

## **CITY OF UNALASKA**

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www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/coronavirus
https://covid19-response-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

Wednesday, December 15, 2021, 4:45 pm, News Release no. 245

Coronavirus COVID-19

**LOCAL RISK FACTOR: LOW** 

## UNALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT: Current Active Cases ------ 0 Industry-Quarantined ----- 0 Community ----- 0

**COMMUNITY-WIDE PROTECTIVE MEASURES:** Last night the Unalaska City Council adopted a new local mandate, Resolution 2021-75, effective at noon today through year end (midnight December 31). All protective measures remain advisories. Private businesses and organizations may have their own requirements.

**LOCAL EMERGENCY DECLARATION TO EXPIRE:** The City of Unalaska Declaration of Local Emergency will expire at year end and there is no plan to extend the present declaration. The expiration of the state of emergency does not mean that COVID-19 is no longer with us. The pandemic continues to be a significant public health concern, but we have to tools in place to effectively respond.

With the expiration of the local emergency declaration, the community can expect some <u>changes on January 1</u>:

- City Council will no longer issue community-wide COVID protective measures
- These regular news releases will stop
- The City will no longer have greeters at the airport to collect contact tracing information from incoming travelers
- The City will not report local case counts, but the community's case data will be reported on the State of Alaska COVID website, which is repeated on Unalaska's data hub (<a href="https://covid19-response-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/">https://covid19-response-unalaska.hub.arcgis.com/</a>)

We plan to continue testing the wastewater influent as this is an important indicator for us all locally and report this on the City's data hub 3 times per week.

We will rely on IFHS Clinic to communicate to the City if the local health care system is at risk of becoming overloaded. If an emergency declaration is necessary in 2022, the declaration can be made by the Mayor or City Manager, subject to ratification of the City Council.