

From: [tony higgins](#)
To: [Eduardo Sarmiento](#)
Subject: Fwd: Labor Day weekend and Covid Safety
Date: Tuesday, September 1, 2020 12:40:36 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
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This should be my last written communications to the council on this matter until we see how the Labor Day Weekend plays out.

START

From: tony higgins <tony.higgins123@gmail.com>
Date: September 1, 2020 at 10:47:28 AM PDT
To: Walter Booty <WalterBooty@outlook.com>
Subject: Fwd: Labor Day weekend and Covid Safety

Fyi

Begin forwarded message:

From: tony higgins <tony.higgins123@gmail.com>
Date: September 1, 2020 at 10:42:28 AM PDT
To: Suja Lowenthal <suja@hermosabeach.gov>, Mayor Campbell <mcampbell@hermosabeach.gov>, Michael Jenkins <MJenkins@localgovlaw.com>, Paul LeBaron <plebaron@hermosabeach.gov>
Cc: City Council <citycouncil@hermosabeach.gov>
Subject: Labor Day weekend and Covid Safety

You all know what is coming to HB this Labor Day Weekend - extreme hot weather is forecast, likely bringing large crowds to our beaches and parks as well as rampant disregard for city, county and state Covid Safety Protocols just like what I documented this past weekend in the attached email.

Covid will be further spread among young people crowding to the beach. As you well know these young people are currently the epicenter of county's infections and these infections will be brought home and ultimately reach vulnerable populations.

There is no reason to believe there will not continue to be abject disregard for the group activities bans at our beaches or parks when Labor Day crowds driven by the heatwave forecast for this weekend descend on our beaches.

Accordingly I demand you either fix the group activity ban signage on our beaches and post mask-required signage on our beaches and green belts and take steps to ensure masks are properly worn by patrons of the outdoor dining facilities you have opened up all over the cities or the city MUST CLOSE THE STRAND, PARKS AND BEACHES FOR THE LABOR DAY WEEKEND.

Can't you see the city is aiding and abetting large numbers of residents who are simply refusing to follow Covid safety protocols?

Can't you see this?

When the city refuses to post the proper signage or enforce the proper use masks by the patrons of outdoor dining venues you are empowering those that are refusing to follow Covid safety

protocols.

You are complicit in the further spread of the virus and directly responsible for Covid deaths, injury and directly responsible for further overwhelming our Counties health care workers.

You are directly responsible!

What is your game plan?

The council is composed of sensible bright people. I have no doubt all of you are smarter and more adept than me.

But the city can no longer tolerate the response of our city manager in terms of the lack of group-activity-ban signage.

Neither can it tolerate the continued failure to place mask-required signage on our beaches and strands nor can it tolerate that patrons of outdoor dining venues are refusing to wear masks as required in the Emergency Order.

You must ask yourself what does the city manager hope to achieve by continuing to neglect these issues?

What does our city manager hope to achieve???

Over a period of 4 weeks after the 28 July Emergency Order I provided at least 6 emails spelling out exactly where the group-activity ban and mask-required signs were missing on the strand, the beaches, entry points to the central business district and Noble Park.

But little if anything was done.

Compare the total lack of signs on Hermosa's strand, beaches and Greenbelt to the city of Manhattan Beach





August 30, 2020
Hermosa Beach - Sand Section



The cities actions are having the effect of undermining our Covid safety protocols and encouraging and even support young people as they callously disregard these safety protocols and spread Covid in our community.

These are serious charges. I do not make them lightly. Here is my evidence.

Large segments of our community have made it clear they have no intentions of following the group activities bans at our parks or beaches or wear masks where they are required by the 28 July Emergency Order.

TO RECAP:

First... no group activities ban signage on our beaches

Second.... No Mask-Required signage On our strand or beaches

Third... opening up outdoor dining without requino patrons to wear masks at these outdoor dining venues.

Mr Jenkins did a great job of describing these risks when the council approved the 28 July Emergency Order. Masks were to be worn by patrons at all times except when they were actively shoveling food into their mouths or actively sipping their drinks.

And the city manager actions or rather inaction has directly undermined this Emergency Order and aided and abetted those who have callously disregarded it. And is so doing our city manager has unnecessary endangered vulnerable populations and added to the burden of our overwhelmed health care workers.

That should be an impeachable offense.

The City Manager is complicit. Her disregard of signage, mask requirements at outdoor dining venues and the group activity bans on our beaches is pernicious, arbitrary and destructive.

Fix it or close the parks and beaches for the Labor Day weekend.

