APRIL 10: COVID-19 UPDATE

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:

- Need answers on small business relief? The Port has collaborated with regional partners to offer free webinars about small business relief options. Register and learn more at our website.
- The Port of Seattle temporarily suspended current construction projects from April 9 to 13 to complete reviews and updates of contractors’ jobsite safety plans, an action necessary to protect workers and slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Read more.

Actions and protocols at Port of Seattle facilities

AT SEATTLE-TACOMA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (SEA)

- SEA is open and operating, but it is not business as usual right now. See how SEA maintains essential cargo operations during COVID-19.

- Overall daily flights are down by two-thirds compared to normal operations. Airlines suspended international flights and reduced service, and domestic routes are significantly reduced.

- 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.

- Explore how to support local businesses at the airport without traveling.

- We update this SEA operations status page when Port or airport employees who work directly with the public are confirmed to test positive for COVID-19.

- 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.
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.

FOR EMPLOYEES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

• Explore this blog post on how the federal CARES Act will benefit our region.

• 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.

• Need answers on small business relief? The Port has collaborated with regional partners to offer free webinars about small business relief options. Register and learn more at our website.

• Coordinating regional emergency response with the state, county, city, and other leaders.

HOW YOU CAN STAY HEALTHY

• 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.

• On April 3, 2020 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offered a new recommendation that people living in areas with significant community-based spread of COVID-19, such as King County, voluntarily wear a cloth face covering when they are in a public setting where maintaining a physical distance of six feet away from others may be difficult.

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