

## MARCH 27: COVID-19 UPDATE

The Port of Seattle has been responding to the outbreak of [2019 Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) since public health officials confirmed the first case of the virus in the United States in Washington state. This weekly update summarizes Port actions to maintain the health, safety, and well-being of our employees, travelers, and community, while maintaining essential operations.

Information changes rapidly. Please bookmark [our website](#) and check social media channels daily.

### IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

- The 2020 cruise season is indefinitely suspended until the resolution of the public health emergency. [Read the press release.](#)
- This week, the Port of Commission hosted its first-ever virtual meeting. Port leadership shared presentations on the [Port's COVID-19 Financial Overview](#), including impacts to the airport and cruise season, and the [Maritime Division COVID-19 Response](#).

## Actions and protocols at Port of Seattle facilities



### AT SEATTLE-TACOMA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (SEA)

- Airlines operating at SEA suspended international flights or reduced service to over 15 destinations. There are now 321 international flights cancelled for March and 552 cancelled for April. Airlines flying domestic routes significantly reduced flights across networks.
- SEA installed 231 hand sanitizer stations throughout the terminal and airport facilities. [Check the SEA App for an interactive map of hand sanitizer locations.](#)
  - [Here's how the Port is keeping our facilities clean and safe](#)
- We added good hygiene and best practices messages to our skybridges, our checkpoints, our international arrivals areas, and public address overhead announcements in multiple languages.
- To help prevent the spread of travel-related cases of coronavirus in the U.S., the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a notice of arrival restrictions outlining the process for American citizens, legal permanent residents, and their immediate families who are returning home after recently visiting certain European countries, China, and Iran. Arrival protocols change frequently; [follow DHS for the latest information](#).
- Some restaurants are open with reduced operating hours and food service only for grab-and-go and orders to go. [Latest blog on dining and retail adjustments.](#)
- At the March 24 Commission meeting, Port of Seattle Executive Director Steve Metruck announced that the Port would provide 90-days of financial relief to on-demand taxi and flat-rate drivers serving SEA Airport by deferring per-trip fees. Commissioners offered their support for his action.



Hand sanitizer and signage at SEA



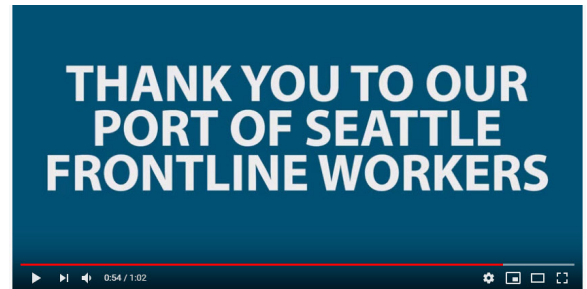
## AT MARITIME FACILITIES

- The 2020 cruise season is indefinitely suspended until the resolution of the public health emergency. [Read the press release.](#)
- The decision to delay the launch of the 2020 cruise season came after reviewing multiple options with our cruise operators, the United States Coast Guard, public health authorities, and local leaders.
- Some business at Fishermen's Terminal are open and operating under proper protocols while the North Pacific Fishing Fleet prepares for the fishing season.
- The Port closed parking lots at Jack Block, Terminal 107, and Terminal 105 parks to support the statewide "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order and discourage gatherings.



## FOR EMPLOYEES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Port of Seattle Commission meetings will be held virtually until the public health crisis subsides.
- Moving meetings and information sessions to virtual platforms or postponing; extending deadlines for grant applications or other community programs where appropriate.
- Only "essential" workers are permitted onsite, which are employees performing work to maintain our core functions. This designation as "essential" is only related to critical operations during this public health emergency.
- Creating public videos about COVID-19 response and making them available to all [airport employees](#) via YouTube.
- Printing a COVID-19 fact sheet for airport employees, translated into multiple languages.
- Coordinating regional emergency response with the state, county, city, and other leaders.



*Thank you Port of Seattle Frontline Workers*  
[video on YouTube](#)



## HOW YOU CAN STAY HEALTHY

- Public health officials recommend personal hygiene and frequent hand washing as the best way to prevent illness.
- Wash your hands frequently, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick and stay home when sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Check in with your airline if you have questions about your travel itinerary.
- While not protective against novel coronavirus, public health officials also recommend the influenza vaccine. It's not too late to get an influenza vaccine, since flu season can last into spring.
- Governor Inslee's "[Stay Home, Stay Healthy](#)" order is in effect. It is important we lean into the Governor's order to achieve its societal benefits of flattening the curve of the number of people that are infected with COVID-19.