

**Mayor**

Clay Koplin

**Council Members**

Tom Bailer

Cathy Sherman

Jeff Guard

Melina Meyer

Anne Schaefer

David Allison

David Glasen

**City Manager**

Helen Howarth

**City Clerk**

Susan Bourgeois

**Deputy Clerk**

Tina Hammer

**Student Council**

William Deaton

**Special City Council Meeting  
April 15, 2020 @ 12:00 pm  
Cordova Center Community Rooms  
and via YouTube and Teleconference  
Agenda**

**A. Call to order**

**B. Roll call**

Mayor Clay Koplin, Council members Tom Bailer, Cathy Sherman, Jeff Guard, Melina Meyer, Anne Schaefer, David Allison and David Glasen

**C. Approval of agenda..... (voice vote)**

**D. Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest and Ex Parte Communications**

- conflicts as defined in 3.10.010 [https://library.municode.com/ak/cordova/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances](https://library.municode.com/ak/cordova/codes/code_of_ordinances) should be declared, then Mayor rules on whether member should be recused, Council can overrule
- ex parte should be declared here, the content of the ex parte should be explained when the item comes before Council, ex parte does not recuse a member, it is required that ex parte is declared and explained

**E. Communications by and petitions from visitors**

1. Guest Speakers – IMT Report, incident: COVID-19
2. Audience Comments regarding agenda items

**F. Correspondence**

3. 04-11&13-2020 K. Jones emails..... (page 1)
4. 04-11-2020 W. Deaton letter..... (page 5)
5. 04-12-2020 D. Gilman email..... (page 6)
6. 04-12-2020 S. Gilman email..... (page 7)
7. 04-12-2020 S. Richards email..... (page 8)
8. 04-12-2020 T. Seavey email..... (page 10)
9. 04-13-2020 M. Mulvaney emails..... (page 11)
10. 04-13-2020 T. Chappell email..... (page 14)
11. 04-13-2020 G. McCune letter from CDFU..... (page 15)
12. 04-13-2020 H. Hoover letter..... (page 16)

**G. New Business**

13. Pending Agenda and calendar..... (page 17)

**H. Audience participation**

**I. Council comments**

**J. Executive Session**

City Council is permitted to enter into an executive session if an explicit motion is made to do so calling out the subject to be discussed and if that subject falls into one of the 4 categories noted below. Therefore, even if specific agenda items are not listed under the Executive Session header on the agenda, any item on the agenda may trigger discussion on that item that is appropriate for or legally requires an executive session. In the event executive session is appropriate or required, Council may make a motion to enter executive session right during debate on that agenda item or could move to do so later in the meeting.

**K. Adjournment**

**Public Call-in number 907-253-6202, each call is placed on hold, then calls will ring through in the order received, please stay on the phone until you've been addressed or thanked by the Chair or Council, then hang up, comments limited to 3 minutes**

**Executive Sessions per Cordova Municipal Code 3.14.030**

- **subjects which may be considered are:** (1) matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the government; (2) subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person; provided that the person may request a public discussion; (3) matters which by law, municipal charter or code are required to be confidential; (4) matters involving consideration of governmental records that by law are not subject to public disclosure.
- **subjects may not be considered in the executive session except those mentioned in the motion calling for the executive session, unless they are auxiliary to the main question**
- **action may not be taken in an executive session except to give direction to an attorney or labor negotiator regarding the handling of a specific legal matter or pending labor negotiations**

if you have a disability that makes it difficult to attend city-sponsored functions, you may contact 424-6200 for assistance.

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## Susan Bourgeois

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**From:** Kenneth Jones <fvserenity@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 11, 2020 8:19 PM  
**To:** Helen Howarth; Susan Bourgeois; Clay Koplin; Tom Bailer; Cathy Sherman; Jeff Guard; Melina Meyer; Anne Schaefer; David Allison; David Glasen  
**Cc:** chaisman; James Burton (External); executivedirector@copperrivermarketing.org; tommy.sheridan@pwsac.com  
**Subject:** Travel restrictions into Cordova

Mr. Mayor, and esteemed members of city council.

I'm writing today in regards to the proposed "temporary" air travel restriction. EO 1186 that is coming on your agenda during the next emergency special meeting.

While this particular ordinance only restricts travel until a date of April 29th, this is a very dangerous precedence to set. It could easily be extended, which would be detrimental to the start of the fishing season, Cordovas only remaining economic driver. I also see delaying the trickle of fisherman and workers for two weeks will exacerbate the issue that this restriction is trying to help. Which is the potential spread of COVID-19. Keepokg those individuals who may travel in the next two weeks in their respective communities with potential hot zones, will increase their chances of contracting the virus prior to the fishery, instead of allowing them to come here and quarantine in a community that as of my writing this has no confirmed cases. Delaying their entry will make it where these fisherman barely have sufficient time to properly quarantine and still get their boats ready for the estimated May 15-17th opening. This will increase the chances of these fisherman being both infected and then forced into interaction with retailers and community members before a successful quarantine can be finished.

