Municipal Clerk's Office
Approved
Date: June 2, 2020

Submitted by: Chair of the Assembly at the Request of the Mayor
Prepared by: Department of Law
For reading: June 2, 2020

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR No. 2020-198

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY FOR A THIRD EXTENSION OF THE DECLARATION OF CIVIL EMERGENCY (COVID-19) ISSUED BY THE MAYOR OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE ON MARCH 12, 2020.

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus or COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Proclamation of Emergency (COVID-19), on March 12, 2020, the Mayor made the following provisions:

> THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS TO BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY TO PRESERVE PUBLIC SAFETY AND WELFARE WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO THE MUNICIPALITY. THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS HAVE THE POWER OF LAW, SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR THE DURATION OF THIS EMERGENCY, AND SHALL SUPERSEDE ALL CONFLICTING LAWS DURING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS EMERGENCY.

1. The Municipality is authorized to request assistance from the State of Alaska for fire protection, law enforcement, and the provision of any other funds, services, functions, supplies or materials determined by the Mayor, in consultation with the Office of Emergency Management, to be necessary to meet public safety and welfare needs arising from or incidental to COVID-19 and to recover from the damages caused.

2. The Mayor may implement any orders necessary to prevent the transmission of infectious disease and to ensure that all cases of contagious disease are subject to proper control and treatment.

3. The requirements of Chapters 7.15 and 7.20 of the Anchorage Municipal Code (AMC) are hereby suspended for the duration of this emergency, except for the requirements set forth in AMC 7.20.090, for the acquisition of supplies, equipment, services, personnel, fuel or food as may be necessary to implement the Comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan or otherwise to preserve and protect the public safety, health and welfare from COVID-19 and from the effects thereof.

4. All resources of the municipal government, including municipal

personnel, are hereby available as necessary to cope with this emergency. Municipal departments, agencies, or personnel may be transferred or altered in function for the purpose of performing or facilitating performance services responsive to this emergency.;

and

WHEREAS, on April 14, 2020, the Assembly resolved to extend the Proclamation of Emergency until June 5, 2020 (AR No. 2020-110, As Amended); and

WHEREAS, the United States has experienced over 1.7 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 and over 100,000 deaths from the virus,

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has experienced 487 confirmed cases of COVID-19 among residents, 22 among visitors, and the virus is responsible for the deaths of 10 Alaskans,

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage has experienced 247 confirmed cases and 4 deaths among residents,

WHEREAS, the virus is still present in Anchorage, with fifteen new cases yesterday and 15 new cases on May 30th alone, representing the second-highest single-day increases of cases since the virus began,

WHEREAS, available models show that the spread and death toll of this virus would be much higher without the emergency response efforts undertaken so far including measures shuttering businesses, limiting travel, and requiring physical distance between people,

WHEREAS, until a vaccine or effective treatment has been found, Anchorage remains susceptible to surges in infection that could overwhelm the hospital system if not swiftly contained, such that the lifting of our emergency response would very likely result in larger loss of life; and

WHEREAS, the full potential extent and effect of COVID-19 cannot yet be known, it nonetheless remains vital to be prepared and take all needed precautions throughout the entire timeframe of the emergency to allow the MOA to be able to rapidly address any public health emergency related to COVID-19 as it arises; and

WHEREAS, these circumstances make it necessary for the Mayor's proclamation of emergency to remain activated and in place to address the ongoing public health, safety and welfare issues resulting from this emergency beyond its current June 5, 2020 termination date; and

WHEREAS, individual emergency orders issued by the Mayor are issued with individual expiration dates that have previously had and may continue to have dates shorter than the length of the full emergency proclamation,

WHEREAS, the State Legislature has extended the State's declaration of

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emergency until November 15, 2020,

WHEREAS, pursuant to AMC section 3.80.080, the Assembly may terminate the emergency proclamation at any time, and pursuant to AMC section 3.80.085 may alternatively terminate specific emergency orders or emergency regulations,

WHEREAS, pursuant to AMC section 3.80.080, the Assembly now deems it necessary to extend the terms of the Proclamation of Emergency at this time through Friday, July 31, 2020 at eleven fifty-nine (11:59) p.m. to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Municipality; now, therefore,

THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

Section 1. The Municipality of Anchorage Proclamation of Emergency (COVID-19) issued March 12, 2020 is hereby extended through Friday, July 31st, 2020, at eleven fifty-nine (11:59) p.m. The Administration shall submit not less than weekly regular reports to the Assembly on any emergency measures taken under the Proclamation of Emergency (COVID-10) as this health emergency evolves.

