

**Sponsors: Knox / Christianson**

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

**I MOVE TO** approve Resolution 2020-17 on first and final reading urging the people in the City and Borough of Sitka to follow the State of Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates and continue to practice appropriate public health protocols to limit the spread of COVID-19.

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 15 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 staying 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, stress 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.

52 **PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the Assembly of the City and Borough of Sitka,  
53 Alaska on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

54  
55  
56

---

Gary L. Paxton, Mayor

57  
58 ATTEST:

59  
60 \_\_\_\_\_  
61 Sara Peterson, MMC  
62 Municipal Clerk

63  
64 1<sup>st</sup> and final reading 5/12/2020

65  
66 Sponsors: Knox/Christianson