

From: [tony.higgins](#)
To: [Kelly Orta](#); [Eduardo Sarmiento](#)
Subject: Fwd: Recap of group activities and unmasked activities at Valley Park this morning
Date: Saturday, August 29, 2020 8:25:19 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[View recent photos.png](#)

Should have cced you Ms Orta.

Dear Mr Sarmiento,

Another written communication to council and parks commission

Start:

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.

This evening 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.

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.

The city 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 infections and more Covid hospitalization.

If you continue down the course you are 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 our 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 todayIt's clear the situation is totally out of control vis a vie Covid Safety Protocols.

You 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 Cruise up and down the beach every hour or so?

And can't you see that volleyball is a high risk activity. When someone spikes a ball you are fact to face Inches apart trying to block it. It's heavy exertion. Droplets are flying. High fives and constantly touching the ball. I saw several volleyball players licking their fingers. You would think they were trying to throw a curve ball.

Crazy insane!



27th Street. No masks



August 29, 2020
Hermosa Beach - Valley Park



It one mask



No masks!!!!



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



Further down the beach towards the pier more volleyball



August 29, 2020
Hermosa Beach - Valley Park

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 mischaracterizing the situation

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