



City and Borough of Wrangell
SPECIAL Borough Assembly Meeting
AGENDA

Thursday, November 05, 2020
6:00 PM

Location: Zoom Teleconference

Resolution No. 10-20-1547 allows for the temporary suspension of in-person Assembly Meetings and allows for teleconference meetings, due to COVID-19, until December 31, 2020 unless terminated before that date.

Teleconference Information for anyone wishing to call into the meeting and speak under Persons to be Heard

If you wish to call into the meeting to speak under Persons to be Heard, please contact the Borough Clerk at 907-874-2381 or email: clerk@wrangell.com **no later than Thursday, November 5th at 4:00 p.m.** so that you can be added to the Sign-Up sheet.

You will be called in the order that your request is received.

Please note that KSTK is still broadcasting the Borough Assembly meetings. Therefore, if you wish only to listen in, you may do so by tuning into KTSK!

To Join by Computer:

<https://zoom.us/j/9078742381?pwd=MTNqSEdncjRyakh2UCtMVUNxMndYUT09>

And Enter the Meeting ID: 907 874 2381

Then Enter Password: 99929

OR

To use your phone, call one of the following numbers:

+1 669 900 9128

+1 346 248 7799

+1 301 715 8592

+1 312 626 6799

+1 646 558 8656

+1 253 215 8782

And enter the Meeting ID: 907 874 2381

Then enter the Password: 99929

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PERSONS TO BE HEARD**
- 4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
- 5. ITEM(S) OF BUSINESS**

a. Discuss the Merits and Options of Enacting a Mask Mandate

- 6. ADJOURNMENT**

CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY AGENDA STATEMENT

<u>AGENDA ITEM TITLE:</u>	<u>DATE:</u>	November 3, 2020
	<u>Agenda Section</u>	5

Discussion Item: Merits and Options of Enacting a Mask Mandate

SUBMITTED BY:

EOC Team

FISCAL NOTE:

Expenditure Required: \$XXX Total

FY 20: \$	FY 21: \$	FY22: \$
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Amount Budgeted:

	FY20 \$XXX
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Account Number(s):

	XXXXXX XXX XXXX
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Account Name(s):

	Enter Text Here
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Unencumbered Balance(s) (prior to expenditure):

	\$XXX
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Reviews/Approvals/Recommendations

<input type="checkbox"/>	Commission, Board or Committee
Name(s)	
Name(s)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Attorney
<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Draft Emergency Order; 2. Risk Assessment Matrix; 3. Risk Mitigation Measures Matrix

RECOMMENDATION MOTION:

None. Discussion only.

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The sole purpose for consideration of a local mask mandate is an attempt to keep COVID-19 at bay in Wrangell so no other limitations or restrictions become necessary.

Alaska has seen unprecedented numbers of positive COVID-19 cases over the past month and a half. Although Southern Southeast Alaska, particularly Wrangell, is currently the only area in the state, not experiencing significant case counts, it would be irresponsible of us to think it can't happen here. That doesn't mean it will happen. It simply means we should be proactive to the maximum degree possible in keeping the virus from spreading. Other Alaska communities, including Anchorage and Juneau, have gone back into partial "lockdown."

THE EOC DOES NOT WANT TO BE PUT IN A POSITION WHERE IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO CONSIDER LIMITATIONS OR RESTRICTIONS ON ANY BUSINESS, ORGANIZATIONAL OR PERSONAL ACTIVITIES.

There is considerable data showing that wearing masks significantly reduces the spread of COVID-19. The most compelling data comes from a University of Kansas study released the last week of October showing counties with mask mandates saw 50% less spread of COVID-19 than those counties without mandates. The EOC is asking the Assembly to consider instituting a local mandatory mask emergency order to help prevent any potential interruption to our local economy and activities. Wearing a face covering is such a minor inconvenience when one considers the safety of our population, our economy, and our activities.

