

CITY OF UNALASKA

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www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/coronavirus

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NEWS RELEASE

Monday, February 22, 2021, 3:30 pm, News Release no. 199 *Coronavirus COVID-19*

LOCAL RISK FACTOR: HIGH

UNALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT:

STATE OF ALASKA CASE COUNT: Today we report 348 new cases statewide since our News Release on February 19, along with 8 new hospitalizations and 1 death.

STATEWIDE STATISTICS	Resident	Non-Resident	Total
Cumulative Cases	55,507	2,246	57,753
Cumulative Hospitalizations	1,213	38	1,251
Deaths Statewide	287	3	290
State's Case Count for Unalaska	178	326	504

CITY COUNCIL MEETING: Tomorrow, the Unalaska City Council will consider another local mandate related to COVID-19. There are various changes in the proposed resolution due to the expiration of the State's Declaration of Emergency, as well as updated guidance from the CDC as to recommended traveler quarantine periods. Our local health professionals and EOC Incident Commanders support aligning with this guidance. Therefore, the City Manager is proposing a 10-day traveler quarantine period, or a 7-day period with a negative PCR type test no earlier than day six of quarantine. Further, no travel quarantine will be required for those who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and recovered so long as no new symptoms develop; or if a person is fully vaccinated 14 days before travel.

The meeting is Tuesday, February 23, at 6:00 p.m. The agenda, related documents and information to participate are available by email on request to the City Clerk's Department at 581-1251 and on the city website at https://www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/citycouncil/page/city-council-meeting-february-23-2021

COVID VACCINE WEBSITES: If you have questions about the vaccine for COVID-19, visit the State DHSS website at http://covidvax.alaska.gov for answers to frequently asked questions, the number of vaccines administered in the state and to determine if you are eligible for the vaccine. This CDC vaccine website contains further information: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/

FROM THE STATE DHSS WEEKLY UPDATE 2/17/2021:

- All Alaskans should avoid indoor gatherings with non-household members, avoid crowds, wear masks
 when around non-household members, and stay 6 feet from anyone not in their household.
- To stop COVID-19, including new strains of virus, from coming into Alaska and spreading, testing
 within 72 hours before returning to Alaska or on arrival and then strict social distancing until the test
 result is available is recommended.
- Alaskans should get tested immediately at the first sign of any symptoms. Tests work best when
 obtained promptly after symptoms start. Testing early helps people know if they are positive quickly
 and helps prompt them to take immediate precautions to minimize the risk of transmitting the virus
 to others.
- Most Alaskans get COVID-19 from a friend, family member, or coworker. Many Alaskans who are diagnosed with COVID-19 report that they went to social gatherings, community events, church services, and other social venues while they were contagious but before they knew they had the virus.

RENT & UTILITY ASSISTANCE: If you are struggling with rent and utility payments, the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation may be able to help. Alaska Housing Rent Relief provides up to 12 months of rent and/or utility relief to eligible Alaskans who are unable to pay rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Even if you've received rent relief from AHFC in the past, you can apply to this new program. Visit their website to check your eligibility and to apply: https://www.alaskahousingrelief.org/. The application deadline is March 5, 2021.

