

CITY OF UNALASKA
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 2021-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL CONTINUING MEASURES TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has generated a public health emergency that threatens to overwhelm the City of Unalaska health system and the economy of our community, endangering the lives and wellbeing of our citizens; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the virus a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared a national emergency in response to the virus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, Mayor Vincent M. Tutiakoff, Sr. declared a local emergency in the City of Unalaska, authorizing the City Manager to take necessary actions to reduce the impact and spread of the coronavirus known as COVID-19 through the City of Unalaska; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Unalaska City Council passed Resolution 2020-16, declaring a local emergency to remain in effect for so long as the declaration of a Public Health Disaster in the State of Alaska Remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on November 10, 2020, the Unalaska City Council passed Resolution 2020-71, extending the local emergency declaration through June 30, 2021, to allow the City to continue to take necessary actions to reduce the impact and spread of the coronavirus known as COVID-19 in the City of Unalaska; and

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2021, Governor Dunleavy issued four Health Advisories with guidance and recommendations on general safety and best practices, international and interstate travel, intrastate travel, and critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have issued public health guidance, including social distancing measures, the recommendation that everyone wear a cloth face covering when in public settings where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, and that certain individuals take greater precautions; and

WHEREAS, local health officials have advised that in addition to practicing social distancing and staying at home as much as possible, additional measures that include the covering of an individual's nose and mouth will prevent asymptomatic individuals with COVID-19 from unknowingly spreading the disease; and

WHEREAS, local health officials have advised that stronger protective measures are required given Unalaska's remoteness, lack of road access to the mainland, and because the majority of our community's businesses are designated as essential, critical or support critical infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has specifically recommended communities with limited health care infrastructure or high-risk populations should consider limiting all non-essential travel;

WHEREAS, local health officials have advised that stronger protective measures are required to conserve limited local healthcare resources, as they strive to meet the needs of all community members and essential workforce employees; and

WHEREAS, as of March 1, 2021, there were 58,861 (residents and non-residents) cumulative known COVID-19 cases in the state, including travel-related cases in geographically isolated and remote communities; and

WHEREAS, as of March 1, 2021, 685 persons have tested positive for the virus in Unalaska; and

WHEREAS, Unalaska has been able to keep multiple cases or outbreaks limited and isolated, and has been successful in stopping community transmission of the virus in the past; and

WHEREAS, as of March 1, 2021, Unalaska's Local Risk Level was changed to Medium in accordance with Unalaska's COVID-19 Response Plan; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to pose a grave and imminent threat to the health, safety, order and welfare to the residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, although the COVID-19 vaccine serves as a vital tool in our efforts to slow the spread of the virus and keep our schools and businesses open, the vaccine rollout will take time and it is important that communities remain vigilant in practicing mitigation strategies and safety measures; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall have the same effect as a rule issued by the City Manager pursuant to Unalaska Code of Ordinances § 2.96.040.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. State Health Advisories. Everyone in the City of Unalaska (the City) must follow all current Health Advisories issued by the State of Alaska related to COVID-19. Review this resolution carefully, as some local requirements are more restrictive than state regulations.

2. Face Coverings. All customers and visitors of businesses and organizations that are open and operating must wear face coverings over their nose and mouth to provide additional protection for employees and customers. Additionally, employees and volunteers of open businesses and organizations must wear face coverings when interacting with customers and visitors. The face coverings need not be medical-grade masks or N95 respirators, but can be cloth face coverings. Face coverings may be temporarily removed as necessary and incidental to utilizing the business or service.

A cloth face covering is a material that covers the nose and mouth. It can be secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face. It can be made of a variety of materials, such as cotton, silk, or linen. A cloth face covering may be factory-made or sewn by hand, or can be improvised from household items such as scarfs, T-shirts, sweatshirts or towels.

A business owner or operator may refuse admission or service to any individual who fails to wear a face covering as required by this resolution.

