Presented by: The Manager
Presented: 4/20/2020
Drafted by: R. Palmer III

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2890

A Resolution Urging the Use of Cloth Face Coverings and Reminding People to Continue Protecting Public Health.

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has generated a public health emergency and resulting economic emergency; and

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

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Assembly declared a local emergency in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control strongly recommends that certain individuals should take even greater precautions including the following:

a. Anyone particularly at-risk from COVID-19 should reduce exposure by staying at home, not physically going to work, and not doing their own shopping, if possible. 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. Household members of those who are at elevated risk should implement these more stringent guidelines as well, to the extent possible.
b. Anyone more likely to be contagious with COVID-19 should not leave home except to obtain medical care or to get fresh air. People who are more likely to be contagious include individuals exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, including coughing, shortness of breath, and fever; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control and the State of Alaska (Health Alert 10) also recommend everyone wear a cloth face covering when in a public setting where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain; and

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

WHEREAS, the Assembly strongly urges the use of cloth face covering for any businesses with employees that interact with the public especially grocery stores, gas stations, and retail stores.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:

Section 1. Cloth Face Covering Direction.

a. **Businesses**. All employees that interact with customers or visitors are strongly encouraged to wear a cloth face covering or have a similar physical barrier between the employee and the customer or visitor.

b. **Customers**. All customers and visitors entering into a business or organization are strongly encouraged to wear a cloth face covering.

c. **Cloth face covering design**. A cloth face covering needs to cover the nose and mouth. The face coverings do not need to be a medical-grade mask or a N95 respirator, which are needed for health care workers and first responders. A cloth face covering can be made of a variety of materials, such as cotton, silk, or linen. A cloth face covering may be factory-made, sewn by hand, or improvised from household items such as scarfs, T-shirts, sweatshirts, or towels.

d. **Proper face covering removal**. When removing the face covering, avoid touching the front of the face covering. Remove it by grasping the ear loops, ties, or bands and immediately discard or place in a designated container for laundering. *Wash your hands immediately* after removing the face covering and before touching anything else. Wash face coverings in hot, soapy water between uses.

e. **Continue Social Distancing Practices**. According to State Health Alert 10: Do not rely on face coverings as the primary way to prevent COVID-19 transmission, and be careful to avoid developing a false sense of security through the use of face coverings. Continue to follow social distancing measures including maintaining at least six feet between yourself and others, staying at home as much as possible, avoiding touching your face, and washing your hands frequently.

f. **Public Notice.** The day following adoption of this resolution, the Manager is directed to widely distribute the cloth face covering recommendation to the public.

Section 2. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 23, 2020. This resolution shall remain in effect until 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2020.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2020.

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Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

Attest:

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Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk