

Supplemental Item –

**Correspondance for Agenda Item No. 8**

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**(CC Mtg 6/01/2020)**

Re: Urgency Face Covering Ordinance

May 29, 2020

Dear City of Grover Beach Council,

I respectfully prevail upon you to adopt the Urgency Ordinance to protect essential workers by passing regulations to protect essential workers through the use of face coverings under those circumstances when physical distancing is not possible and where the employee is working in a publicly accessible area of the business and where the employee is unable to maintain a six-foot separation from members of the public patronizing the business.

The purpose of the ordinance is to impede the spread of COVID-19 in our community as **another step** toward helping to keep Grover Beach residents, workers and visitors protected from the respiratory droplets we all expel as humans in the course of breathing, talking, laughing, coughing, or sneezing.

I also urge you to also consider further regulations to **require** customers patronizing business in Grover Beach to wear face coverings with the exception of those with health exemptions.

Passing regulations to keep all people safe is one of the responsibilities of good government.

Over the years ‘We the People’, thru ordinances, regulations, codes, and laws passed by our elected officials have taken action to support Public Health, such as: construct sewage systems, remove lead from water pipes, sanitize drinking water, establish building codes, speed limits, install stop signs and crosswalks, require those who operate vehicles to have a driver’s licenses and occupants in a moving vehicle to wear seatbelts, we’ve prohibited drunk driving and smoking in public spaces to protect public health and extend lives, we’ve restricted certain fireworks during the Fourth of July, prohibited shouting “FIRE” in a theatre, funded police and fire departments all with the purpose of protecting people from harm and extending their lives.

These are just a few examples of elected representatives “imposing” the moral value of the Public Greater Good over an Individual’s right to do as they please in our shared precious public spaces.

Thank you for your consideration,

Carmela Vignocchi

Grover Beach, CA

Information below is copied from the Center for Disease Prevention website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

## Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others

- You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
- Everyone should wear a [cloth face cover](#) when they have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities.
  - Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- Do NOT use a facemask meant for a healthcare worker.
- Continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.



South County Chambers of Commerce  
June 1, 2020

Grover Beach City Council  
City of Grover Beach  
Re Agenda Item 8  
Via Email

Dear Grover Beach City Council,

Thank you for your tireless work on behalf of the Grover Beach community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The South County Chambers of Commerce exists to create partnerships and opportunities that ensure South County Businesses prosper. Our vision is that our members are the most resilient, diverse, and growing businesses in South San Luis Obispo County because of the effective stakeholder engagement and advocacy we do. Our Chamber represents 700 businesses with a combined 7,900 employees.

Our businesses have recently experienced unbelievable and unprecedented challenges due to the pandemic, the restrictions on business, and loss of revenue due to the stay at home order. The local businesses have complied with these restrictions and have shown extreme patience.

The South County Chambers 2020 Board of Directors has reviewed the Grover Beach proposed face-covering ordinance and are in support of it in its current form. Most businesses are already requiring face coverings for their employees who are working in proximity of the public. Therefore, creating a 90-day ordinance that requires this will not create a significant additional burden to the businesses.

For the general public the Board also supports the San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department and the Center for Disease Control advice for face coverings, which is as a recommendation and not a requirement. Businesses have the discretion to require face coverings for customers entering their business and many are already requiring this. The additional signage in the current proposed ordinance would encourage this further.

The Board would not support a city-wide face covering ordinance because there remains conflicting science and much debate regarding the benefits of face coverings. While that discussion continues, there are many other factors that should also be weighed when making this decision. Those factors include:

- As regional partners, we have all been working to communicate and collaborate and have aligned our efforts which has unified our community and provided consistency.



- If the city has a different requirement than the surrounding communities, SLO County and the State, it will cause confusion for the public, for businesses and their staff particularly those that have multiple locations in the County.
- The current recommendations by the medical professionals have kept our County safe with a minimum of cases.
- In the Five Cities area, the geographic boundaries are blurred, and the consumer or customer does not necessarily know when they leave one jurisdiction and enter another.
- In the news we have read of customers becoming violent when asked to use a face-covering, this puts the staff in a dangerous position.
- Customers may have a medical reason for not wearing a face-covering. Businesses do not want to inquire about or question their customer's health condition.
- Lastly, enforcing a potential city-wide ordinance would be unrealistic.

We recognize that public safety is the priority and if either SLO County or the California Department of Public Health establish a face-covering ordinance we will support it and work with the Grover Beach business community to implement it.

The Chamber is pleased to join the city in supporting our local businesses and setting them up for a successful and smooth reopening. We support the proposed ordinance in its current form. We encourage your council to give the businesses discretion to decide for themselves if they will require face-coverings for their customers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.

Jocelyn Brennan, South County Chambers President & CEO  
Tony Goetz, South County Chambers 2020 Chairperson