

Mayor Brian Hodson

- Are you concerned about the continuing rise in new cases of Covid-19, both in the state and local area?

Yes, I am concerned about the continuing rise throughout the state. I see the numbers daily and while Clackamas County seems to be flattening, Multnomah, Washington, and Marion County stay very elevated.

- What are your thoughts on the best ways residents can help curb the spread of Covid-19 in our community?

The best ways they can curb the spread are to: wash your hands frequently with warm water and soap; if you are showing symptoms keep your distance from others and stay home. Social distancing is showing to help as well. Cough and sneeze into your elbow or at least cover your mouth. Don't share drinking cups. All those common-sense items that we should all be doing.

- Do you believe residents should follow state guidelines and the recommendations of public health officials, including wearing face masks in indoor spaces (if they are physically and medically able)?

I believe that it is up to each person on how they handle it, especially the face mask piece. I wear one because I do not want to spread it or at least minimize it. I follow the guidelines because I believe that is what I am asked to do.

- The use of face coverings, which the governor has now mandated statewide for indoor public spaces, has become a sensitive issue, with some residents feeling this infringes on individual rights and personal freedom. What are your thoughts on this?

I think it rests with the individual if they want to wear it. If I walk into a business and they are not enforcing the previous mandates handed down and there are people without a mask on, then I have a choice — stay and shop; take it to the manager/owner and ask why they are not following the guidelines for all the previous mandates and why are employees not wearing a mask; leave; leave and file a complaint with one of the state agencies doing the enforcement; etc. On the flip side of the coin, if a business is going to turn people/customers away for not wearing a mask, then that is their decision to make.

- How do you believe the mask mandate should be enforced, addressed or otherwise handled for businesses and other indoor public spaces in Canby?

As I stated above, the Governor has made this a mandate. She has chosen to enforce this by using other state agencies to go to businesses and ensure compliance (see Pappy's Greasy Spoon, Retro Revival as examples).

Governor Brown set the level of implementation and will enforce it to that level. If the individual business wants to take it further — no shirt, no shoes, no mask, no service — then that is the individual businesses call to make. At this point, the complaint-driven enforcement methodology is in place and should continue in this fashion. Pushing down to local police to enforce is not the way to go.

Businesses are struggling to make a livelihood. They are following the guidelines just to be able to function and it is up to our individual efforts to reverse the curve.

Personal Responsibility has to come into play at some point in all of this. The more we are told "YOU MUST DO THIS!", the more people will do the opposite. What will this then escalate to? More people "Mask Shaming"? Citations by CPD for not wearing a mask? Show proof that you have a pre-existing condition? Proof That you had it? You must take the Rona Vaccine to be allowed in school? No Proof of Vaccine, then you cannot come in?

Where is the headed?

Councilor Greg Parker

- Are you concerned about the continuing rise in new cases of Covid-19, both in the state and local area?

Yes, I see this as a threat to public health and our economic health.

- What are your thoughts on the best ways residents can help curb the spread of Covid-19 in our community?

Wear a mask when out, as I always do. Avoid crowds.

- Do you believe residents should follow state guidelines and the recommendations of public health officials, including wearing face masks in indoor spaces (if they are physically and medically able)?

Yes. This is a small inconvenience to ensure public health and keep businesses open.

- The use of face coverings, which the governor has now mandated statewide for indoor public spaces, has become a sensitive issue, with some residents feeling this infringes on individual rights and personal freedom. What are your thoughts on this?

I think we need to think beyond ourselves and political statements. Is not wearing a mask worth closing down business again?

- How do you believe the mask mandate should be enforced, addressed or otherwise handled for businesses and other indoor public spaces in Canby?

Most places I've been in Canby seem to have no problem with posting signs asking for compliance.

Councilor Sarah Spoon

- Are you concerned about the continuing rise in new cases of Covid-19, both in the state and local area?

I am always concerned when there's a threat to public health and safety. I'm even more concerned that the threat is growing instead of subsiding.

- What are your thoughts on the best ways residents can help curb the spread of Covid-19 in our community?

I am not an immunologist or epidemiologist, so I'll defer to the experts and continue to hope that people who can choose to wear masks, everyone stay home as much as possible, and practice social distancing when not at home.

- Do you believe residents should follow state guidelines and the recommendations of public health officials, including wearing face masks in indoor spaces (if they are physically and medically able)?

I do believe people who are able to wear masks should follow the recommendations. I don't know anyone who likes wearing masks, it isn't fun, and it's an annoyance and inconvenience, but if wearing masks helps reduce the spread even a little then it saves lives and it's worth doing.

- The use of face coverings, which the governor has now mandated statewide for indoor public spaces, has become a sensitive issue, with some residents feeling this infringes on individual rights and personal freedom. What are your thoughts on this?

America is built on the pursuit of freedom and the right to individualism. That's an a-political experience that binds Americans together. I've always thought of Canby as a very neighborly place where we care about those who share this town with us. For some people, there's a conflict there and while I understand the desire for individual rights, I hope all of us who are able to safely wear masks choose to value the lives and safety of our neighbors over our own inconvenience. This is an opportunity for all Americans to unite behind the common goal of keeping our country safe.