Section 2. The Mayor shall, if an additional extension of the Proclamation of Emergency (COVID-19) is requested beyond the date approved in this Resolution, submit to the Assembly a written report detailing reasons the additional extension is requested.

Section 3. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and approval by the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 2nd day of June, 2020.

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Chair

ATTEST:

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Municipal Clerk

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

ASSEMBLY MEMORANDUM

No. AM 320-2020

Meeting Date: June 2, 2020

FROM: MAYOR

SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY FOR A THIRD EXTENSION OF THE DECLARATION OF CIVIL EMERGENCY (COVID-19) ISSUED BY THE MAYOR OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE ON MARCH 12, 2020.

An additional extension of the Proclamation of Emergency (COVID-19) issued March 12, 2020 and set to expire on June 5, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. is necessary because the public health danger posed by COVID-19 remains active within the Municipality. While hunkering down and enacting strict physical distancing measures slowed the spread of COVID-19, at no point did Anchorage extinguish community spread or fully contain the disease.

Additionally, Anchorage is connected to other communities and is the primary travel hub for individuals coming to Alaska for work or recreation. New cases have and will continue to enter the community via traveling residents, visitors, and workers. While the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport is not anticipating normal travel numbers, the administration has learned that the Airport expects to see between 2,000-3,000 travelers arrive each day in June, with higher numbers in July.

At this time there is no known cure for COVID-19, no effective treatment, and no vaccine. And because people are able to unknowingly spread the disease while they are asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic, this virus is difficult to contain. As of June 2, 2020, COVID-19 has killed over 106,000 Americans, and infected over 1.8 million. Alaska, because of our swift action and relative isolation, has to date experienced the relatively fortunate tallies of 10 deaths and 487 confirmed cases. Of those cases, Anchorage residents account for 4 deaths and 247 cases. The governor has told the people of Alaska to expect those numbers to rise, and the projections on the State's website predict an increase in cases.

The primary data that the municipality is relying on is the dashboard prepared by John Hopkins University charting worldwide and United States confirmed cases and deaths from COVID-19, *available at* https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/data#charts; information on state and local case counts from the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, *available at* https://coronavirus-response-alaska-dhss.hub.arcgis.com/ and https://covid-response-moa-muniorg.hub.arcgis.com/pages/data; and additional information learned about Anchorage cases from the work done by the Anchorage Health Department in collaboration with our local hospitals and other medical partners and the State. A recent update from Anchorage Health Department Director Natasha Pineda to the mayor (drafted before this weekend's influx of cases), is also

attached to the memo and incorporated by reference. In addition to relying on Alaska and Anchorage medical experts, the Municipality looks to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for information on the disease and how to contain it.

This moment in the pandemic is not the time to declare "mission accomplished." Sunday the State saw its largest single-day jump in reported cases, with 27 new cases. Anchorage reported 15 new cases Sunday (reporting cases from Saturday, May 30, 2020), and reported 15 new cases today (reporting cases from yesterday), both tying for our second highest single-day case total. The potential for extraordinarily rapid growth in cases remains a very real threat, and this sort of surge, if not abated, could overwhelm our hospital space, supplies of personal protective equipment, and testing equipment. In other words, the municipality continues to be in the midst of a public health emergency where the ability to respond nimbly can save lives.

Under Municipal code, an emergency declaration allows the mayor to exercise certain emergency powers, but the use of those powers can and has ended at times different than the end of the emergency itself. For example, the emergency proclamation allows the Mayor to issue emergency orders necessary to meet public safety and welfare needs arising from or incidental to COVID-19 and to recover from the damages caused. The mayor issued a hunker down order towards the beginning of the emergency and lifted the order five weeks ago, even though Anchorage remains under a proclamation of emergency. The emergency status allows the mayor to reassign personnel to respond to the emergency and to procure emergency supplies in a swift fashion. And it allows the mayor to take actions like creating temporary housing, including the homeless shelter at the Sullivan arena that allows for physical distancing.

The administration is proposing an extension of the emergency declaration until July 31, 2020, which is three days after the second regular assembly meeting in July. Expectations of both the public and the municipal workforce can be shaped by the date declarations of emergency are set to expire, which is a reason not to make the declaration shorter. The July 31 date was selected with the assembly's previously demonstrated preference for this length of extension in this emergency. The State declaration of emergency lasts until November 15, 2020. At this moment, there is no indication that COVID-19 will be less of an emergency on July 31 than it is today, but if the emergency ends sooner the assembly has the power to end a declaration of emergency (or an individual emergency order or regulation) at any time under AMC 3.80.080.