So I will ask, Do you really want to add a worse-than-Exxon level economical disaster on top of this very difficult world wide pandemic? If we shut down the airport and curtail the fishing industry, that's exactly what will happen in Cordova.

We have already lost a huge portion of our economy with the loss of food service and tourism, disposable household income/discretionary spending is already at a 10 year low following a recent downturn in fish prices and two fishery disasters (pink salmon 2016, no flats season 2018) and local retailers are really struggling. As a city councilman I took time to talk to each business owner in town to gauge the health of the towns economy, there have been some real struggles recently and Losing any portion of fishing industry for this coming summer is just not acceptable. I urge you all to take time to do the same.

Stopping or hindering the canneries abilities to bring in their workers will cause both Local fisherman and non local fisherman to be put on limits, or to lose their markets and ability to sell fish entirely. Permit and home values will plummet (already happening here locally), bankruptcies and foreclosures will skyrocket, you will see an uptick in suicides, domestic violence rates will increase, and the divorce rate will increase. (this is already happening down south with the shutdown.)

We will lose market share, we will lose value, and rampant overescapement will cause an ecological disaster that will adversely effect the salmon runs for many years. Per section 8 of the Alaska state constitution we

have a constitutional obligation to manage the states resources for maximum sustainable yield, fishing the surplus is an integral part of this management strategy. The state has already come out that the fishery will open, Cordova cannot stop that. Limiting the canneries and fisherman in any way will put local processors and fisherman at a severe disadvantage and undue financial strain.

Loss of the fishery this year will cause the same type of generational depression that Exxon caused. At least people were paid to clean up the oil. With a shutdown there will be no oil money, no spillionares, no settlement or class action suite to wait 20 years for. An entire generation of Cordovans were told to move away, that the fishing industry and town couldn't support them, there was no future here due to the spill. The same will happen with this pandemic if we allow our fear to overcome logic and keep us from looking to our future. Cordova needs to continue fishing just as much as we need to protect our health. The two are synonymous, the health of Cordova depends on fishing. They can both be accomplished with proper protocols in place. The fisherman organizations, canneries, are working diligently to ensure the health of the community and needs of the fishing industry are BOTH protected.

In my opinion this push to shut down the fishery and close the airport is asinine. I worry that those who are lobbying for it do not fully comprehend what they are lobbying for. We cannot allow the cure to become worse than the virus.

Our best defense is quarantine incoming travels, wash our hands, wear masks, social distance, and allow those critical to the well being of our community and country to continue to do their work. Fisherman and cannery workers feed the world. A pandemic is not the time to disrupt the global food chain. It is our civic duty to provide a healthy and sustainable protein for consumption worldwide. This pandemic cannot and should not lead to a famine.

We need to change the narrative from "keep them out", to how do we further mitigate the impacts. It is foolish to believe we can keep this virus out of Cordova, it is likely already here and the quarantine measures worked to limit community spread. We need to continue our current measures and protect our economy while doing it. Get hand washing stations set up around the community, increase testing capacity, and order 30 hand sanitizer dispensers and place then at the door of every business and two at the gas station. I would even suggest mandating mask wearing in all public places, in countries that mandates masks their curves are substantially flatter, it works, that's why the CDC has changed its tune on mask wearing. That is how we best protect the lives of those who live here, not by closing our doors and subsequently killing our economy and wrecking the lives of the thousands of our citizens that depend on the fishing industry.

Thank you,  
Kenneth Byron Jones  
514 Sunnyside Dr  
Cordova Ak 99574

## Susan Bourgeois

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**From:** Kenneth Jones <fvserenity@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 2:40 PM  
**To:** Clay Koplín; Susan Bourgeois; Helen Howarth; Cathy Sherman; Tom Bailer; Jeff Guard; Melina Meyer; Anne Schaefer; David Allison; David Glasen  
**Cc:** James Burton (External); chaisman; executivedirector@copperrivermarketing.org  
**Subject:** Public Testimony

Ken Jones

514 Sunnyside Dr

If callers can call in to that public hearing twice, and take twice the time, I would appreciate not being cut off, I will keep it as close to my 3 minutes as I can while finishing my statement.

