

**From:** [tony higgins](#)  
**To:** [Eduardo Sarmiento](#)  
**Cc:** [Paul LeBaron](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: COVID hypocrisy  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020 7:15:56 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)  
[image.png](#)

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Dear Mr Sarmiento

Please include this as a written communication to the council for the next city council meeting not that I believe it's going to do a bit of good.

Thank You

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START

**From:** tony higgins <tony.higgins123@gmail.com>  
**Date:** October 6, 2020 at 6:43:11 PM PDT  
**To:** Suja Lowenthal <suja@hermosabeach.gov>  
**Cc:** City Council <citycouncil@hermosabeach.gov>, Parks Commission <dg\_parksreccommission@hermosabch.org>  
**Subject:** COVID hypocrisy

Dear City Manager.

I've had it with our leadership making statements like "We want to reopen the economy but we want to do it safely".

I'm sure you have made statements to that effect? No?

And yet today I walk through valley park and there were at least 125 people and only 2-3 people wearing masks.

This sound exactly like Donald Trump, you simply lack any credibility.

Your administration gives permit after permit to use our parks and beaches (yes I have the records to prove it) and yet most don't require the wearing of masks.

Justify that.

And when the permits do require wearing masks the people required to wear masks simply don't.

Your parks and recreation manager cited the day care center you opened in valley park as a success story for opening up the park and doing it safely with full mask

compliance

Well the first couple of weeks you saw the all employees and many of the children wearing masks but that's not happening any more is it?

Here is a couple of pics:



The fact the city under your leadership Ms Lowenthal is simply incapable opening

our economy safely.

Or is it simply that you don't have the leadership skills to make the tough decisions?

Neither the employees nor any of the nearby children being supervised by the valley park day care are wearing masks.

And our parks, beaches and strand are now full of people not wearing masks.

Compliance at these locations is so low it can't have any real effect at stemming covid community spread.

You say you want to reopen the the parks beaches and the strand but you want to do it safely.

That is the mantra isn't it.

But it's a lie.

If you really wanted to do it safely you would have closed the parks, beaches and strand when it became clear and obvious you couldn't do it safely. It only needed to be for a day or two the first time. But do that 3 or 4 times in a month would have sent a clear & unambiguous message that the city was not going to tolerate losing its best tool at combating Covid community spread to a bunch of spoiled brats that refuse to wear masks.

That's logic 101.

Here is another pic of valley park today.

No one wearing a mask.



We need at least 90% mask compliance and it's hovering around 10% if that when you look at our parks and beaches. We need 90%+ compliance because it can reduce Covid transmission 60-90%

But you have thrown in the towel.

You refuse to establish goals for mask compliance, track and trend to these compliance goals and close the parks, strand and beaches when these goals are not

met.

Covid is going to be a serious problem for at least another year. Our city has given up its best tool to combat Covid and that's mask compliance.

Do I need to again mention Japan has mask compliance around 95% and an aging population of 130M, much older than ours.

Japan has had about 1000 Covid deaths. Masks are big in Japan.

Here in the USA masks are not so big and we've had about 208,000 deaths.

In LA COUNTY, with a population of only 10 million we are approaching 7000 deaths.

You say you want to open the economy our parks beaches and strand but you want to do it safely well I say that involves stopping community spread and that is dependent of mask compliance at least 90%.

If you are unwilling to close the parks, beaches and the strand if we can't get mask compliance above the 90% threshold then you can't open them or the economy safely. Nothing else has worked.

The truth is you are UNWILLING to open our parks, beaches, strand and the economy SAFELY because you are UNWILLING to put teeth into Mask Compliance.

You would rather stick your head in the sand and pretend you are opening safely than to take the hard short term steps to needed to get mask compliance.

**Sticking your head in the sand is tantamount to lying to the public on a critical public safety issue and that makes you an UNFIT city manager whose contract should be immediately terminated.**

TH.