The EOC developed a Community Risk Assessment Matrix, previously presented to the Assembly. Along with that matrix is a list of recommended community mitigation actions depending on the severity of the situation in Wrangell. The matrix was developed for our local characteristics, but is very similar to those developed and implemented in other Alaska communities. Despite having no current positive cases, Wrangell is considered at Risk Level 2 – Moderate, because of the statewide situation and its potential impact on us. At Level 2 the number one mitigation action is a mask mandate. There are other recommended mitigation actions as this level. The EOC is **NOT** recommending any additional Level 2 actions at this time, mostly because the EOC believes instituting a mask mandate will allow for activities and commerce to continue in a much safer manner. A copy of the Risk Assessment and Mitigation Measures are attached for reference. Attached is a draft emergency order providing for a mask mandate. The language is very similar (and in many instances verbatim) to the emergency order in Anchorage and the ordinance in Juneau.

The recommended mask mandate requires individuals to wear masks in all indoor places open to the public. There are exceptions. The emergency order outlines the responsibilities for masking and provides for a small enforcement fine if someone is not wearing a mask when required to do so by the mandate.

If the Assembly provides direction to bring the draft emergency order back for action, that will take place at the November 10, 2020 Regular Assembly Meeting.



CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

INCORPORATED MAY 30, 2008

P.O. BOX 531 (907)-874-2381
Wrangell, AK 99929 FAX (907)-874-3952

EMERGENCY ORDER 11-10-20 IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 / REQUIRING FACE COVERINGS

EFFECTIVE DATE/TIME:

November 5, 2020 6:00pm – December 31, 2020 12:00pm

WHEREAS, Alaska, along with the rest of the United States, and World, has been fighting the global COVID-19 pandemic since March 2020; and

WHEREAS, in the past six weeks Alaska has seen unprecedented increases in positive case counts with daily numbers exceeding 300; and

WHEREAS, increased positive case counts are resulting in increased hospitalizations putting significant pressure on the statewide healthcare system, specifically ICU capacity; and

WHEREAS, diminished ICU capacity puts all Alaskans, including Wrangell residents, at increased risk for medievac outside of the state for normal health emergencies and COVID-19 emergencies; and

WHEREAS, Southern Southeast Alaska, as a region, including Wrangell, is the only area in the state not currently listed as medium to high risk for transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Wrangell EOC believes it is of paramount importance Wrangell remain at a low risk level to ensure continued unrestricted economic, group, and individual activities; and

WHEREAS, the most effective, and easiest, mitigation measure to keep our residents, economy and active lifestyle safe is wearing a face covering.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA:

SECTION 1: AUTHORIZATION. This is an EMERGENCY ORDER provided for Emergency Ordinance No. 980 Extending the Borough's Declaration of Emergency Related to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic and Granting Authorization to

Take Actions Necessary to Protect Public Health during the Emergency through December 31, 2020.

SECTION 2: FACE COVERING EMERGENCY ORDER.

- A. Requirement.** All individuals must wear a mask or cloth face covering over their nose and mouth when they are indoors in public settings or communal spaces outside the home. This Emergency Order is subject to the conditions and exceptions stated below.
- B. Context.** The settings included in this Emergency Order include, but are not limited to, the public and communal spaces within the following:
1. Grocery stores, pharmacies, and all other retail stores.
 2. Restaurants, cafes, bars, and breweries – including food preparation, carry-out, and delivery food operations. There is a limited exception for customers while they are eating or drinking in one of these settings.
 3. Buses, taxis, and other forms of public transportation when passengers are present.
 4. Personal care facilities.
 5. Childcare facilities.
 6. Communal areas of offices where people from multiple households are present.
 7. Elevators and indoor communal spaces in other buildings.
- C. Employment.** Employers are responsible to make sure employees who are present in the workplace have access to and wear masks or cloth face coverings when in direct contact with customers, members of the public, or other employees. Masks are not required when the only direct contact is between members of the same household or when employees are not near others (within six feet).
- D. Exceptions.** This Emergency Order does not apply to the following categories of people or activities:
1. Any child under the age of 2 years. These very young children should not wear a face covering because of the risk of suffocation;
 2. Any individual for whom wearing a mask or cloth face covering would be contrary to his or her health or safety because of a medical condition or mental health condition, and any individual unable to tolerate a mask due to a physical or mental disability;
 3. Individuals who are speech impaired, deaf, or hard of hearing, or individuals communicating with someone who is deaf or hard of hearing, where facial or mouth movements are an integral part of communication;
 4. Any individual who has trouble breathing or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance;