Else admit you are not going to protect vulnerable populations and our overwhelmed health care workers from the ravages of the Covid Pandemic and you are going to do nothing to protect us from the lawless disregard of the cities Covid safety protocols. by large segments of our population

Close our Parks, beaches and strands and send a clear message this behavior will not be tolerated in the city of Hermosa Beach.

Sincerely TH

Begin forwarded message:

From: tony higgins <tony.higgins123@gmail.com>
Date: August 30, 2020 at 8:37:58 AM PDT
To: Ryan McDonald <ryan@easyreadernews.com>
Subject: Fwd: Recap of group activities and unmasked activities at Valley Park this morning

Fyi

Begin forwarded message:

From: tony higgins <tony.higgins123@gmail.com>
Date: August 29, 2020 at 8:02:46 PM PDT
To: Suja Lowenthal <suja@hermosabeach.gov>, Mayor Campbell <mcampbell@hermosabeach.gov>, Paul LeBaron <plebaron@hermosabeach.gov>
Cc: City Council <citycouncil@hermosabeach.gov>, Parks Commission <dg_parksrecommission@hermosabch.org>, Michael Jenkins <MJenkins@localgovlaw.com>
Subject: Fwd: Recap of group activities and unmasked activities at Valley Park this morning

Dear Mayor Campbell,
Dear Ms Lowenthal,
Dear Chief LeBaron

This morning I sent you an email assessing the effectiveness of the group activities ban and mask enforcement at Valley Park with the flag football, the exercise classes etc. It's attached.

This afternoon I walked the strand from 26th street to pier avenue.

The number of group activities on the beach was simply overwhelming. Masks on the beach were virtually non-existent.

The fact that there were so many large group activities centered around volleyball courts and beach tennis made me wonder who is in charge and ***what are these volleyball and beach tennis nets doing up doing up in the first place.***

I provide numerous pictures below.

As I said mask compliance on the beach is virtually non-existent running at less than 2%

Group activities on the beach are everywhere despite the countywide ban.

You wouldn't know there was a ban on Beach group activities or a requirement to wear Masks because even at this late date there are still no group activities ban or masks required signs posted ANYWHERE north of Pier Avenue.

What is happening is crazy.

Hermosa Beach is totally out of control related to its Covid safety protocols and if you can't see it it's because you don't want to confront it.

It should be clear that if you continue down this course you will get more economic loss, more death, more infections more serious long term injury and more Covid hospitalization.

[NOTE: More Hospitalizations is probably the statistics that bears closest watching since it encompasses both long term injury and death]

If the city continue down the course it's on you are perpetuating a sham and a fraud on the citizens of Hermosa Beach.

If you continue down the same path you are saying to our overwhelmed health care workers and vulnerable populations we don't give a damn about you.

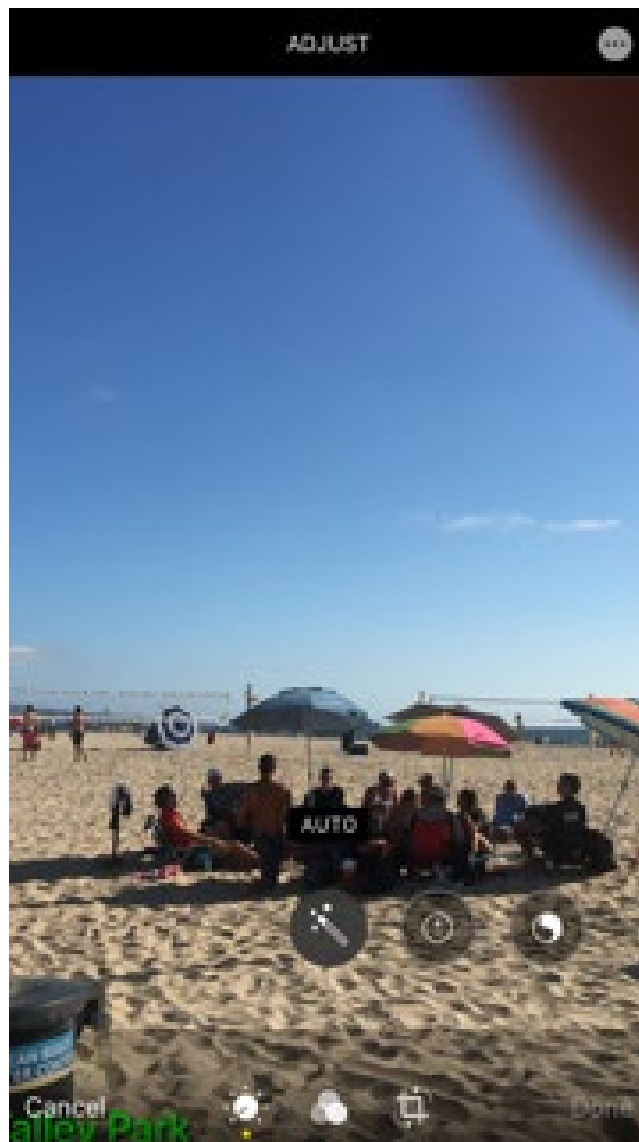
I still believe we should draft or enlist the cities salaried managers and directors and get them working extra hours to engage, encourage and cajole our residents and visitors to resist the temptation to engage in illegal group activities on our beaches and to wear masks. See earlier email for detail.

