



# CITY OF UTQIAGVIK

*"Farthest North Incorporated City"*

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## CITY OF UTQIAGVIK PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY ORDER E0-07 IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

ISSUED BY THE MAYOR OF CITY OF UTQIAGVIK ("CITY") PURSUANT TO CITY OF UTQIAGVIK ORDINANCE 2.12.100.

The COVID-19 pandemic has generated a public health emergency that still threatens to overwhelm the health system of the entire State of Alaska, particularly in view of the recent rapid rise in cases due to the Delta variant. The City is again experiencing considerable numbers of COVID-19 spread. Furthermore, the City has limited health resources, and we must continue to take steps to slow and contain the threat; such steps require coordinated community action. This Emergency Order #EO-07 is issued to preserve the health and safety of our community.

At the beginning of this pandemic, not much was known about the transmission of COVID-19, nor the efficacy of cloth masks in preventing its spread. Due to the need to limit medical masks for medical use and the uncertainty about the usefulness of alternatives, early recommendations did not advise face coverings for the general public. But the scientific and medical communities again recommend the use of cloth facing coverings, as continued studies indicate masks can greatly help reduce the spread of the virus and its variants. This is because a significant number of individuals with COVID-19 are capable of transmitting the disease to others before (or without) showing any symptoms, through everyday activities such as talking in close quarters. Based on this information, the CDC again recommends wearing cloth face masks coverings in indoor public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. The CDC has also recently issued interim public health recommendations for fully-vaccinated people. In line with this recommendation, the City puts forth this additional order to preserve the health and safety of the community of Utqiagvik.

PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GRANTED TO ME BY THE CITY COUNCIL UNDER ORDINANCE #08-2021, I HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS TO BE EFFECTIVE AS OF 12:00 A.M. ON AUGUST 14, 2021, TO PRESERVE LIFE IN AND ADJACENT TO THE CITY. THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS HAVE THE POWER OF LAW, SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL 11:59 P.M., ON OCTOBER 13, 2021, OR TO RESCIND SUCH EMERGENCY REGULATIONS IF THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ABATES OR IF THE COUNCIL PASSES A REPLACEMENT ORDINANCE.

**A. The City Strongly Recommends Residents and Non-Residents Arriving in the City to Self-Quarantine for 10 Days Regardless of Vaccination Status.**

The City strongly recommends a ten (10) day self-quarantine on individuals arriving in the City from outside the City who are not fully vaccinated. Residents and Non-Residents are



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strongly recommended to quarantine upon arrival in the City, and should proceed directly to their quarantine site until such persons receive negative COVID-19 testing results.

1. The following persons will be considered to have already completed a quarantine:
  - a. Persons that have completed a quarantine immediately prior to arrival in the City and received a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of arrival in the City.
    - i. The Arctic Slope Native Association ("ASNA") provides free COVID-19 testing to all travelers who arrive at the City's Wiley Post-Will Rogers Memorial Airport ("Airport") at the Transit Center drive through testing station.
    - ii. In addition to the Airport, COVID-19 tests are available at Samuel Simmonds Memorial Hospital.
  - b. Persons that are fully-vaccinated.
    - i. "Fully-vaccinated" is defined as more than two weeks following receipt of the second dose in a two-dose series, or more than two weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine.
2. Quarantine Location: any location identified to the City in writing by the person quarantining that is safe, offers sanitary facilities, and can provide necessary space for quarantine purposes.
3. Social distancing should be maintained within quarantine locations to the maximum extent possible, including, but not limited to, the use of face masks, as recommended by the CDC.
4. Any person strongly recommended to quarantine should not leave their quarantine location during their quarantine period for any reason other than to:
  - a. Receive non-elective medical care;
  - b. Go to their worksite if their work involves providing essential services or supporting critical workforce infrastructure;
  - c. Be tested for COVID-19; or



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d. Leave the City.

5. Entry to the Quarantine Location should be limited to the following:

a. Persons in quarantine;

b. Persons providing required goods or critical personal needs, and critical infrastructure needs;

c. Persons providing medical care to a person in that location; or

d. All persons residing at the quarantine site if the quarantine location is their usual place of residence while in the City.