3. Reserved.

4. Traveler Quarantine. A person traveling into the City by vessel or airplane, from another community or port, must self-quarantine for 10 days upon arriving at their destination and monitor for symptoms of illness. A quarantine period of 7 days is permitted with a negative PCR test result. Under the 7-day option, the test must be taken no sooner than the 6th day of quarantine. A person may not exit quarantine until results are known. The self-quarantine period of 10 days or 7 days and a negative test is referred to as the traveler quarantine period.

No quarantine is required for travelers who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and who have recovered, as long as no new symptoms develop. No quarantine is required for travelers who have been fully vaccinated for at least 14 days prior to the date of travel and within 3 months of receiving their final dose of the vaccine.

People traveling for critical business purposes are required to follow their approved plan according to State Health Advisory No. 4 and Section 5 of this Resolution.

- a. Employees of businesses engaged in Essential Services or Critical Infrastructure industries, traveling to Unalaska to provide such services, must self-quarantine immediately upon arrival, but may work during the traveler quarantine period, subject to the requirements in this section.

If their employer has filed the required protocol with the City as required at Section 5, critical workforce employees may work during their self-quarantine period in accordance with that protocol.

For essential workers in the fishing industry who are covered by Health Advisory No. 4, Appendix 01 (Seafood Processing Workers), Appendix 02 (Independent Commercial Fishing Vessels) or Appendix 03 (Independent Commercial Harvesters) the worker's Entry Quarantine must meet or exceed the recommendations of Health Advisory No. 4 and any related appendices.

All workers under this critical workforce exception are required to self-quarantine during non-work hours within the traveler quarantine period. During the traveler quarantine period, workers are not permitted to have contact with City residents that is not strictly necessary to perform their work, must follow the self-quarantine requirements at section d., below, and are otherwise restricted to the campus, bunkhouse, or vessel where they reside.

- b. Patients or travelers arriving in Unalaska/Dutch Harbor, whose final destination is not Unalaska/Dutch Harbor, are required to self-quarantine during their stopover, but not remain here for the entire traveler quarantine period. This includes, but is not limited to, air travel.
- c. For individuals arriving on a vessel, time spent at sea is credited to the traveler quarantine period. The time at sea is counted from the time of departure from the last port of call, provided that no one has embarked or disembarked since that time. Commercial fishing vessel captains shall maintain a ship's log or equivalent record demonstrating compliance with State Health Advisories, including on board protective measures, and detailing all activities for which they seek credit for time at sea. For vessels subject to Health Advisory

4 and appendices, the Entry Quarantine standards must have been met in order to qualify for credit for time spent at sea.

For vessels that have been at sea over 10 days and no one has disembarked or boarded the vessel, no additional quarantine is required unless individuals are showing symptoms of COVID-19, including, but not limited to fever, chills, or respiratory symptoms. Vessels at sea for less than 10 days, where no one has disembarked or boarded the vessel, may complete their quarantine in port as long as quarantine is not broken for the remainder of the 10 days.

A positive COVID-19 test result from any crew member will negate any previously acquired at-sea credit, and all crew will be required to quarantine again if returning to Unalaska.

- d. Anyone who is required to self-quarantine must adhere to the following:
 - 1) A person in self-quarantine may leave the designated quarantine location for:
 - i. medical emergencies or to seek medical care;
 - ii. to travel in the person's personal vehicle or vessel, individually or with members of the person's household, without contacting others, so long as the person goes directly from the quarantine location to the vehicle or vessel and directly back to the quarantine location; and
 - iii. to participate in outdoor recreational activities (i.e. fishing, hiking) individually or with members of the person's household, without contacting others, so long as the person goes directly from the quarantine location to the recreational activity and directly back to the quarantine location.
 - 2) A person in self-quarantine may not visit any public spaces, including, but not limited to stores, pools, meeting rooms, fitness centers or restaurants.
 - 3) Visitors are not allowed in or out of the designated quarantine location other than a physician, healthcare provider, or individual authorized to enter the designated quarantine location by Unified Command.
 - 4) Comply with all rules or protocols related to your quarantine as set forth by your hotel or rented lodging.
 - 5) If a person is required to self-quarantine and there are other individuals in their residence, hotel room, or rented lodging, all persons in the quarantine location must comply with social distancing guidelines, sanitize regularly touched surfaces, and follow CDC best practices for hand washing.
- e. Travelers from other Alaskan communities, traveling to Unalaska on the Alaska Marine Highway System for critical personal needs, are exempt from the requirements of Section 4(d)(2) in that they may enter stores or businesses for critical personal needs. When not engaged in meeting critical personal needs, ferry travelers are required to follow self-quarantine requirements. Critical personal need is defined in State Health Advisory No. 3, issued February 14, 2021.

