

Rogers Park Community Council

(Including Anchor Park, College Village, Woodside East and Rogers Park)

Steve Lindbeck, President
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Linda Chase, Vice-President
Mark Foster, Secretary
Ric Wilson, Treasurer
Janet Bidwell, Past President
Jim Wright, FCC Representative

Date: December 14, 2020

RPCC Resolution 2020-05

To: Meg Zaletel, Member, Anchorage Assembly
Felix Rivera, Chair, Anchorage Assembly

CC: Austin Quinn-Davidson, Acting Mayor of Anchorage
Heather Harris, Director, Anchorage Health Department
Anchorage Assembly Members

Barbara Jones, Anchorage Municipal Clerk
Anchorage School District
Federation of Community Councils

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY MEMBER MEG ZALETEL'S ADVOCACY AND ACTIONS TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND SUPPORT HOUSEHOLD RESILIENCE DURING A PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska Constitution, drafted, passed and ratified with historic knowledge of pandemics, provides that one of the responsibilities of State Government is to provide for the public health,

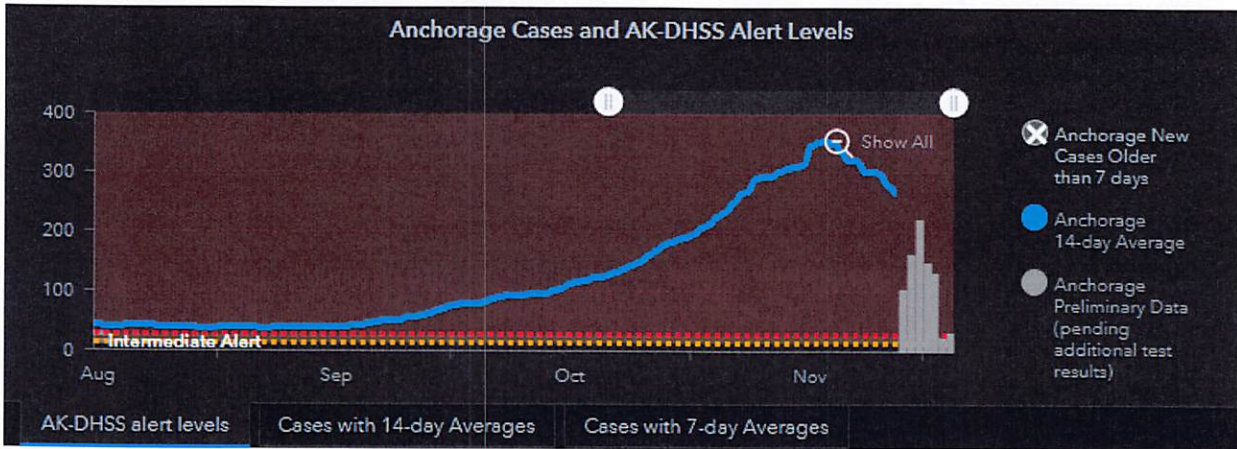
WHEREAS, State Statutes provide that home rule municipalities have the authority to regulate matters of public health,

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Anchorage, under its home rule authority, has the authority and responsibility to act on behalf of the people in its community to provide regulation and advice to protect the public health, a profound and solemn responsibility during a pandemic,

WHEREAS, recent conditions reported by the Municipality of Anchorage (acknowledging that data entry on SARS-CoV-2 positive tests has fallen behind in recent weeks so these counts may underestimate the count and underestimate trends) continue to indicate COVID-19 incidence remains on the order of at least **9 times** above the "RED LINE" for high alert public health risk on the Municipality dashboard for the COVID-19 pandemic [web image December 5, 2020, 2pm],

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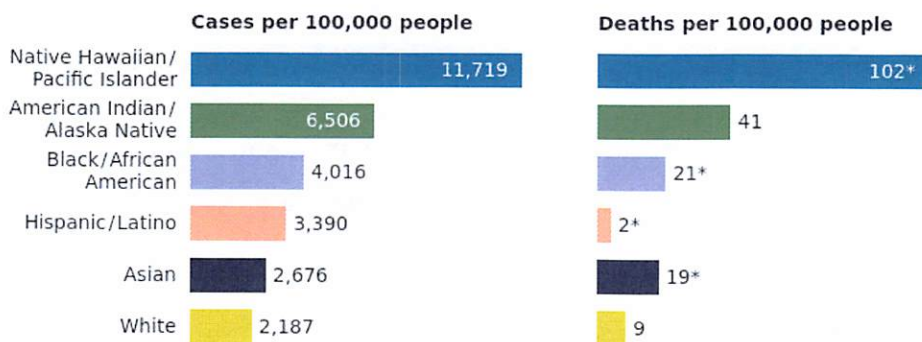
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WHEREAS, the COVID-19 test positivity rate for Anchorage reported by the State of Alaska at 7.2% (data download, December 5, 2020, 2pm) continues to run above the public health risk threshold of 5% that has been cited by the WHO as a baseline indicator of adequate testing,

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a serious disease that has a disproportionately impact on and continues to place at risk the many groups across our state and in our community who have historically been underserved by and provided limited access to health care resources [covidtracking/race/infection and mortality, web image, December 5, 2020, 2pm],

In **Alaska**, through December 4, Native Hawaiians/Pacific Islanders were most likely to have contracted COVID-19 and were also most likely to have died.



Notes: Alaska has reported race data for 78% of cases and 93% of deaths, and ethnicity data for 55% of cases and 79% of deaths. Graphic only includes demographic groups reported by the state. Race categories are mutually exclusive and include both Hispanic/Latino and non-Hispanic/Latino ethnicity.

* Based on fewer than 10 deaths among members of this race/ethnicity. Interpret with caution.



WHEREAS, COVID-19 presents a high risk of serious disease to roughly 2/3rd of the adults in our state, [hss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/blog/20201117.aspx]

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WHEREAS, International evidence suggests that many countries that have focused on saving people first have also limited the economic cost of the pandemic [Martin Wolf, Chief Economics Commentator, Financial Times, November 24, 2020, “What the World Can Learn from the COVID-19 Pandemic”, citing <https://www.ineteconomics.org/perspectives/blog/to-save-the-economy-save-people-first>]

COVID-19 Lives Versus Livelihoods



WHEREAS, historic evidence in the U.S. suggests that communities that focused on saving people first not only limited the economic cost of the pandemic, but positioned themselves for a strong economic recovery in the year after the pandemic:

At a minimum, our estimates reject that cities with stricter nonpharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) experienced a large decline in employment and output in the years following the pandemic, relative to cities with lenient NPIs. If anything, high NPI cities experience a relative increase in economic activity from 1919 onwards.

[https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/Papers.cfm?abstract_id=3561560, June 5, 2020, *Pandemics Depress the Economy, Public Health Interventions Do Not: Evidence from the 1918 flu*, S. Correia, Federal Reserve Board of Governors, S. Luck, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, E. Verner, MIT Sloan School of Management]

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Rogers Park Community Council supports Assembly Member Meg Zaletel in her advocacy, as co-chair of the Assembly Public Health Policy Committee, for following science and best practice in public health guidance and regulation of local activities to help reduce the incidence of the COVID-19 and our collective community risk of serious disease, hospitalizations and mortality, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Rogers Park Community Council endorses Assembly Member Meg Zaletel's advocacy and actions in support of continuing to provide financial, social and moral support to those who are experiencing hardship as a result of the pandemic.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS **APPROVED** by the Rogers Park Community Council on DECEMBER 14, 2020, by a vote of: FOR 17, AGAINST 2, ABSTAIN 1.



Steve Lindbeck
President
Rogers Park Community Council