The previous comment about our biggest ally being governor Dunleavy was spot on, who would have figured that one? I cannot believe so many citizens of Cordova would throw the entire fishing industry to the wolves and attempt to close the community down to the incoming essential workers that help feed our country and world. This is disgusting rhetoric and goes against everything we stand for as a close knit fishing community, and as a nation. Some of the same people who I have heard and seen protest against national border protections, are now seeking to close our community from the outside world. Many of those who rallied against the marine highway shut down, are now speaking in support of airport closures!

We need to change the narrative from “keep them out”, to how do we further mitigate the impacts for the benefits of all. It is foolish to believe we can keep this virus out of Cordova, it has likely already been here and the quarantine measures worked to limit community spread. We need to continue our current measures and protect our economy while doing it. The council needs to get the funding to the IMT to get hand washing capabilities around the community, increase our testing capacity, and order 30 hand sanitizer dispensers and place them at the door of every business and two at the gas station. I would even suggest mandating mask wearing in all public places, in countries that mandate masks their curves are substantially flatter, it works, that’s why the CDC has changed its tune on mask wearing. That is how we best protect the lives of those who live here, not by closing our doors and subsequently killing our economy and wrecking the lives of the thousands of our citizens that depend on the fishing industry.

I would also like to point attention to the recent amendment of attachment B of state of Alaska small community emergency travel order. If you move forward with 1186 it will be in blatant violation of this state mandate. It is abhorrent that this is even posted onto the agenda when there was state guidance on this topic well before this agenda was formed and posted, and you were all made aware that the governor never intended Cordova to be included in the small community exemption.

For any councilor to continue to purposefully move items forward to get the city to violate this state mandate, against the advisement of the attorneys and the manager, could result in serious legal repercussions for the city. This EO if enacted would result in direct harm to the cities revenues and Cordova’s economy in general, also in serious harm to many constituents employment and income. It has already resulted in inciting false panic amongst the fishing industry, and a huge waste of staff time and city resources during a pandemic when those efforts should be directed to supporting the incident command team.

Creating these protocols on your own is not your job, that is the incident command teams job and every time the council tries to micromanage this issue you work against your oath of office and your mandate to support the incident command teams efforts in a time of crisis.

You should only be acting on well noticed pieces of legislation that are brought before you upon the request of the incident command team. Not imposing your own agendas during this time of emergency. The city manager and attorney all advised against this pending the clarification from the state, that clarification came first in the form of a press briefing, and again at a second press briefing. This ordinance was formed with specific language that suggests it was drafted or at least updated after that press briefing, in rebuke of what the governor said. The agenda was noticed late Saturday afternoon after at least the press briefings if not both.

### Cutoff by clay

The intent of the state to exclude Cordova from being able to restrict travel was crystal clear prior to this ordinance being written and agenda being noticed. While the written amendment does provide further clarification that clears up all of the loop holes 1186 was crafted to take advantage of, the manager is on record well before this was moved forward stating that it was her understanding of the entire situation that Cordova was never meant to fall under the exemption outlined in the original attachment B, and advising council should not do this, the lawyer also advised waiting for written clarification before proceeding. A few on Council ignored this expertise and moved this onto the agenda anyway. Resulting in much heart ache, false panic, and distraction from what we need to be focused on.

If you want something brought forward you should request it during pending agenda, and have it brought up at the next REGULAR meeting. These no notice or short notice special meetings are supposed to be reserved for short notice emergency purposes. So far we have wasted 5 days of staff time and community angst on an illegal travel ban, I fail to see the emergency if we can afford to be wasting 5 days on this topic.

I also am wondering what authority CCMC board members have to be commenting about canneries or airports. As I recall, they don't. Their job is to prepare and manage the hospital for the upcoming pandemic, not lobby to stop the entire economy of the community. OR to take it upon themselves to harass and conduct inspections of fishery businesses, inspections that violate the state mandates.

As of right now the Incident command Team recommendations are that a strict quarantine and increased social distancing is our best defense against this virus. They specifically requested the \$500 fine to be placed on the books in 1185, and I support that as long as it is properly noticed, which I believe it now has been.

The council action as outlined in 1186 were not recommended by the IMT prior to the meeting, as far as I have found anyway. The council members that pushed for these actions to be on the agenda are breaking the very foundation of ICS down and trying to micromanage the response. The council needs to be strictly in a support role to the team, not working in two opposing directions, or trying to take control away from the IMT. Closing of the airport or canneries will result in a economic disaster on top of the pandemic, not exactly a good thing to have two disasters happening simultaneously.

Thank you for upholding your oaths, and acting legally by voting 1186 down today, and please remember to "stay in your lane" for future action and agenda items. Please support the efforts of the IMT, with real world solutions, and no not detract from their goal and mission by using your position to push personal or familial agendas.