5. Essential Services/Critical Infrastructure Safety Plans and Protocols. Businesses identified as “essential services” or as “critical infrastructure” that are recommended to submit plans or protocols to the State under Health Advisory No. 4 are required to submit COVID-19 plans directly to the City if they are operating in Unalaska. The plans shall be in a format substantially similar to that recommended by State Health Advisory No. 4, or in a format approved by the City. Such businesses shall submit their plans, protocols, or relevant notifications to the City by email to COVID19PLANS@ci.unalaska.ak.us.

The City has adopted by reference the Alaska Essential Services and Critical Workforce Order, Amended May 5, 2020 for purposes of defining “Critical Workforce,” “Essential Services,” and “Critical Infrastructure.” The definitions in the May 5 Order apply regardless of the revocations of the State Health Mandates 10, 10.1 and 18. The definition of Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure in Resolution 2020-73, § 4 is extended and remains effective as long as the local emergency declaration is in place.

6. Business COVID-19 Protection Measures and Protocols. All businesses and organizations open and operating within the City shall comply with all relevant State of Alaska Health Advisories. By remaining open during the COVID-19 pandemic, organizations and businesses are expressly granting consent for entry during business hours under Unalaska Code of Ordinances § 1.16.010. This consent is limited to inspections of the public portions of the business and is for the limited purpose of enforcing state and local laws related to COVID-19. It does not alter UCO § 1.16.010 with regard to other violations or investigations.

All businesses and organizations, other than state, federal or municipal government facilities, which are open to members of the public at a physical location within the City shall post “COVID-19 Protection Measures and Procedures” on all entrances to and exits from the business. The “COVID-19 Protection Measures and Procedures” shall include, at minimum:

- a. The sanitation measures taken by the business or organization to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- b. The social distancing measures taken by the business or organization to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- c. A description of a process for obtaining goods or services from the business or organization without entering the business, if such a process is at all feasible.
- d. A contact number for individuals to report any violations of these measures to the owner or designee.
- e. Clearly state that any person with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 may not enter the premises.
- f. Shuttles, van services and taxis shall clearly state that the total number of passengers shall be limited to three.

7. Marine Tourism. Marine tourism includes travel to Unalaska for non-essential purposes by state ferry, a cruise ship of any kind, or private vessel. Marine tourism passengers and providers are required to adhere to resolutions, ordinances, orders of the City Manager, or any other local mandates related to public safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. Such mandates include, but are not limited to, the face covering requirement, traveler self-quarantine requirements, gathering size limitations, and industry safety protocol requirements. Local requirements are in addition to

any laws, regulations, agreements or plans that apply to travelers, vessels, or businesses through the State of Alaska, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), or the US Department of Homeland Security.

8. Penalties. Violation of this resolution is punishable as a misdemeanor under Unalaska Code of Ordinances § 2.96.090 and is a Public Nuisance, subject to the remedies in Unalaska Code of Ordinances, Title 11, Chapter 8, including prosecution as a minor offense.

9. Effective Date; Expiration. This resolution shall be effective at noon on Thursday, March 4, 2021, and expires at noon on Wednesday, March 24, 2021. The City Council may extend it as necessary, or the City Manager may extend it or amend it pursuant to the emergency management powers under Unalaska Code of Ordinances § 2.96, and Resolution 2020-71. This resolution repeals and replaces any other inconsistent resolution or ordinance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Unalaska City Council on March 3, 2021.

Vincent M. Tutiakoff, Sr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Marjie Veeder, CMC
City Clerk