconsinearlychildhood.org>
Cc: Bockhorst, Tammy <Tammy.Bockhorst@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: Re: Mask's for children

You raise some very good points but given the speed of this legislation there will be little opportunity to get these issues discussed. However, no legislation is written in stone so changes can be made at a later date. I might add there is a "practicality and feasibility" exemption in the current version so day care facilities may fit under that exemption.

Ultimately you need to convince the health department. They are taking the lead on these mandates and are driving the debate. It is they who wanted an ordinance rather than a health order to better insulate the mandate from legal challenge.

Council members with little or no medical/public health expertise are reluctant to deviate from or disagree with pronouncements of the health department. They may or may not have the expertise, but we generally think they do.

The main impetus for this legislation was to address bars, restaurants and retail stores.

One could have argued we should have limited the ordinance to this scope and discuss the more complicated situations such day care, schools etc. to further discussion.

Sent from my iPad

On Jul 10, 2020, at 8:54 AM, Jeanne Labana <jlabana@wisconsinearlychildhood.org> wrote:

I am writing to ask that Milwaukee Common Council reconsider its requirement for teachers and children to wear masks in full day child care settings.

As a leader of local early childhood programs, we take the health and safety of children, families and teachers very seriously. We are willing to take every reasonable precaution but, asking young children and their caregivers to wear masks all day is not reasonable or practical.

It is also not recommended by the CDC.

This is taken from directly from their website “*Younger children (e.g., preschool or early elementary aged) may be unable to wear a cloth face covering properly. particularly for an extended period of time. Wearing of cloth face coverings may be prioritized at times when it is difficult to maintain a distance of 6 feet from others (e.g., during carpool drop off or pick up, or when standing in line at school). Ensuring proper cloth face covering size and fit and providing children with frequent reminders and education on the importance and proper wear of cloth face coverings may help address these issues.*”

After extensive research, our programs have chosen to utilize masks only during drop off and pick up times. They cannot possibly be worn properly all day every day and they give a false sense of security. In addition, the effects of their long-term use by children has not been properly studied.

The strategies that we adopted focus on reducing the number of contacts for both children and adults, encouraging classrooms to meet outdoors, and increasing sanitation procedures. Specifically, we included the following:

- Mixed age grouping to keep siblings in the same self-contained classrooms.
- Keeping groups together for the entire day with no group mixing.
- All children who arrive by bus/van being assigned to the same classroom.
- Reducing the number of children served.
- Increasing the total number of staff to eliminate the need for teachers to move between classrooms doubling our staffing expenses.
- Investing in outdoor learning environments and encouraging classes to meet outside as weather permits.
- Assigning each group a designated outdoor space, eliminating spaces being shared by different groups.
- Educating our staff and families on the importance or minimizing the number of people they come into contact with outside of our program.
- Hiring a professional cleaning service to disinfect rooms nightly.

These measures are very costly. Our programs have invested in huge amounts of money to make our programs safe. The reduced tuition revenue and increased staffing costs, along with the extra cleaning services are also upping our operating costs. Without financial relief, many programs will be forced to close in 2020/2021. However, we are taking all the steps to operate safely.

Mask wearing in public settings makes sense. However, a group child care center is not comparable to other public settings. The requirement for children and teachers in ECE programs to wear masks is unreasonable. It shows a lack of understanding of how children and adults function in ECE classrooms. Children and teachers in early childhood programs do not interact in the same ways people interact in public settings such as stores or their places of employment. They also interact differently than children and teachers in K-12 programs.

The interactions in a group child care setting are most comparable to the ways families interact within their own homes and we certainly would not ask that they wear masks for all of their waking hours.

Typically developing three-five year olds will struggle with full-day mask wearing. Those with sensory issues, autism spectrum disorders, mental health issues, trauma exposure, or hearing loss will be even more impacted. Young children depend upon faces to learn about the world around them, to understand emotion, and to learn language. Early childhood teachers are already being stretched beyond their limits. Asking them to keep masks on children or to wear them all day while wrangling young children adds an undue burden.

We ask again that you re-consider mask requirements for YOUNG CHILDREN and their caregivers!

Jeanne Labana, MS

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association
Milwaukee WEESN Project Manager
jlabana@wisconsinearlychildhood.org
414-336-1729

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Polanco, Joanna

From: Bauman, Robert
Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:03 AM
To: Polanco, Joanna
Subject: Fwd: File #: 200426 MKE Mask legislation

Please add to the mask ordinance file

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Brian Brechlin <brian.brechlin@gmail.com>
Date: July 10, 2020 at 9:43:30 AM CDT
To: "Bauman, Robert" <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>
Subject: File #: 200426 MKE Mask legislation

Greetings,

Please either remove or revise the hypocritical section of the legislation.

As written 4f excludes government facilities closed to the public, but not private facilities. Either remove 4f or add private facilities to the same exemption and metrics. A mitigating strategy can be done both by private companies and public institutions. The rule for thee but not for me makes this hypocritical. You cannot logically spare government from the same enforcement as private businesses. One of the job sites I work at has more space than my house, has 1-2 people max and most times only one person. A job site like that with mandating masks seems silly to me, especially when you have an exception for government buildings.

Section 5 is also highly anti-business. Again with 4f being in the bill exempting the government while making 5 blatantly anti-business you have a bad piece of legislation. Please revise so everyone must meet the same criteria. Either you have NO exceptions including government institutions/buildings or you have exceptions likewise for private companies that meet the same criteria.

Thank you for the medical exemption, but what proof is needed? Just my inhaler? Just my word? I scribble on a piece of paper "Lung issue" and carry that around? What is needed for the "exception"?

Thank you,

Brian