THE ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.

Prepared by:	Kathryn R. Vogel, Municipal Attorney
Concur:	Natasha Pineda, Director
	Health Department
Concur:	Christopher M. Schutte, Director
	Office of Economic and Community Development
Concur:	William D. Falsey, Municipal Manager
Respectfully submitted:	Ethan A. Berkowitz, Mayor

Date: May 29, 2020

To: Mayor Ethan Berkowitz

From: Natasha Pineda, Director

Subject: May 28, 2020, COVID-19 Risk Assessment Update

This is a weekly report designed to accompany a review of the data dashboard for the period of May 21- 27, 2020 with some May 28 status data. This will be reviewed and discussed on May 29, 2020, at 10:30 a.m.

Based on the data reviewed for the past week, the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) is a **GREEN LIGHT** for epidemiology, **GREEN LIGHT** for health care capacity and **GREEN LIGHT** public health capacity. There continues to be supply chain disruption for PPE and testing supplies for some health care facilities. There is evidence of persons in Anchorage with infection who do not currently have symptoms and new positive cases from out-of-state critical infrastructure workers.

The Anchorage Health Department (AHD) strongly recommends that the everyone continue physical distancing, use of masks/face coverings in public spaces, especially in indoor spaces where physical distancing cannot be assured, and frequent hand washing. The Department also recommends the Administration decrease the indoor large group gathering size to 50, require plan approval for any indoor event over 50 with a max of 250, and discourage approval of any indoor events that exceed more than 250 people.

Epidemiology

This metric considers a variety of factors like case counts and COVID-19-related hospitalizations or Persons Under Investigation (PUI) who are hospitalized. We are tracking if the cases are attributable to community transmission (no identifiable source) or due to travel or secondary transmission (close contacts of a diagnosed case). We are carefully monitoring other factors that can trigger changes to interventions, such as congregate settings, high-density housing and other causes or risk factors that could contribute to increased transmission.

Data analysis:

Case Count Trends

- *Average daily rate of new COVID-19 cases, based on onset, is an decrease over last week: .85 cases per day from May 21-27, 2020, versus 1.14 a week ago.*
    - *Peak was 6.9 cases per day over five weeks ago.*
- *We had a total of 8 new cases* from May 21-27, 2020, which is a decrease over the total of 12 for last week. (*2 of the 8 new cases are out-of-state workers that will not be*

reflected in our public-facing dashboard at this time or included in the average daily rate of community cases. AHD is conducting contact tracing and monitoring for those cases.)

- ***Interpretation:*** *New cases are still being found at a low rate that is unchanged from last week.*

Percent Positive

- *Percentage of tests which were positive over the last week is just 0.24% vs. 0.69% last week.*
- ***Interpretation:*** *PCR testing continues at similar pace to last week. The low percentage of positives is a sign that we are probably doing enough testing, overall. If this measure were to approach 5% (**YELLOW**) we would be concerned not enough testing is occurring and 10% (**RED**) would be a cause for significant concern.*

COVID/PUI hospitalization trends

- *As of May 20, 2020, there were six Persons Under Investigations and four Positive Cases hospitalized. There were no fatalities between May 14-May 20, 2020.*
- ***Interpretation:*** *Hospitalizations remain low.*

Health Care Capacity

This metric measures if we can care for our population safely in the case of a surge and test for disease. We want to ensure that we have capacity measured by ICU beds and ventilators, that our health care providers and first responders can source their own PPE and we need to ensure that testing supplies and testing activity is happening at the right level.

Data analysis:

Ability/Capacity to meet anticipated case surge

- *ICU Beds: as of May 28, 2020, we have 61 beds available out of 121.*
- *Ventilators: as of May 28, 2020, 183 ventilators available out of 205.*
- *Reproductive (R_0) number estimates (most recent available):*
    - *COVID ActNow Model estimates Anchorage R_0 at 1.02 on May 25, 2020*
        - *Was 1.02 on May 18, 2020*
    - *SOA model estimates Alaska R_0 at **1.2** on May 14, 2020*
        - *97.5% Confidence Interval is 0.7-1.7*
        - *Was 1.3 on May 14, 2020*
        - *Peak was 2.1 on March 16, 2020*

