

HEALTH EMERGENCY DECLARATION

A DECLARATION OF A LOCAL HEALTH EMERGENCY AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO TAKE NECESSARY ACTIONS TO REDUCE THE IMPACT AND SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS KNOWN AS COVID-19 THROUGH PELICAN

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 corona virus 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 (WHO) declared the virus pandemic; Alaska Governor Dunleavy issued a declaration of public health disaster emergency in response to the anticipated outbreak of COVID-19 in Alaska; and on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared a national emergency in response to the virus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Dunleavy closed all schools in Alaska until May 1, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, 14+ positive cases of COVID-19 have been identified within the State of Alaska, including 1 case in Juneau; and,

WHEREAS, a proactive approach taken by individuals and communities to slow the rate of infection will reduce the negative impact on our health care system; and,

WHEREAS, a declaration of a local health emergency will alert the public to the seriousness of the risk, and provide direction to sources of information and other available public health resources, all while the City of Pelican works in cooperation with other local and state agencies through the Pelican Public Safety Officer to implement actions and responses to address the probable COVID-19 outbreak.

WHEREAS, as advised by the State of Alaska, this declaration is initiated a shelter in place order. This means unless it is an emergency or essential, residents should remain in their homes and practice extreme social distancing if out and about.

NOW THEREFORE, A HEALTH EMERGENCY IS HEREBY DECLARED BY THE MAYOR:

1. In accordance with PMC2.60.030, Alaska Statute 26.23.060, the Mayor hereby declares the coronavirus threat to be a public health emergency.
2. The Pelican Public Safety Officer is authorized to take any necessary action to prepare and position our resources in order to reduce the impact and spread of the coronavirus throughout Pelican.
3. In accordance with PMC2.60.030, Alaska Statute 26.23.060, this declaration is effective until March 30th, 2020, unless ratified and extended by a resolution of the City Council of Pelican.

Mayor Walt Weller