

COVID 19 Summer Camp Council Meeting April 13, 2021

By way of introduction, my name is David Kulick and I am a long time resident of Montgomery County--I live close to Damascus in zip code 20882.

The reason why I am reaching out to you is that I have been very involved in working with many developers of COVID tests and have more recently help develop a strategy that is being deployed in PA that they will be using for their upcoming summer gymnastics camps. In their case they will be bringing in attendees from different parts of the US throughout the summer for week or more periods and their hope was to implement a strategy that would help protect the current staff and attendees as well as other family members was their sessions were completed.

I am aware that there is a council meeting tomorrow to discuss the upcoming camp season. I did read the current document that has been posted in regards to the April 13th meeting and I do see some similar approaches, however, one area that was not clear was the plan for COVID testing.

As we are all aware the emergence of variants has added a level of complexity in that these new variants can be much more difficult to detect utilizing current testing methods and are both more contagious and severe. More recent data indicates that the younger population could be a major source of disease spreading, so it becomes even more important to quickly and easily identify those individuals to minimize the disease spread. The only effective way to accomplish this is with frequent testing, and while there are now some potential options, either the cost is prohibitive or the turnaround for test results too slow.

More recently we have identified a Rapid Test that is:

- Fast (3-5 min from sample to results)
- Easy Uses a cheek swab which is very easy to self collect
- Inexpensive Cost of \$10 or less per test

With the gymnastics camps as their attendees are coming from different parts of the country, they are being asked to first test with a Molecular (PCR) test 48 hours prior to arrival. When on site they are going to be tested once or twice per week as these rapid test are well suited to identify infectious individuals--if a positive is detected, as they are part of small self contained groups, they can contain and isolate the additional individuals.

I appreciate the challenge that you have in front of you as this disease is rapidly evolving and our mission is to help those in a position such as yours to be informed as making an incorrect choice or none at all does have consequences.

I would appreciate the opportunity to share with you additional information, so if interested, please do contact me at your convenience.

Kind Regards,

David Kulick