Thank You  
- Ken Jones

City Council of Cordova  
601 First Street  
Cordova, AK 99574

Dear City Council of Cordova,

The Future of Cordova Relies Upon Tests, a Novel Thought for a Novel Virus.

Cordova's economy is being decimated by several governmental mandates. We are not allowed to go to church. We did not celebrate Easter with fellow believers. School is shut down. People are scared. Very few businesses are open. Many are walking around town with masks, sunglasses or goggles, and gloves on. As of this writing, Cordova does not have a single coronavirus case. The plan I am about to lay out to you relies upon that fact continuing.

Phase I - The City Council of Cordova needs to immediately and absolutely purchase test kits with same day results. I encourage them to buy 5,000. Test everyone in town. If anyone tests positive, separate them from the community and give them the medicine that they need. If no one in Cordova tests positive for the virus, then there is absolutely no need to keep Cordova shut down. Every single business could reopen, effective immediately. You cannot catch a virus that does not exist in your community.

Phase II - Test everyone who comes to town. As soon as someone gets off a plane, test them. Have a tester at every exit from the harbor. Isolate the positives and allow everyone else to go about life as usual. If your test comes back negative, there is no need to quarantine for fourteen days. This would allow Cordova to reopen. Our economy would not be decimated, people would not live in fear, school could reopen, masks would not be worn around town, we could move on.

So, the logical question to ask is how much would this cost. I don't know the answer. But, I know that continuing to shut down our economy will cost more in the long run than these test kits. How much revenue will the City lose because of the drop in sales taxes? I am willing to wager that it is more than the tests will cost.

TESTING IS THE SOLUTION FOR CORDOVA.

Sincerely,

William Deaton - Concerned High School Senior and Citizen of Cordova

## Susan Bourgeois

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**From:** Darin Gilman <dgilman333@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 12, 2020 1:45 PM  
**To:** Helen Howarth; Susan Bourgeois; Clay Koplin; Tom Bailer; Cathy Sherman; Jeff Guard; Melina Meyer; Anne Schaefer; David Allison; David Glasen  
**Subject:** Covid 19

Dear Mayor Koplin and City Council Members, Having been raised in this community, I have a deep love and sense of pride for this town and our unique way of life. Cordova has provided me with a lifestyle and a perspective on the world that I would never take for granted - we are truly blessed and fortunate to find ourselves calling this place home. The problem we face is certainly not an easy one. COVID has caused true tragedy worldwide and it is natural for us to want to protect our own and avoid exposure. However, as a Captain and Owner of a Copper River fishing operation, I must balance that concern with what I have been taught since the day I was born - salmon fishing is the heartbeat of Cordova.

To eliminate the fishing industry would be akin to cutting the artery of this town. It would send our community into a financial disaster that will perpetuate for years to come and cause irreparable damage to our citizens and the copper river salmon population itself.

There are other options to place the safety of our people first. With adequate testing, proper quarantine periods, and a limited and regulated workforce, there is no reason we should not be able to find a balance and keep our livelihoods intact.

Let us not forget we have spent years fighting forces that would love to see industry that is unquestionably Cordova's heartbeat deemed nonessential. If we deem the Copper River and Prince William Sound fisheries non essential, we are just nailing our own coffin shut. That is not the message we want to send the state of Alaska. The fruit of our labor is that which feeds a majority of Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. We Alaskans do not rely on cattle or chicken farms to feed our families. Without salmon, this community will soon be no more.

These are unprecedented times and fear is natural, but we cannot let fear and panic cloud our judgement. Reacting impulsively without fully considering the impact of our actions will lead us to make poor and life-altering decisions. I wish only the best for our community and all my friends and family who call it home, and hope we can work together to find a compromise that will not cost us our lives, nor our livelihood.

-Best Regards, Darin Gilman

Sent from my iPhone

## Susan Bourgeois

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**From:** Shawn Gilman <dreamset@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 12, 2020 1:18 PM  
**To:** Susan Bourgeois  
**Subject:** Monday emergency meeting notes.

I would like to thank the council for the opportunity no matter how brief or shortly noticed , ok that was for a brief moment of laughter I hope.

