



CITY OF UNALASKA

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www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/coronavirus

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NEWS RELEASE

June 9, 2020, 1:30pm, News Release no. 74

Coronavirus COVID-19

LOCAL RISK FACTOR: Medium

UNALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Patients tested in Unalaska | 297 |
| Negative Tests | 293 |
| Positive Tests | 4 |

STATE OF ALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT:

| | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Confirmed cases in the State | 573 |
| Recovered cases | 389 |
| Cumulative hospitalizations | 49 |
| Deaths | 11 |

"OPEN" DOESN'T MEAN "OVER"
Please Continue Personal Protective Measures!

STATE FERRY TUSTUMENA: A Press Release issued by Alaska Department of Transportation regarding the State Ferry Tustumena's passengers and crew is included on the next page. A crew member from the Tustumena tested positive for COVID-19 while in Unalaska on Saturday, June 6, 2020.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING TONIGHT: The Unalaska City Council will consider a new local mandate to protect the public health at their meeting tonight at 6pm. The community is encouraged to listen in on local KUCB TV Channel 8 or Radio Station 89.7; or to call into the meeting to provide testimony on agenda items (888.251.2909, access code 5646150). Comments and questions can also be emailed to the City Clerk no later than 5pm today (mveeder@ci.unalaska.ak.us) to be read into the record at the meeting.

When the public health emergency first began, Council began holding meetings via telephone conference. Because of the difficulty and complications presented using telephone conferencing, it was determined to include on the agenda only those items that were necessary for Council to address. Because of these concerns, we haven't included "Community Input and Announcements" on the agenda, which is a time for the community to provide information to council regarding issues not listed on the agenda. However, we recognize the value of providing opportunities for the community to speak to Council about issues not on the agenda, so this evening we will include opportunities for community input and announcements.

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John MacKinnon
Commissioner

www.DOT.Alaska.Gov



Department of Transportation
and Public Facilities

Juneau, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 8, 2020

Press Release: 20-0047

Contact: Meadow Bailey, meadow.bailey@alaska.gov, (907) 451-2240

Tustumena Passengers and Crew Returning to Homer for Testing and Quarantine *Sailings will be canceled indefinitely, updates at www.FerryAlaska.com.*

(JUNEAU, Alaska) – Today, the *M/V Tustumena* continued its return voyage to Homer. The vessel has 41 people on board, six passengers and 35 crewmembers, including the one crewmember who tested positive for COVID-19 in Dutch Harbor on Saturday. Passengers and crew are separated from each other. The COVID-19 positive crewmember is isolated and the 16 additional crewmembers who were determined to be in close contact with the positive crewmember are quarantining.

The health and safety of Alaska Marine Highway System passengers (AMHS) and staff is the first priority. Once the *Tustumena* docks in Homer, COVID-19 tests will be administered to passengers and crew on board the vessel. Results are anticipated to take approximately 24 hours. Those who test negative will return directly to their homes where they will quarantine for 14 days. Those who test positive will consult with public health nurses and the Alaska Section of Epidemiology to determine the best course of action for care and isolation from others to prevent any further transmission of COVID-19. The vessel will be thoroughly sanitized; it will then sit for three days with minimal staff and no passengers. After that, a full replacement staff will come on board and relieve the minimal staff.

Sailings for the *Tustumena* are canceled indefinitely. As of last night, AMHS planned to resume service Saturday, June 13, but is faced with a crew shortage as 35 crewmembers from the *Tustumena* go into quarantine. All AMHS passengers who are impacted by the canceled sailings are being notified. If you have questions about reservations, please visit www.FerryAlaska.com or contact the AMHS reservation call center by dialing 1-907-465-3941 or toll-free at 1-800-642-0066.

Over the past months, AMHS has worked with the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) to develop [mitigation protocols](#) to reduce the spread of COVID-19. These protocols were put in place last week and include passenger screening, reduced passenger numbers to facilitate social distancing, recommendations of face coverings for all and frequent sanitization on board and in terminals. AMHS will continue to work with DHSS to review the current mitigation protocols and make any necessary adjustments for the safety of passengers and crewmembers.

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities oversees 239 airports, 10 ferries serving 35 communities, more than 5,600 miles of highway and 776 public facilities throughout the state of Alaska. The mission of the department is to "**Keep Alaska Moving** through service and infrastructure."

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