

****EXPIRING AUGUST 30,2020****

**CITY OF SAINT MARY'S
EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 2020-04
IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19
AND REPEALING EMERGENCY ORDINANCES 2020-01 AND 2020-02**

PASSED BY THE SAINT MARY'S CITY COUNCIL PURSUANT TO THE CITY OF SAINT MARY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES 1.04.25

Finding of Emergency:

A pandemic virus known as COVID-19 has circulated throughout the world, the USA, and Alaska. And now it has reached Saint Mary's.

The COVID-19 virus is extremely contagious, and has a high complication and mortality rate. At this time, there are no vaccinations available, and virtually no treatments available to those who develop complications. The virus is highly contagious, spread mainly from person to person, mainly through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Many carriers may not exhibit symptoms for days, or even, while still being contagious. The two principal means for controlling the virus are to stop travel between population centers; and to maintain "social distance" for the small amount of inter-village travel that is allowed or unavoidable.

With the opening of the Mountain Village road, more and more individuals are traveling between villages, in spite of multiple resolutions and notifications that this travel should not occur. The ice going out has led to even more travel by boat to and from other villages within the Yukon Delta area.

Furthermore, with the bankruptcy of RAVN, the Mountain Village road is being used for necessary freight deliveries that could have occurred by other means in the past.

On June 30, 2020, the City learned of the first confirmed positive case of COVID-19 in City limits. It is believed that, before learning of the positive test result, on Friday, June 26, 2020, the individual arrived in Saint Mary's by road from Mountain Village and that the individual visited the store in Saint Mary's on that date.

This case specifically and the increased travel and other contacts between individuals in an unrestricted manner in general could lead to the very rapid spread of COVID-19. The State of Alaska DHHS has emphasized that our State does not have the institutional healthcare capacity to withstand an outbreak.

The further introduction and spread of the deadly COVID-19 virus can only be avoided by strict adherence to this ordinance, State Health Mandates, and Center of Disease Control (CDC) guidance.

The COVID-19 pandemic has generated a public health emergency that threatens to overwhelm our health system, endangering the lives and well-being of our residents. We can take steps to slow and contain the threat, but those steps require coordinated community action. It is up to each and every City resident and visitor to follow the requirements of this ordinance to keep our City and the region safe. Violating these requirements will endanger lives. This ordinance is put forward to preserve the health and safety of our City and region while ensuring that vital goods and services continue to be available.

THE SAINT MARY'S CITY COUNCIL HEREBY MANDATES THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY MEASURES TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY, WHICH MEASURES SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL 11:59 P.M. ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 30, 2020, AND SHALL SUPERSEDE ALL CONFLICTING LAWS DURING THIS EMERGENCY UNLESS OTHERWISE PROHIBITED BY LAW OR CHARTER. THIS ORDINANCE REPLACES AND SUPERSEDES EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 2020-01 ENACTED ON MAY 6, 2020, AND EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 2020-02 ENACTED ON MAY 20, 2020.

1. All non-critical and non-essential personal travel within the City shall be curtailed. Everyone currently in the City of Saint Mary's must stay at home as much as possible, except to:
 - work in certain critical jobs identified in **Attachment A**;
 - buy, sell, or deliver necessary groceries or other important goods;
 - receive or provide necessary health care; and
 - conduct necessary subsistence activities while maintaining social distancing requirements.

Only those reporting for certain critical jobs, listed on **Attachment A**, and those experiencing homelessness are exempt from this stay at home policy.

On the limited occasions when individuals leave home, they must maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any person outside their household and comply with the other provisions of this ordinance.

Individuals experiencing homelessness are exempt from this stay at home mandate, but are strongly urged to obtain shelter, and entities are strongly urged to make such shelter available as soon as possible and to the maximum extent practical (and to use COVID-19 risk mitigation practices in their operation).