5. Individuals who are exercising, if mask wearing would interfere with their breathing;
6. Individuals who are incarcerated, in police custody, or inside a courtroom; these individuals should follow guidance particular to their location or institution;
7. Individuals performing an activity that cannot be conducted or safely conducted while wearing a mask (for example, a driver experiencing foggy glasses, a dental patient receiving care, an equipment operator where there is a risk of dangerous entanglement); and
8. Musicians, presenters, ministers, and others communicating to an audience or being recorded, for the duration of their presentation/practice/performance where mask usage impairs communication, and so long as safe physical distancing is maintained.

E. Proof of Medical Reason or Disability. If a person declines to wear a mask or face covering because of a medical condition or disability as described above, this Emergency Order does not require them to produce medical documentation verifying the stated condition or disability. Businesses may wish to consider accommodating such individuals through curbside or delivery service or by allowing the individual inside without a mask if doing so will not place others at risk.

F. Enforcement Policy. The City and Borough of Wrangell reserves the right to use all available enforcement options to assure compliance with this Emergency Order. However, employers will not be subject to fines based on non-compliance by customers so long as there is a clearly posted sign informing customers that they are required to wear face coverings. Brief removal of a face covering, such as is necessary to eat, drink, or scratch an itch does not constitute a violation of this Emergency Order (although hand washing/sanitizing is recommended after such activities). Additionally, violation of this Emergency Order does not create grounds for residents to harass individuals who do not comply with it.

G. Violation. A person who violates the face covering requirement of Section 2 shall be subject to a civil fine not to exceed \$25.00, which shall be considered incorporated into Wrangell Municipal Code (WMC) Section 1.20.050; payment of the civil fine shall be accepted in satisfaction of the violation; and the violation shall be subject to the provisions outlined in WMC Section 1.20.050.

SECTION 3: EFFECTIVE DATES. This Emergency Order shall be effective upon adoption and shall sunset December 31, 2020 unless extended by action of the Assembly.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA THIS 10TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2020.

CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

Steve Prysunka, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk

Wrangell Community Risk Assessment Matrix

Item a.

Category	Key Question	Indicator	Level 1 Minimal	Level 2 Moderate	Level 3 High	Level 4 Very High
Disease Situation	What is the level of disease burden & how is it changing?	7-day avg case count	1 or less	2-4	4-6	Greater than 6
		14-day avg case count	3 or less	4-7	8-10	Greater than 10
		Transmission situation	Evidence of isolated cases or limited community transmission	Sustained transmission likely to result in limited spread to low-risk populations	Large scale, controlled community transmission or one outbreak involving a high-risk population	Large scale, uncontrolled community transmission or multiple outbreaks involving high-risk populations
		Containment situation	Ability to fully isolate cases & quarantine contacts	Ability to isolate cases and quarantine known contacts, but undetected cases likely occurring based on contact investigation	some ability to isolate cases and quarantine known contacts, but many undetected cases are likely occurring based on contact investigation	limited to no ability to isolate cases and quarantine contacts; many undetected cases based on contact investigations and/or inability to investigate
		State Alert Level Northern SE	Low	Intermediate	High	
		State Alert Level Southern SE	Low	Intermediate	High	
Vulnerability	How many large gatherings are occurring?	# and size of large gatherings	No gatherings or Minimal Gatherings < 20 people	Large gatherings 20-60 people	Large gatherings 60-100 people	Large gatherings >100 people
	Is there diminished capacity in critical CBW departments?	Reduction of employees in critical CBW departments	Full capacity	Reduced by 1 employee	Reduced by 2-3 employees	Reduced by 3+ employees
Detection Capacity	Is contact tracing capacity sufficient to successfully quarantine & isolate?	Avg # close contacts per case	< 5 contacts	6-10 contacts	> 10 contacts	> 10 contacts or unable to contact trace for all cases
		Percent of new cases contacted in < 48hrs	> 90%	50-90%	< 50%	< 50% or unable to contact trace
	Is testing capacity sufficient to detect COVID?	Broad testing	Testing > 10% of population/week	Testing < 10% of population/week	Testing < 5% of population/week	Testing < 2% of population/week
		Turnaround times	< 3 days	3-5 Days	> 5 days	> 7 days
Response Capacity	What is the current situation in Wrangell?	Reduced Capacity for COVID-response Responders	>9 EMS Responders	6-9 EMS Responders	<5 EMS Responders	<3 EMS Responders
		Responder exposure	1 or less responder exposed & in quarantine	2 responders exposed & in quarantine	3 responders exposed & in quarantine	4 responders exposed & in quarantine
		# beds available at WMC (8 total)	6-8	4-5	2-3	1 or less
		PPE Supply	Adequate supply	Limited supply	Limited supply of key items	Inadequate supply
	What is the current situation outside of Wrangell?	Ability to transfer patients out of Wrangell	No restrictions	Some difficulty	Significant difficulty	No ability