The people trying to close the airport down and their more than obvious direct connection to council think that this will force industry to coop the fishery w locals only. My best explanation I can give why this is not only illegal as pointed out by the state but is contrary to the protein harvest model celebrated and promoted by this community for at least 40 plus years. Industry will adapt organically to the challenges but trying to change the model fundamentals with a city council action is just WASTING time when we need to focus on how to proceed in as safe a manner as possible. I would ask that council follows the suggestions from the state on what we are allowed to do and quickly support industry and fellow cordovans whether here or arriving to implement these strategies as delineated on the new updated order.  
Thank you Shawn Gilman mile 2.2 whitshed road

Sent from my iPhone



## Susan Bourgeois

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**From:** David Glasen  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 9:40 AM  
**To:** Susan Bourgeois  
**Subject:** Fw: Airport Closure - PACV

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**From:** Stephen Richards <steve@flyridgeline.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 12, 2020 5:36 PM  
**To:** Tom Bailer <CouncilSeatA@cityofcordova.net>; Cathy Sherman <councilseatb@cityofcordova.net>; Jeff Guard <councilseatc@cityofcordova.net>; Melina Meyer <councilseatd@cityofcordova.net>; Anne Schaefer <councilseate@cityofcordova.net>; David Allison <councilseatf@cityofcordova.net>; David Glasen <councilseatg@cityofcordova.net>; Clay Koplin <mayor@cityofcordova.net>  
**Subject:** Airport Closure - PACV

Dear Council Members and Mayor,

I own and operate a Federally Licensed Air Carrier at the Mudhole Smith Airport (PACV). I have some input on the restrictions that the Council may be considering in your upcoming meeting.

In my aviation career I have been involved with several airport development and master plan committees, and I also have a background in airport operations and funding. I've also been involved with disaster response for much of my flying career both nationwide and overseas.

First, I would like to say that you are faced with a very difficult situation and I commend you for your long work hours and service to the community. Also, although I run a business at the airport, I've already planned for a low/no-revenue year, so this is not out of any personal business interest.

Closure of the Cordova Airport to passenger air travel:

As you may know, the PACV Airport is a State owned airport, many improvements have been funded with Federal Grant Assurances through the FAA AIP program which obligates the State to operate the airport in perpetuity within the scope outlined by the grant.

One of the issues that I've seen before in FAA Part 13 complaints are violations of Federal Grant Assurances by discrimination that allows one type of aircraft operation over another - for example, cargo vs. passenger operations, private vs. commercial. The FAA consistently allows all types of airport operations: private, commercial, cargo, and passenger. This has been found to be the case as recently as two weeks ago in Denver, CO during the COVID-19 outbreak, so the FAA is not viewing this with any different lense.

If the runway were to be closed by the State, they would have to tell the FAA as to why and how long they were closing the runway, and then the airport runway would be closed - to everything. No cargo, medevac, no mail.

So, if the City were to vote in favor the closure of the airport passenger travel what would be the mechanism that they would use to close it?

- Alaska Airlines is not going to regulate the passengers getting on the airplane - they have been waived responsibility by the State and FAA for vetting passengers needing to travel per Mandate 12, attachment B, Section III
- Alaska Airlines brings the mail to Cordova under the Essential Air Service (EAS) contract for which they are subsidized, if the airport is open at all, they are obligated to land in Cordova or be in violation of the EAS contract.
- Block the runway? That's a State trespass violation and an interference with Federal Air Carrier Operations, a felony.
- Block people from exiting the passenger terminal? Also State property, and leased to Alaska Airlines, also trespass. This was illustrated just a few days ago in the North Slope Borough when the Borough tried to take over the Raven Airline terminal after they ceased operations, a decision that was immediately blocked by the State Attorney General, for different grounds, but I think that any local emergency action that overrides State or Federal authority will be viewed similarly.

The FAA and DOT have specifically put the regulations in place to provide a cohesive "top-down" National Transportation System in order to prevent local municipalities from trying to regulate the National Transportation System with a patch-work of "bottom up" regulations. Part 139 Airport closures happen at the Federal level during National Emergencies, like they did during 9/11. They have historically ruled against local government regulating Federal infrastructure that has been Federally funded.

My point is, that in this very tense time, hours and days are being consumed with action that will likely result in a rebuke/reversal from the State and the FAA and no result other than lost time.

On a personal note, I would hope that that time would be spent on taking the economic force that the upcoming Copper River Fishery yields to pressure State, Federal, Tribal, and private business to beg, borrow, or buy privately 3000 rapid test kits so that everyone that comes to Cordova is tested. It seems like many are watching Cordova to see how the worker influx is managed, widespread testing seems to be the most logical solution.

I'm happy to clarify or respond to anything I have written.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Richards  
Ridgeline Aviation, Inc.  
907-429-6966

[steve@flyridgeline.com](mailto:steve@flyridgeline.com)  
[www.flyridgeline.com](http://www.flyridgeline.com)



## Susan Bourgeois

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**From:** Tyrell Seavey <tyrellseavey@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 12, 2020 7:12 PM  
**To:** Helen Howarth; Susan Bourgeois  
**Subject:** 2020 Commercial Fishery

To the Cordova Mayor and City Council,

Thank you for your commitment to your community and your leadership during these difficult times. I do not envy the task of keeping your community cohesive, healthy, and happy through these challenging times.