Interpretation: *Health care capacity is sufficient for current demand. Epidemic is stable or decreasing. Variability throughout the past week for ICU bed availability is noted, however, the measure overall is **GREEN**. If ventilator access becomes limited this would be cause for concern. Of concern is the continued level of R values of > 1.0 for Anchorage and Alaska. If this continues, we may need to reconsider projections for impact on healthcare capacity.*

Sufficient PPE for all health care workers and first responders

- *Health care and first responders able to achieve a sufficient amount of PPE but not through normal channels.*
- *As of May 28, 2020, 43% of Anchorage-based providers report adequate PPE, 44% reported limited, 5% report inadequate and 8% did not report, per the ASHNA dashboard.*
- ***Interpretation:** Supply chain remains disrupted; this is an area of concern as it was last week. This measurement is in the* **YELLOW** *zone. Once normal supply chain access to PPE is in place this light would turn green.*

Ability and capacity to test widely

- *Average daily test rate from May 21-27, 2020, was 339 tests, close to the average from last week, 384.*
- *Providence Drive thru testing will close on June 12, 2020 unless some alternative is identified.*
- *Potential changes to the travel quarantine at the state level could impact testing capacity.*
- *On May 27, 2020, hospitals reported 39,547* swabs and 1300 UTM/VTM testing capacity on hand, AHD has 397 kits (swabs and UTM) on hand. The continued limited amount of UTM/VTM may not be enough supplies on hand for the needs associated with pre-procedure testing and public need. (*The increase in swabs is due to one of the providers switching to oral swabs [3D printed in some cases], due to a lack in availability of nasal swabs.)*
- *Testing kit and supplies requests into the state since as of 5/28/2020:*
  - May 20, 2020, 500 VTM for Providence Alaska Medical Center, pending.
  - May 22, 2020, 50 test kits to Peak Neurology, pending.
  - May 22, 2020, 25 boxes of Abbott ID now kits First Care Medical Center #963, sent to state 5/22, delivered 2 boxes 5/28 from Muni
  - May 26, 2020, 75 test kits to AHD #977, delivered 5/26
  - May 26, 2020, 500 test kits to AHD #972, sent to state 5/27
- ***Interpretation:** Supplies on hand are adequate for maintaining testing of symptomatic persons and implementing some community-based testing strategies. Providence Drive Thru testing will be closing, making this measurement* **YELLOW**. *This will limit access to people who have limited ability to access health care or testing services. Changes to the travel quarantine could impact capacity and ability to meet the community need. This is an area of caution that should be monitored closely.*

Public Health Capacity

This metric measures AHD's capacity to continue to be able to track and follow the positive cases and their contacts, ensuring as many people as possible self-isolate or quarantine depending on the situation and testing of symptomatic contacts.

Data analysis:

All positive cases interviewed, and all contacts monitored.

- *As of May 28, 2020, AHD team interviewed 222 positive cases, currently monitoring 29 cases.*
- *As of May 28, 2020, AHD team has monitored 627 contacts, currently monitoring 156 contacts.*
- *As of May 28, 2020, AHD team has monitored a total of 849 cases and contacts.*

Symptomatic contacts referred to testing within 24 hours.

- *As of May 28, 2020, the AHD team was able to refer all symptomatic cases for testing of collected the samples themselves.*

Interpretation: *Public health contact tracing capacity is sufficient to meet current need.*

Other items of note:

- Among this past week's new cases are:
    - One person without symptoms who was screened for hospital admission and procedures.
    - Five people without symptoms who were screened for work clearance.
    - Two people with symptoms screened.
    - (*Two of the five screened for work clearance were out-of-state critical infrastructure workers and are not reflected in the dashboard.)
- ***Interpretation:*** *This indicates that there are persons in Anchorage with infection who do not have symptoms and an increase in positive cases in out-of-state critical infrastructure workers who by default of their travel path are being assigned to AHD and impact the risk of increased community spread in our community. This highlights the need to continue physical distancing, use of masks and hand washing.*

- The uptick in cases statewide and continued discovery of asymptomatic cases is concerning. COVID-19 is circulating, and we need to ask the community to remember:
    - There are people out and about in Anchorage with unrecognized COVID-19 who are infectious even though they do not have symptoms.
    - Most of us remain susceptible, and some of us are at great risk of severe disease and death.
    - It is still essential that we follow the basics steps needed to prevent transmission of the virus, to protect ourselves, our families, and our community.
    - Practice physical distancing
    - Use masks/face coverings in public spaces
    - Practice careful handwashing