11/02/20

I have added the State Alert Levels into the matrix. I included both Northern & Southern SE because we are geographically in between the two and our community has interactions with both Regions. The Alert Level would be used to trigger an increase in our local level and mitigation, but if our local level is higher than the State Alert level, we would use the local level. The only other factor that takes into consideration what is happening outside of Wrangell is the “ability to transfer patients out of Wrangell”.

	Masks	Social Distancing	Large Gatherings	Restaurants, Bars	Personal Services, Gyms	Travel	<i>Item a.</i>
Level 4	Masks are required outside of the home.	Residents are required to stay at home except for groceries, medical care, and essential workforce needs.	No gatherings allowed.	Limited to delivery and curbside pick-up if allowed by law.	Personal Services and Gyms closed.	Critical Infrastructure and essential travel only.	
Level 3	Masks shall be worn indoors and outdoors in public areas.	Maintain 6' distancing with non-household members. Bubble should contain household members only.	Indoor gatherings limited to 20 people with strong mitigation measures in place. Masks required. Must submit mitigation plan to CBW 2 weeks prior to event.	Reduce capacity to ensure 6' distancing between parties. Capacity is not to exceed 50%. Reservations required. Delivery/curbside pickup if allowed by law.	Personal services by appointment only. One customer per service provider. No waiting areas. No group activities at gyms. Limit gym capacity to 25%.	Interstate: Follow Health Mandate 10. Intrastate: Travelers coming from communities with high or moderate alert levels are strongly encouraged to test upon arrival and follow strict social distancing protocols until negative tests results arrive or for 5 days whichever is less.	
Level 2	Masks shall be worn indoors in public. Recommended when outdoors.	Maintain 6' distancing with non-household members. Bubble should contain household members and critical contacts only.	Indoor gatherings limited to 50 people with strong mitigation measures in place. Must submit a mitigation plan to CBW 2 weeks prior to event.	Strongly recommend that: bars do not exceed 50% indoor capacity; restaurants require reservations and reduce capacity to ensure distancing between parties; delivery/curbside pick-up be allowed by law.	Strongly recommend that: Personal services be by appointment only with no waiting areas; Small gym group activities outdoor only; limit Gym capacity to 50%.	Interstate: Follow Health Mandate 10. Intrastate: Travelers coming from communities with high or moderate alert levels are strongly encouraged to test upon arrival and follow strict social distancing protocols until negative tests results arrive or for 5 days whichever is less.	
Level 1	Recommend masks be worn indoors in public areas.	Maintain 6' distancing with non-household members. Bubble should contain household members and critical contacts only.	Limit gathering size to ensure 6' distancing can be maintained. Recommended that all gatherings occur outdoors.	Follow advisories under Phase III-IV of the Reopen Alaska Responsibly plan.	Follow advisories under Phase III-IV of the Reopen Alaska Responsibly plan.	Follow Health Mandate 10.	