

Mayor Bynum and Honorable City Councilors,

As the President of Tulsa Regional Tourism, I am sending you this communication on behalf of Tulsa's tourism industry. We **SUPPORT** your proposed mask ordinance (Section 409 – Face Covering and Social Distancing During COVID-19 Pandemic Civil Emergency).

In our role of attracting visitors (which include our local residents) to Tulsa's attractions, restaurants, venues, shops and hotels, it is imperative that we create a safe way to experience our city. Masks have been shown to reduce the spread of infectious disease and shorten the duration of pandemics; thus allowing our City to more quickly rebound and recover financially. The health of our residents and visitors is the top priority, which simultaneously rests on the health of our local economy. Without the tourism industry businesses' doors staying open, there is no Tulsa experience to promote or enjoy.

After sending an e-vote to the Tulsa Regional Tourism Executive Board (28 members) today, requesting they express support or opposition for your proposed mask ordinance, we heard back with resounding support in favor of requiring masks in Tulsa.

Please know the tourism industry is behind you and we hope to see the ordinance passed swiftly for the benefit of our community.

Ray Hoyt & Mike Mears