**B. The City Strongly Recommends any Person Who Tests Positive for COVID-19 to Self-Isolate for 10 Days Regardless of Vaccination Status**

1. Any person who tests positive for COVID-19 is strongly encouraged to immediately self-isolate and monitor for signs of sickness.

a. Persons should isolate in a home with a specific "sick room." If not available, strict cleanliness procedures should be maintained including wearing a mask when in a room with other persons.

b. A separate bathroom facility should be used for isolation when possible. If not available, strict cleanliness procedures should be maintained including wearing a mask.

2. The period of isolation should be a minimum of ten (10) days after the date of the person's first positive COVID-19 test.

**C. The City Strongly Recommends the Wearing of Masks or Cloth Face Coverings Regardless of Vaccination Status**

1. When residents leave their home, all residents, regardless of vaccination status, are strongly encouraged to wear masks or cloth face coverings over their noses and mouths when they are indoor in public settings or communal spaces outside the home, and should maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet from any person outside their household whenever possible. This Ordinance is subject to the conditions and exceptions stated below and in Section D of this Ordinance.



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2. The indoor settings included in this Ordinance include, but are not limited to, the public and communal spaces within the following:
  - A. Grocery stores, pharmacies, and all other retail stores.
  - B. Restaurants and cafes, including food preparation, carry-out, and delivery operations. There is a limited exception for customers while they are actively eating or drinking in those settings.
  - C. Taxis, ride-share services, or other forms of public transportation when non-household passengers are present.
  - D. Personal care facilities, child-care facilities, and communal areas of offices where people from multiple households are present.
  - E. Elevators and indoor communal spaces in other buildings.
3. Employers are strongly encouraged 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, regardless of vaccination status (unless all employees are fully vaccinated and employees do not interact with customers or the public). Businesses are permitted to refuse service to any individual not willing to abide by this Ordinance.
4. All businesses should assist individuals with personal mitigation strategies including:
  - A. Opportunities for frequent hand washing;
  - B. Maintaining opportunities for 6-foot distancing between all non-family members;
  - C. Require face covering/masks by the public, and require face coverings/masks by employees as set forth in this Ordinance (subject to the exceptions stated below);
  - D. Screening for people who are ill and limiting entrance to those who are healthy;
  - E. Regular cleaning and extra attention to high touch surfaces; and



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- F. Special accommodations for those at higher risk to help minimize their risk.
5. This Ordinance does not apply to the following categories of people or activities:
- A. Any child under the age of 2 years or who may have a risk of suffocation;
  - B. Any child under the age of 12 years unless a parent or caregiver actively supervises their use;
  - C. Any child in a day care setting, although such settings may provide their own requirements for children age 2 years old or older;
  - D. Any individual for whom wearing a mask or cloth face covering would be contrary to his or her health or safety because a medical condition or medical health condition, and any individual unable to tolerate a mask due to a physical or mental disability;
  - E. 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;
  - F. Any individual who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance;
  - G. Individuals who are exercising, if mask wearing would interfere with their breathing;
  - H. Individuals who are incarcerated, in police custody, or inside a courtroom; these individuals should follow guidance particular to their location or institution;
  - I. Individuals performing an activity that cannot be safely conducted while wearing a mask and individuals for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to workplace health, safety or job duty, as determined by the relevant workplace safety guidelines or federal regulations (for example, a driver experiencing foggy glasses or an equipment operator using heavy equipment with a risk of tangling the mask); and
  - J. Musicians, presenters, ministers, and others communicating to an audience or being recorded, for the duration of their presentation/practice/performance



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where mask usage impairs communication, and so long as safe physical distancing is maintained.

**D. The City Continues to Strongly Recommend that Residents Limit Outings and Physical Contact with those Outside of their Household**

1. The City strongly recommends that all residents and non-residents use caution during outings and physical contact with those outside of their household as much as possible in order to minimize any spread of COVID-19.
  - a. The City continues to recommend that employers provide social distancing work areas so employees can continue to work,
2. The City still strongly recommends that all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, wear masks or cloth face coverings, and practice social distancing when they are indoors with unvaccinated people or in public settings or communal spaces outside the home, to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in the community as set forth in Section C.
3. The City strongly recommends residents and non-residents use caution when in medium- and large-sized in-person gatherings, and getting tested if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

DATED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.

**IN WITNESS THERETO:**

**Fannie Suvlu, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

**Esther Evikana, City Clerk**