Letter to Hoonah Residents

The City Council and Administration have joined with the many voices in our community to act decisively to protect our community from the impacts of the Corona Virus COVID-19 Pandemic which is rapidly effecting the entire world. Everyone has, by now, seen how destructive this virus is to those who fall ill with its most significant effects.

In 1944 Hoonah was devastated by a fire which swept unchecked through the town in a very short time. In that instant, we were helpless to protect ourselves from the fire. The effects of that event are well remembered and impacted every family in the community.

Today we are faced with the potential for another devastating event to sweep through our community with effects that may be more far-reaching and long-lasting than the fire in 1944. The difference between these two events is that today we have the opportunity to act in advance of the challenge and take steps to ensure we come through with our community intact and stronger.

It is in the spirit of the preservation of our vibrant culture and community that we ask each and every citizen of Hoonah, from the most respected elders to the tiniest children to embrace and adhere to the guidelines spelled out in our resolutions and emergency orders, as well as the State of Alaska Mandates.

It has been many years since the residents of Hoonah have faced a challenge like the one before us today. The sacrifices we must make now of our time and our social interactions and the shared economic hardships that will be in our immediate future will require that we support one another in every way possible.

Please encourage our family, friends and neighbors to do everything possible to prevent the arrival and spread of the Corona Virus COVID-19 in Hoonah and help us to weather this storm together. The more stringently we all adhere to the separation and quarantine guidelines, the sooner we will emerge and return to what we consider our normal lives.
We ask that everyone follow the guidelines in the City of Hoonah Resolution 20-03-05 as well as the emergency orders we’ve posted, read the updates from the State of Alaska and the CDC.gov website and if you have questions and concerns, please take the time to seek the answers from the City, State or Federal Government sources.

Copies of the Resolution 20-03-05, emergency orders, and the State Mandate No. 10.1 are available on the City website, and will be posted prominently around town. Please share them liberally with everyone you are able.

Gunalcheesh,

Mayor Gerald Byers

Dennis H. Gray, Jr, City Administrator

City Council
Amelia Wilson
Miguel Contreras
Shawn McConnell
Stan Savland
Bill Miller, Jr
John Murray