WHEREAS, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) has identified COVID-19 as a significant public health risk; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a pandemic related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the City of Cordova has been operating under applicable Declarations of a Local Emergency, which remain in effect until August 18, 2021, unless repealed by City Council; and

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the State of Alaska had also been operating under applicable Declarations of Public Health Disaster Emergency signed by the Governor of the State of Alaska, Mike Dunleavy, pursuant to and in accordance with the authority granted under Alaska Statute 26.23.020(c), between March 11, 2020, and April 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Alaska, Mike Dunleavy, pursuant to and in accordance with the authority granted by the Alaska State Legislature in House Bill 76, Chapter No. 2, SLA 2021, which ratified the January 14, 2021 Declaration of Public Health Disaster Emergency, proclaimed the immediate end of the applicable Declaration of Public Health Disaster Emergency effective April 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the State of Alaska, Department of Health and Social Services, Adam Crum, pursuant to and in accordance with the authority granted by the Alaska State Legislature in House Bill 76, Chapter No. 2, SLA 2021, declared a Public Health Emergency effective at 12:02 a.m. on May 1, 2021, which shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the federal public health emergency issued under Section 319 of the Public Health Services Act expires, whichever is sooner; and

WHEREAS, the local emergency continues and has continued since City Council approved Emergency Order 2021-01 renewing and extending the City’s Declaration of Local Emergency until August 18, 2021, which was put into effect by City Manager Helen Howarth on May 20, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the City continues to be in a state of emergency but is making efforts to ensure businesses are able to continue operating without interruption to the greatest extent possible while also responsibly combating the transmission of COVID-19 among the City’s residents and visitors; and
WHEREAS, the City continues to move toward recovery but City Council finds that it is in the Community’s best interest to ensure: 1) the City has the necessary authority to adopt rules, policies, and procedures to mitigate the harms posed by COVID-19; 2) the City continues to qualify for public and private COVID-19 emergency assistance and funding; and 3) that the City has the tools necessary to respond to threats posed by COVID-19 variants, both known and unknown, as the Cordova community increases resident vaccinations; and

WHEREAS, revisions to the City’s Emergency COVID-19 Rules are needed to update references in those rules to reflect revisions to the City’s Healthcare Advisory Plan and, more specifically, the Community Outbreak Rules included in the Plan and triggered in the event a “Local Health Alert” is declared,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 1. Emergency Order 2021-02 approval. City Council hereby approves Emergency Order 2021-02.

Section 2. Emergency Declaration Extended. City Council hereby reiterates the current state of local emergency in the City arising from COVID-19 and extends the City’s Declaration of Emergency until October 1, 2021.

Section 2. Effective Date. The Declaration of Emergency extension shall become effective immediately upon adoption of this resolution and shall remain in effect until October 1, 2021, unless renewed by City Council before or retroactive to that date.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 20th DAY OF JULY 2021.

Cathy Sherman, Vice Mayor

ATTEST:

Susan Bourgeois, CMC, City Clerk
EMERGENCY ORDER 2021-02

AN EMERGENCY ORDER REVISIONING THE CITY’S COVID-19 EMERGENCY RULES TO REFLECT REVISIONS TO THE CORDOVA COVID-19 HEALTH ADVISORY PLAN AND THE “COMMUNITY OUTBREAK RULES”

WHEREAS, in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the City of Cordova (“City”) has been operating under applicable Declarations of a Local Emergency; and

WHEREAS, City Council has adopted the City of Cordova COVID-19 Health Advisory Plan (the “Plan”); and

WHEREAS, the Plan adopts the City Health Alert System, which provides a mechanism for the City Manager to declare a “Local Health Alert” when the impact of COVID-19 within Cordova deviates from its Statewide impact; and

WHEREAS, under the Plan, “Community Outbreak Rules” were adopted to provide the public notice of the restrictions that would be imposed in the event there was a Local Health Alert indicating a “Local Level 4 or 5” outbreak; and

WHEREAS, while the “Local Health Alert” procedure under the Plan continues to have value to the City in assessing and responding to COVID-19, advances in resources available to prevent and combat COVID-19 and the increasing vaccination rates within the City warrant revisions to the “Community Outbreak Rules” that would permit the Incident Command Team to take these advancements and increased vaccination rates into account when imposing restrictions during a Local Health Alert; and

WHEREAS, City Council adopted revisions to the Community Outbreak Rules affording the City Manager and Incident Command Team greater flexibility to adopt less restrictive mandates in the event a “Local Health Alert” is declared.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

Section 1. Amendments to COVID-19 Emergency Rules. City Manager Helen Howarth, in collaboration with Mayor Clay Koplin and Cordova’s Emergency Operations Center, hereby amends the “Emergency COVID-19 Rules” as follows:

Rule 4. Public Health Mandate Compliance. All individuals and entities shall comply with all COVID-19 State of Alaska public health mandates. In the event the City Manager issues an “Orange Alert,” declares that a community outbreak requires the City to deviate from State of Alaska’s color-coded health alerts and triggers the City’s local health alert system under the City’s Health Advisory Plan, all individuals entering the City must comply with the City’s “Community Outbreak Rules” if a declaration is issued by the City Manager putting these rules into effect, while the “Orange Alert” remains in effect. While in effect, the City’s Community Outbreak Rules preempt any other less-restrictive local or state rules regarding social distancing or business operations.

Section 2. In the event the declared state of emergency is repealed by City Council, the rules will automatically terminate on the effective date of that repeal.

Section 3. This Emergency Order 2021-02 and the revisions to the Emergency COVID-19 Rules shall be effective at 8:00am on July 25, 2021. This Order shall be posted on the City website, and the City Clerk shall provide City Council members notice of this Emergency Order 2021-02 and the revision of the COVID-19 Emergency Rules within five (5) days of their revision.

[Signature]  Helen Howarth, City Manager  July 20, 2021  Date