

Presented by: The Manager
Presented: 04/27/2020
Drafted by: R. Palmer III

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 2891

A Resolution Instituting Measures to Protect Public Health Related to COVID-19.

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, on April 20, 2020, the Assembly adopted Resolution 2890 that strongly urged the use of cloth face coverings in certain public settings; and

WHEREAS, on April 22, 2020, State of Alaska Health Mandate 16: Reopen Alaska Responsibly Plan Phase 1A was issued, modified Health Mandates 3.1, 9, 11, and 12, and included a local government preemption provision; and

WHEREAS, on April 24, 2020, State of Alaska Health Mandate 16 was amended to remove the local government preemption provision; and

Whereas, on April 24, 2020, at the Governor’s evening press conference, Dr. Anne Zink (Chief Medical Officer, State of Alaska) presented a slide with the following information **“Different areas may follow different rules**

We can use geography to our advantage to prevent cases from spreading. Local authorities may choose stricter or more liberal rules depending on their unique situation. Different

communities may implement different phases at different times. This will allow for more precise control of COVID-19.”

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Juneau is unique in that it is geographically isolated; is dependent on air or water transportation for medical supplies, goods, and travel; has an international airport; has a hospital; is home to and a hub for critical businesses and entities; is a hub for neighboring communities; and has port facilities for multiple cruise ships per day; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Juneau has multiple congregate facilities including a correctional center, shelters for people experiencing homelessness, the Juneau Pioneer Home, and assisted living homes; and

WHEREAS, many of the smaller neighboring communities instituted strict travel restrictions to minimize transmission of COVID-19, do not have a hospital, and are dependent on air travel to transport medical patients to Juneau and to Anchorage or Seattle for definitive care; and

WHEREAS, as of the morning of April 24, there were a total of 27 confirmed COVID-19 cases (3.4% of people tested) within the City and Borough of Juneau, 19 people had recovered, and 785 people had been tested (2.4% of total population); and

WHEREAS, people in the City & Borough of Juneau have flattened the curve and minimized transmission of COVID-19 by wearing a cloth face covering when in businesses, by hunkering down, by quarantining, by isolating, by getting screened and tested for COVID-19 when appropriate, by practicing social distancing, and by finding creative ways to support local businesses;

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

Section 1. Size of Gatherings. No gatherings of more than 10 people may take place. This more restrictive measure is necessary to minimize spread of COVID-19 and to provide an opportunity for the other measures in State of Alaska Health Mandate 16 to be evaluated.

Section 2. Compliance with State of Alaska Health Mandate 16. The measures required by this resolution are in addition to the measures required by State of Alaska Health Mandate 16. A person or business must comply with State of Alaska Health Mandate 16 and the more restrictive measures required by this resolution.

Section 3. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective upon adoption and shall automatically expire at 08:00 a.m. on May 8, 2020.

Adopted this ____ day of April, 2020.

Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

Attest:

Elizabeth J. McEwen, Municipal Clerk