But after walking down the strand today it's very clear the situation is totally out of control vis a vis Covid Safety Protocols.

The council must send a clear and unambiguous message NOW by closing the beach and strand else just abandon the Covid Safety Protocols entirely and inform the general public the city does not have the wherewithal to protect our vulnerable populations and our health care workers

If you aren't going to do close the beaches and strand at least have the courage to say you can't manage the situation.

Here are some pictures I took on the beach this afternoon. They drive home my point.



No one wearing a mask. Volleyball being played everywhere.

What are the nets doing up in the first place? Don't the police Cruze up and down the beach every hour or so?

And can't you see that volleyball is a high risk

Crazy insane!



27th Street. No masks

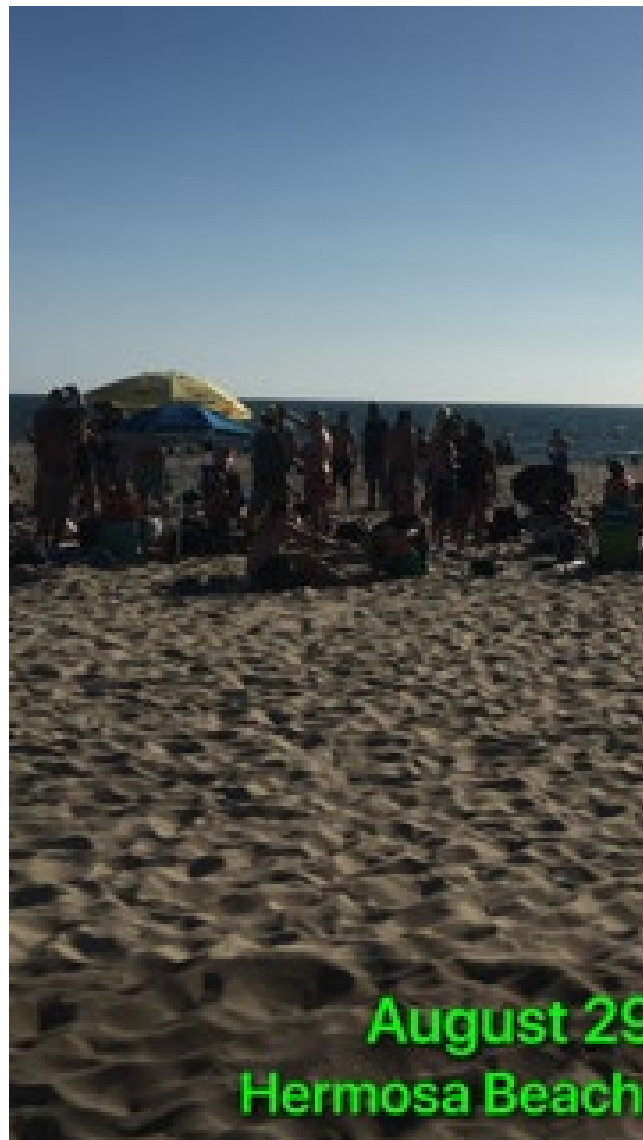




Not one mask



No masks!!!!