2. **Individuals must wear masks when indoors in public settings** and practice recommended hygiene, including regular hand washing and hand sanitization. More information on the mask wearing requirement is found in **Attachment B**.
3. A person who tests positive for COVID-19 is not permitted to travel to the City until a qualified medical professional advises that the person is no longer contagious and the person is able to provide satisfactory proof of a negative COVID-19 test result. Until such time as YKHC is able to administer COVID-19 testing at the airport, all travelers entering the City through the airport must have satisfactory proof of recent (within 72 hours prior to arrival) negative COVID-19 test results before traveling within Saint Mary's or to another village. If awaiting test results, travelers must self-isolate or self-quarantine to

limit potential exposure. Travelers testing positive for COVID-19 must follow quarantine instructions from public health staff administering the tests. Travelers who do not have satisfactory proof of negative test results must self-quarantine for 14 days upon entering Saint Mary's. The City may request proof of the negative test result. **Failure to comply with this mandate may result in prosecution for reckless endangerment (AS 11.41.250), which could result in imprisonment for up to one year and a fine up to \$25,000.**

4. All travelers entering the City by road or airport must follow this ordinance, including the mask mandate, as well as all State Health Mandates and Center of Disease Control (CDC) guidance. Questions should be directed to the City Manager at: (907) 438 2515.
5. It is strongly recommended, in accordance with CDC guidance, that certain individuals within the City should take even greater precaution. Those individuals include people particularly at risk of complications from COVID-19 such as people 60 years and older, and individuals of any age who are immune-compromised or with a serious underlying condition.
6. Household members who have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 and who are possibly contagious should be tested immediately and follow recommended quarantine measures to prevent a community outbreak.
7. Some businesses and entities serve critical roles that are necessary to combat this public health emergency or provide critical community functions are encouraged to remain open. Those businesses and entities must comply with social distancing guidelines, including maintaining six feet social distancing for employees and for members of the public in addition to mask-wearing and conducting frequent sanitization. A list of businesses defined as critical is listed in **Attachment A**.
8. All other businesses and entities in the City are encouraged to close, and, when possible, to utilize telecommuting or work-from-home procedures.
9. All businesses and entities that remain open must submit to the City Manager an approved plan for avoiding contact/contamination of residents and the spread of COVID-19. In addition, businesses and entities that entail interstate or international travel must submit to the City Manager the protective plan required to be filed with the State of Alaska pursuant to State Health Mandate 010, as amended. These requirements to submit plans to the City Manager apply to businesses and entities that do not operate in the City but whose employees travel to or through the City.

If a business or entity has not already submitted such plan(s) to the City Manager, the plan(s) must be submitted to the City Manager as soon as possible but not later than 5:00 pm on July 7, 2020.

A business or entity that begins operating in the City or with employees who travel to or through the City after 5:00 pm on July 7, 2020 must submit the plan(s) to the City Manager prior to commencing operations or the employees' travel. Plans should be submitted to the City Manager by e-mail at: waltonksm@yahoo.com.

10. For individuals performing subsistence activities and traveling to or from another community who must stop in Saint Mary's for groceries, gas, or supplies, you must use "curbside pickup," located at a designated area outside the store or at a boat harbor or another controlled location set by the City. Please plan ahead by contacting vendors or a family member and paying ahead for curbside pickup. Whenever possible, accept deliveries without person-to-person interaction.
11. City residents and travelers to our City who disregard this ordinance and the State Health Mandates are putting themselves and our community at risk. To report non-compliance, send an e-mail to investigations@alaska.gov. The State of Alaska DHSS will treat the sender's identity as confidential information and protect it to the maximum extent permitted by law. You can also report non-compliance to the City Manager by e-mail at waltonksm@yahoo.com, or phone at (907) 438-2515.
12. The continuing health and safety of our City and region depends on self-responsibility and adherence to this ordinance, State Health Mandates, and CDC guidance. Please take responsibility for yourself, your family and friends, and your community to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Effective Date:

This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

DATED this 1st day of July, 2020.



Sven Paukan, Mayor
City of Saint Mary's, Alaska



Attest: Adeline Journey, acting clerk
City of Saint Mary's, Alaska

