

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-17

URGING THE PEOPLE IN THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA TO FOLLOW THE STATE OF ALASKA HEALTH MANDATES AND CONTINUE TO PRACTICE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC HEALTH PROTOCOLS TO LIMIT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is caused by the SARS-Cov-2 virus ("virus"), a new strain of the coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans and is easily transmittable person to person; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the State of Alaska declared a public health emergency in response to the anticipated outbreak of the virus in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, as of May 6, 2020, the State of Alaska has issued 17 mandates to protect the public health of all Alaskans. These mandates, which have been aimed at flattening the curve, have been beneficial in slowing the spread of the disease in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, on April 24, 2020, the State of Alaska issued health mandate 16 that seeks to balance the ongoing need to maintain diligent efforts to slow and disrupt the rate of infection with the corresponding critical need to resume economic activity; and

WHEREAS, people particularly at risk of complications from COVID-19 include those 60 years and older and individuals of any age with a serious underlying medical condition, and household members of those who are at elevated risk should implement more stringent guidelines as well, to the extent possible; and

WHEREAS, anyone particularly at-risk from COVID-19 should reduce exposure by continuing to stay at home, not physically going to work, and not doing their own shopping if possible; and

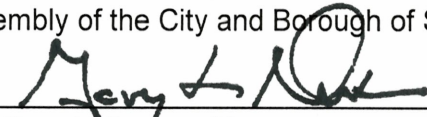
WHEREAS, the rates of infection and mortality in the United States has not yet flattened and in some states is still increasing, with projected daily infections of over 26,000 and deaths surpassing 3000 in the coming weeks; and

WHEREAS, the full scale beginning of the City of Sitka's current economic backbone, commercial fishing, is upon us, including the arrival of a seasonal workforce from areas with higher infection and transmission rates.

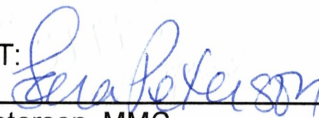
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska, highly encourages residents and travelers to Sitka to follow the guidelines outlined in the State of Alaska health mandates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, stresses the importance to our citizens to continue to adhere to best practices in reducing infection rates by practicing appropriate physical distancing, wearing masks in public places, frequent hand washing, and limiting our social and community contact circles.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska on this 12th day of May, 2020.



Gary L. Paxton, Mayor

ATTEST: 

Sara Peterson, MMC
Municipal Clerk

1st and final reading 5/12/2020

Sponsors: Knox/Christianson