

Montgomery County Council

Jan 24, 2022

Dear Council members,

I'm writing in support of continued indoor masking mandates and in support of requiring proof of vaccination for certain indoor activities.

Montgomery County is the home of both the National Institutes of Health and the US Food and Drug Administration. It's the center of evidence-based public health measures and the epicenter of medical science for the world.

If there's one place in the US that should stick to what has been shown to work, it's this county.

Please do not let organized, loud and emotional testimony sway your decisions. Many people spoke against vaccine and mask mandates at your last meeting, but they do not represent the majority and they certainly do not represent science.

It's in everyone's best interest, including theirs, to require people to adhere to behaviors that have been proven to keep everyone safe.

Asking people nicely to do what's right has been demonstrated to be futile. The only reason the US has such high vaccination rates for childhood diseases is that they are required for school attendance. People did not routinely wear seat belts until they were required by law. Smokers did not stop subjecting everyone else to their cigarettes until laws banned indoor smoking. The same is true of masks and vaccines.

Please do the right thing. I am a voter and a citizen and I support you in this.

Thank you,

Margaret Fox