Regarding any potential moves to halt an influx of essential workers to Cordova, whether fishermen, processors, tendermen etc, I respectfully urge you to make every effort to strike the appropriate balance between safety and production.

As an Area E gillnetter, a third generation commercial fisherman, and a fellow Alaskan, my personal livelihood depends primarily on the salmon. I am a parent. I am a landlord and already have tenants who are unable to pay rent due to the shutdown and without a fishing income I cannot pay my bills.

This is an issue we will be facing all across America and the world in the next few months. How do we balance appropriate safety measures with our need to eat. There will be people exposed to some amount of risk at every level, whether that is migrant harvesters, meat packers, or grocery clerks. We cannot shut down everything.

We can mitigate the risk of spreading the virus. I have established a plan with my crew to self quarantine on the Kenai Peninsula (where we all live and have been self quarantined since mid March) right up until the season opens, then head directly to the fishing grounds and stay there. I have spoken with my processor and they will supply me with ice, gas, and food on the grounds. All of the non Cordova boats I have spoken with are forming similar plans. There will of course be people who do come to Cordova and I have confidence in the efforts being made by industry and local leaders to prevent the spread of the virus. We are all taking this very seriously.

Thank you for reading my comments,

Tyrell Seavey  
F/V Walk the Line  
Seward, Alaska

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy A10e, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

## Susan Bourgeois

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**From:** Molly Mulvaney <mollymulvaney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 12:09 AM  
**To:** Susan Bourgeois  
**Subject:** Non-resident COVID-19 Cases

Hello Council,

I have what I think is a basic question. I realize this is a public document and others will likely read it. In recent times on various venues, I have asked what I thought were basic questions and/or shared what I thought was basic information only to have assumptions made, my questions blown out of proportion and misconstrued. I have also been placed in a “close the airport, close the fishery down” position. That is not, nor ever has been my intent.

I do freely admit I have been frustrated that answers to some of my questions to Cordova Prepared were not forthcoming, took many days and several emails back and forth before my question was answered.

I also freely admit that I want to hear our medical team say they feel the plans, protocols, systems and testing capability Cordova has in place and available makes them feel like our risk is low for having COVID-19 cases in Cordova. I heard our medical director, Dr. Hannah Sanders, say the opposite at the Council meeting on Wednesday, April 8, 2020 and that concerns me.

I am concerned about the fact that our hospital houses a number of long term fragile older people. I have not seen any plans regarding how they are going to stay safe in the same building as COVID-19 patients. I would be reassured if I knew the nurses working with them not only don't serve COVID-19 patients but don't use the same nurses station, pens, bathrooms etc. I would like to know what the plan is for protecting the long term residents.

Aside from volunteering at the airport with a few others (in masks and gloves and maintaining 6 foot social distancing) to educate folks flying in about the mandate to quarantine as well as provide masks and information such as how to order groceries locally, I am hunkered down with my family. I understand the importance of social distancing.

I realize this is quite the preface to what I think is a basic question. I want to make sure you and the public understand that in asking this question and the others I have asked in the past, I am NOT saying the City Incident Management Team isn't working hard. I am NOT saying the City IMT isn't prioritizing public health. I am NOT saying the City IMT doesn't value human life. I am NOT saying the City IMT is hiding positive test cases from us. I am NOT and never have made any accusations.

So here, finally, is my question! According to the DHSS website, the confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Alaska “represent permanent residency of the infected person, and may not reflect where the person is located currently, or was located when exposed or diagnosed.”

An example of that is that the Petersburg, Alaska man who had COVID-19 and died while he was in Washington. It is my understanding that Washington is where he contracted COVID-19 and where he died and yet it is counted as an Alaska case and death in Petersburg because that was his residence.

Does that mean that if someone who is in Cordova for the summer tests positive while in Cordova but their residence is Washington, that it will be reported as a case in Washington? Do the reporting protocols include telling the public of a positive case of someone physically present in Cordova if they aren't a resident of Cordova and/or Alaska? Along those same lines, if someone, who is a permanent resident of Anchorage and is working for the

summer in Cordova, tests positive, will it be reported as an Anchorage case? Is that how it works? Will we, the public of Cordova, only be informed of positive cases in Cordova if the person who tested positive is a Cordova resident?

