PETERSBURG BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH MANDATE #9
Intrastate Traveler Testing

WHEREAS, the Petersburg Borough Assembly is committed to minimizing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Petersburg's residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, new COVID-19 case counts are growing rapidly within Alaska, with over 1100 new cases in just the two-day period of November 7-8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, currently the predominant mode of COVID-19 spread in Alaska is from within communities and the State, and not associated with interstate travel; and

WHEREAS, it is in Petersburg's best interest to provide for the testing of intrastate travelers coming into the Borough via the James A. Johnson Airport and the AMHS ferry, in order to quickly discover and isolate infected persons who come to Petersburg from within the State of Alaska.

Accordingly, the Petersburg Borough Assembly issues the following Public Health Mandate:

The Petersburg Borough Assembly requires that all intrastate travelers arriving into Petersburg at the James A. Johnson Airport or the AMHS ferry be tested prior to or upon arrival, with details as follows:

1. Alaskan residents (including residents of Petersburg) traveling into Petersburg via the James A. Johnson Airport or the AMHS ferry from another Alaskan community are encouraged to have a COVID-19 test within 72 hours of their departure to Petersburg, if possible, and provide proof of a negative test at the airport.

2. Alaskan residents who have tested in another Alaskan community within 72 hours before departure for Petersburg but who do not yet have a negative test result, must provide proof of the test and complete a Petersburg Travel Declaration form that includes contact information, and the traveler's isolation location within Petersburg in the event of a positive test result.

3. Alaskan residents who did not receive a COVID-19 test within 72 hours prior to arriving into Petersburg must agree to be tested at the James A. Johnson Airport upon arrival. There is no charge for the test. Use of the State of Alaska Travel Portal, and completion of a Travel Declaration Form will be necessary, that includes contact information, and the traveler's isolation location within Petersburg in the event of a positive test result. Selection of the option to test as

an Alaskan resident traveling intrastate is required to receive a test free of charge.

4. Non-Alaskan residents who are traveling to Petersburg from another Alaskan community must comply with all applicable testing requirements and protocols of State of Alaska Mandate 10. Additionally, non-resident intrastate travelers must have evidence of either a negative COVID-19 test, or proof of a test, taken within 72 hours of their departure to Petersburg, or must test at the James A. Johnson Airport upon arrival, at their expense.

5. Intrastate travelers arriving by AMHS ferry shall utilize the State Travel Portal to receive a test at the airport, just as if they had arrived by air.

6. Testing will be via PCR "send out" tests and not a rapid test. Results will be reported to the Petersburg Medical Center (PMC). PMC will notify travelers of their result and recommend medical attention upon any positive result.

7. The State of Alaska Public Health Nurse will be notified of any positive result in order to begin contact tracing and isolation of any infected persons. Any traveler that tests positive shall follow directions for isolation and quarantine given by the Public Health Nurse.

8. Intrastate travelers who submit to testing upon arrival in Petersburg, or who arrive in Petersburg with proof of a test, but no results, are not required to quarantine prior to receipt of test results, but must take all precautions to avoid the potential spread of COVID-19. Required actions include:

   a. Asymptomatic Passengers: Travelers arriving without symptoms should take common precautions to protect themselves and others until the traveler has knowledge of a negative test result.

      i. Use of face coverings in public settings and other instances where physical distancing cannot be met, and compliance with any state or local face covering mandates.

      ii. Frequent hand washing or sanitizing.

      iii. Maintain a 6' distance from others as much as possible.

      iv. Avoiding crowded areas.

      v. Covering all coughs or sneezes.

   b. Passengers experiencing symptoms or developing symptoms after arrival, regardless of a negative test result:

      i. Isolate yourself and avoid being around others.

      ii. Call local COVID hotline to seek medical guidance, at (907) 772-5788.

      iii. Use of face coverings except when completely alone.

      iv. Frequent hand washing or sanitizing.

     v. Avoiding crowded areas.

    vi. Covering all coughs or sneezes.

9. Travel into Petersburg by students and employees of the Petersburg School District (PSD) shall be governed by PSD's November 3, 2020 COVID-19 Travel Protocol, as amended from time to time by the Petersburg School Board. This Mandate shall apply in the event that Protocol is rescinded.

10. Travel into Petersburg by workers in critical infrastructure workforce shall be covered by the instructions and protocols contained in the employer's Community Workforce Protective Plan on file with the State. If that Plan does not contain protections or protocols for workers traveling into remote communities from the employer's general work site, workers shall be governed by the provisions of this Mandate.

11. Children 10 years of age and younger are exempt from the testing requirements set out above, however they should comply with the precautions of paragraph 8.

12. This Health Mandate will remain in place concurrently with the State of Alaska Health Mandate 10, unless rescinded by the Borough Assembly.

Issued by the Petersburg Borough Assembly on November 16, 2020.

_____
Mark Jensen, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Debra K. Thompson, Borough Clerk