- How do you believe the mask mandate should be enforced, addressed or otherwise handled for businesses and other indoor public spaces in Canby?

This is a challenging problem for the mandate. As a small business owner myself, I wish the burden didn't fall on businesses to regulate, but I'm not sure there's any other way to handle it. I'm impressed by all of the Canby businesses that have adapted in these unprecedented times — from curbside pickup to home deliveries, businesses have really taken the lead in creating safe environments. Now the challenge is on us as individuals to respect the safety of Canby

employees and take advantage of these offerings. For those who cannot wear or choose not to wear masks, it's a reasonable accommodation to utilize curbside pickup for groceries and other goods. If we can't all be responsible for our role in stopping the spread by wearing masks or using the new services businesses offer, I worry that businesses will be asked to close again. I hope we all support our most vulnerable populations and our businesses by doing our part even when it means wearing a mask we don't want to wear.

Council President Tim Dale

- Are you concerned about the continuing rise in new cases of Covid-19, both in the state and local area?

With increased testing will come increased confirmations. In alignment with the governor's professed desire to protect the hospital system, the stat to watch is hospitalizations. The OHA's own web site shows those numbers to be declining since peaking on June 26. Even then, hospitalizations were only 3% of ICU bed capacity. The last four days show no confirmed hospitalizations, and the percentage of ER visits for Covid-like symptoms has been at or below the governor's 1.5% threshold since April 19.

- What are your thoughts on the best ways residents can help curb the spread of Covid-19 in our community?

I am discouraged by the lack of unity among medical experts at all levels. Tactics and recommendations on masks are still not in agreement. Part of that is learning about the disease. Part of it is not. I respect and comply with the right of business/property owners to require masks.

- Do you believe residents should follow state guidelines and the recommendations of public health officials, including wearing face masks in indoor spaces (if they are physically and medically able)?

Despite flux and disagreement on the efficacy of masks and when to mask, medical experts largely agree to take extra care to protect those at risk, isolate if symptomatic or exposed, practice good hygiene, and use considerate common sense to protect yourself and others.

- The use of face coverings, which the governor has now mandated statewide for indoor public spaces, has become a sensitive issue, with some residents feeling this infringes on individual rights and personal freedom. What are your thoughts on this?

The governor encourages protests of thousands in very close-quarter crowds, many of whom are yelling without masks. The state Department of Education has issued spacing guidelines to return our children to confined classrooms and airspaces. A restaurant is allowed to seat indoors as many talking, laughing, unmasked customers as they can socially distance. Yet a church, mosque, or temple that can seat 1,000 under twenty-foot ceilings is criminally barred from more than 25 First Amendment-protected worshippers, regardless of masking.

- How do you believe the mask mandate should be enforced, addressed or otherwise handled for businesses and other indoor public spaces in Canby?

The governor has wisely chosen not to attempt to use police agencies for enforcement of masking. The state encourages business customers and employees to make complaints to

OSHA or health authorities. The rest is pretty much social pressure and respect for the rights of business/property owners to require masking.

Councilor Shawn Varwig

- Are you concerned about the continuing rise in new cases of Covid-19, both in the state and local area?

I am. However, I am just as concerned about the collateral damage caused by extended closures and loss of employment. There is more to this than just the virus and I think it's important to acknowledge this. In Portland alone, calls due to self-harm has risen more than 40% and so I think that we need to consider our concern for not just the rise in Covid-19 cases, but also our concern for people who are struggling for other reasons due to the pandemic.

- What are your thoughts on the best ways residents can help curb the spread of Covid-19 in our community?

The most amazing thing about Canby is its people. We come from a variety of backgrounds with one thing in common, our love for our community. I think that most people would tell you they want to do what they can to help prevent the spread and so if people are sick or have been exposed, I want to think the best of them and believe they would stay home and isolate. If you think you might be sick or exposed, you don't want to go to the liquor store or grocery store, for example. If you're sick, stay home!

- Do you believe residents should follow state guidelines and the recommendations of public health officials, including wearing face masks in indoor spaces (if they are physically and medically able)?

I believe in kindness and treating others as I would like to be treated. For me, this means that I will wear a mask wherever the guidelines have specified because there might be others around me who are legitimately worried about the effect of the virus, and so I am considerate of that fear. Others may choose not to wear a mask or may not be able to wear one due to medical conditions. It's not my place to judge them or assume things that I don't know to be true. I trust that people will make the right choice, and you won't find me mask shaming or tattling to the police, mayor or news outlets if someone isn't wearing one.

- The use of face coverings, which the governor has now mandated statewide for indoor public spaces, has become a sensitive issue, with some residents feeling this infringes on individual rights and personal freedom. What are your thoughts on this?

I think there is a lot more than the mandated use of face coverings that infringes on individual rights and personal freedom, but that's a conversation for another day.

- How do you believe the mask mandate should be enforced, addressed or otherwise handled for businesses and other indoor public spaces in Canby?

I think that so far businesses are doing a great job and most people are abiding by the rules. I don't see a need for an organized enforcement, and I don't think we need citizens preaching at other citizens about whether or not they should be wearing a mask. Always be kind.