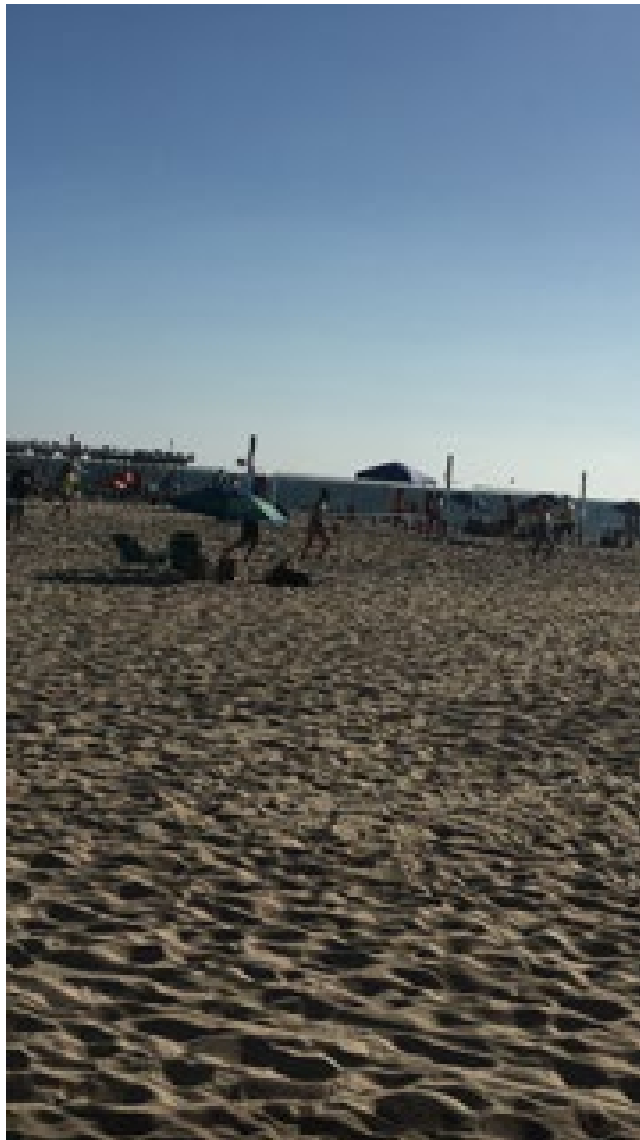
Different group... no masks.... open alcohol.



Further down the beach towards the pier more volleyball



Totem pole court. More volleyball. Once again why is the police allowing these nets. They should be confiscated No?



Beach Tennis courts????

Why are the nets up?

Why haven't they been removed.



And the idea that people are going to pull up their mask except when they are shoveling food into their mouths or sipping their drinks is utterly absurd. You know this will never happen yet you continue to expand outdoor dining.

The beach strand parks and greenbelt must be closed for a week or two to send the message the city isn't messing around with it's Covid safety protocols - that or just abandon the the effort and tell vulnerable populations and health care workers there is nothing you can do for them.

But don't lie by misrepresentation.

Sincerely AH

Begin forwarded message:

From: tony higgins <tony.higgins123@gmail.com>
Date: August 29, 2020 at 10:27:03 AM PDT
To: Suja Lowenthal <suja@hermosabeach.gov>, Kelly Orta <korta@hermosabeach.gov>
Cc: Mayor Campbell <mcampbell@hermosabeach.gov>, City Council <citycouncil@hermosabeach.gov>, Parks Commission <dg_parksreccommission@hermosabch.org>, Paul LeBaron <plebaron@hermosabeach.gov>
Subject: Recap of group activities and unmasked activities at Valley Park this morning



Above - Group of young adolescents playing full contact flag football.

While some studies have shown that asymptomatic young children 2-7 years of age may not spread Covid effectively there have been no studies that show that as kids approach adolescent they do not transmit Covid just as effectively as asymptomatic adults. In fact some studies have confirmed asymptomatic adolescent children transmit Covid just as effectively as adults

You may say well they are outside so what's the risk.

If so you obviously don't understand football.

The kids push off and block each other. When they are winded and breathing hard they still huddle up after each play exchanging high fives, droplets and aerosols face to face in close proximity

Physical Contact spreads droplets and snot everywhere.

And the fact that none of the adults or coaches were wearing masks sets a totally unacceptable example.



Here, this morning we have a group of 8 or so 25-40 year old young men doing wind sprints. No one wearing masks. What group activities ban???

What mask requirement???



Here we have a group of young men and women

Group activities ban???

And no one is wearing masks,,,

Here is the thing.

It's common knowledge that Saturday morning is a peak period for group activities at valley park.

Where is the enforcement.

2nd thing. If you are not going to enforce these laws what is the point of having them. To make yourselves feel less accountable for the death and suffering? All you are doing by not enforcing is dragging out both the death and suffering and the economic loss.

You have to walk down one side or the other. Enforcement or just open things up and and try for herd immunity as quickly as possible

Walk down the middle of the road and set us up for a Covid rollercoaster ride where both economic loss and loss of life and suffering is maximized.

Is that what you want?

Sincerely AH