I'm concerned that the DHSS website says the reporting of confirmed cases may not reflect where the person is located currently. If someone tests positive in Cordova I want reassurance that it will be reported to us, the public, as a case in Cordova even if the person's permanent residence is elsewhere. Perhaps this is in place and if so, I would be reassured to hear that. I would think that is the case but in these days of patient privacy I just don't know. If it isn't in place to be reported to us and the current State reporting protocol does not allow that, I urge you to enact a mandate or ordinance or prevail upon the State to make that adjustment. Without this information, the City and its citizens will be inhibited from accurately monitoring the situation and crafting the best decisions for the community as the season progresses and more and more people arrive who are permanent residents elsewhere.

Respectfully,  
~Molly Mulvaney  
907 429 3219

**Stay Home. Stop the Spread. Save Lives. (And Wash your Hands Lots!)**

## Susan Bourgeois

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**From:** Molly Mulvaney <mollymulvaney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 11:00 AM  
**To:** Susan Bourgeois  
**Subject:** What protections are in place

Dear Council,

The Cordova Times April 8th article has this quote from city manager Helen Howarth that I cut and paste here: "We are prepared to make sure that every protection is in place to keep COVID from coming into our ports of entry, short of shutting the whole town down," Howarth said.

<https://www.thecordovetimes.com/2020/04/08/preparing-for-influx-of-fishery-workers-cordova-weighs-its-options/>

I want to know what protections are in place to keep COVID from coming into our ports of entry. I am aware of, and part of, volunteers acting on our own accord meeting each plane and providing information about the quarantine and masks to every person who comes to town on the plane. This began separate from the IMT on April 6. We have since worked with the city to provide flyers and signage.

Has the city emailed every permit holder the quarantine mandate?

Is a station staffed at the Harbor to educate and inform people arriving by boat of the quarantine mandates? And if so, are they making sure all arrivals by boat receive this information immediately upon arrival? A sign on a door or bulletin is insufficient. If there is a penalty for failure to abide by the mandates, how are the newly arrived informed of this? What protocols are in place in the harbor "to keep COVID from coming into our ports of entry"?

Many people living on boats don't have toilets. Has the city provided safe facilities for them to use? The small public restrooms are not adequate for multiple fishermen to be using in a pandemic situation. I am not using these facilities and I know the city has advised the public not to use them. However, having multiple quarantined fishermen using the same facility is not sufficient or effective if, as the manager says, we want "to keep COVID from coming into our ports of entry"? I have heard but do not know for certain, that Valdez is providing individual portapotties. Is this something Cordova is considering?

I am glad the manager is prepared "to make sure that every protection is in place to keep COVID from coming." Please inform us of those protections.

Thank you,  
Molly Mulvaney

**Stay Home. Stop the Spread. Save Lives. (And Wash your Hands Lots!)**

## Susan Bourgeois

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**From:** Theresa Chappell <theresachappell@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 4:01 PM  
**To:** Susan Bourgeois

I would like to voice my opinion on the influx of fishermen coming into Cordova, via air and thru the harbor....I understand there are volunteers

at the City Airport making sure all individuals have their appropriate paperwork before entering the City of Cordova and a big thanks to them BUT

with fishermen coming into the harbor by boat here in the next few weeks...What IS the direction of the City for the harbor??? I hear

a lot of questions and comments on this but we do not seem to get an answer on what their plans are and I know there are many people in

Cordova that are concerned about this also. So my question is can we request service from the USCG or any other governing source

on being at the entrance to the Harbor to make sure they have their appropriate paperwork, & make sure they are aware of the 2 week quarantine

because I do not feel that some volunteers here and there will be able to handle the situation. I feel if we can get some answers on what

the IMT plans are for the harbor (with the direction of the City) we might be able to calm down a little bit on this situation.

Thank you  
Theresa Chappell



April 11, 2020

Cordova City Council  
601 First Street  
Cordova, AK 99574

Mayor Koplin and Council Members,

Cordova District Fishermen United (CDFU) has a long history of commitment when it comes to the safety of its fleet and the situation surrounding COVID-19 is no different. Just like the stick channel guides fishermen's vessels safely to the fishing grounds, we must have clear procedures in place to guide us during these uncertain times.

We would like to thank the City for allowing us to provide input and feedback to the City of Cordova through participation in the Commercial Fishing Task Force, and hope the Council and the IMT continue to recognize and utilize CDFU's unique position as representative of all sectors of the commercial fishing fleet of Area E. Our goal is to continue to aid in the development and implementation of protocols that are feasible and effective in safeguarding the health of both the fleet and the greater community, while executing a fishery that derives the greatest value for all stakeholders possible under these unique circumstances.

The members of CDFU and those involved in our fishing fleet are members of our community. As the foundation of the economy in the region, the Area E fleet contributes towards the betterment of Cordova not only through their actions as independent businesses that choose to port their vessels here, but also through the taxes paid that support local infrastructure. Our fishing fleet regularly contributes donations of seafood and other resources to the community throughout the year. We know that the fishing fleet has the best interest of Cordova in mind and it is unfortunate to hear members of the council suggest otherwise. It is our goal to continue to work together in the coming weeks to develop strategies to keep Cordova safe, healthy and economically viable.

Thank you,

Gerald McCune  
President



Hayley Hoover  
520 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
4/13/20

Dear Mayor Copland and Council members,

As it's been stated by many, I appreciate the countless hours all of you have put into coming up with the best solutions to keep our home safe in this time of global crisis. I trust that everyone who is on council and those who have submitted public comment has Cordova's best interest at heart. I am relieved that the Incident command team is back on track and that efforts are being made circulating signage, instituting harbor quarantine plans, and enforcing quarantine and social distancing.

I appreciate the sentiment that many have expressed in wanting to protect Cordova against exposure. My family has already suffered a loss from the virus in Seattle. My boyfriend's parents both have contracted the virus and his father is in an ICU actively recovering in a hospital in Virginia. This virus affects us all. I appreciate the severity of the situation. I don't want any of my elders, friends or family to suffer. I don't want any more of my family to pass away from the virus. All I want is to be able to do my job to provide food for the nation in this tumultuous time. I would be ashamed to not be able to do my part. I implore you to do what is within our power as a municipality to ensure the safety and continuation of the upcoming commercial fishing season in its entirety.

The commercial fishing industry is an essential service. We have an obligation to continue to provide a clean protein source to the state and the nation. Frozen fish and canned fish sales are at an all-time high. We do not have the luxury of excusing ourselves from our essential service. Medical professionals, manufacturers, and other food producers are functioning to the best of their abilities and we owe it to them to continue to do the same. I do not expect the industry to go forth with business as usual. Fishermen and the supporting industry must follow the mandates laid forth by the State of Alaska and you, the Cordova City Council. With adequate testing, proper quarantine periods, and a limited and regulated workforce the 2020 commercial fishing season in Area E can be a successful one. Successful in the terms of limiting Cordova's exposure to the virus and ecologically speaking by fishing the maximum sustained yields of our salmon stocks.

With so many uncertainties fear is inevitable. I hope that we can continue to make rational decisions as a community instead of caving to fear and panic. I wish only the best for our community and all my friends and family who call it home. We are all in this together and I believe we can find a compromise that will not only save lives but our way of life as well.

Thanks for your time,  
Hayley Hoover

# April 2020

**CALENDAR MONTH** APRIL  
**CALENDAR YEAR** 2020  
**1ST DAY OF WEEK** SUNDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
			6:45 Council pub hrg 7:00 Council reg mtg CCAB			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
			12:00 Council spec mtg CCAB	3:00 Council joint work session with NVETC	12:00 Council spec mtg CCAB	
					appeal period for 2020 property assessments closes	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	12:00 Council spec mtg CCAB		12:00 Council spec mtg CCAB 5:30 CTC Board Meeting 7:00 Council reg mtg CCAB	3:00 Council joint work session with NVETC		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			12:00 Council spec mtg CCAB			
	7:00 Board of Equalization hearing CCAB		6:00 CEC Board Meeting			
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
			12:00 Council spec mtg CCAB			
		6:00 P&R CCM		6:00 CCMCAB HCR		

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**Notes**

**Legend:**  
**CCAB**-Community Rms A&B  
**HSL**-High School Library




**CCA**-Community Rm A  
**CCB**-Community Rm B  
**CCM**-Mayor's Conf Rm  
**CCER**-Education Room

**LN**-Library Fireplace Nook  
**CRG**-Copper River Gallery  
**HCR**-CCMC Conference Room

Cncl - 1st & 3rd Wed  
P&Z - 2nd Tues  
SchBd, Hrb Cms - 2nd Wed  
CTC - 3rd Wed  
P&R - last Tues  
CEC - 4th Wed  
CCMCA Bd - last Thurs

# May 2020

CALENDAR MONTH	MAY
CALENDAR YEAR	2020
1ST DAY OF WEEK	SUNDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			7:00 Council reg mtg CCAB			CHS graduation 
			12:00 Council spec mtg CCAB			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		6:30 P&Z CCAB	6:00 Harbor Cms CCM 7:00 Sch Bd HSL	CSD Last Day of School		
			12:00 Council spec mtg CCAB			
			5:30 CTC Board Meeting			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	Memorial Day- City Hall Offices Closed		6:00 CEC Board Meeting			
		6:00 P&R CCM		6:00 CCMCAB HCR		
31	1	Notes				

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