APRIL 3: 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:

- This week, the Port Commission approved an immediate, short-term emergency financial relief package for airport-based businesses, barred evictions of tenants at Port facilities (including live-aboard residents) due to an inability to pay rent through June 30, 2020 and authorized the Executive Director to provide additional immediate relief to Port tenants such as maritime and real estate tenants. Read more about the relief and recovery strategies for Port tenants.
- Explore this blog post on how the federal CARES Act will benefit our region.

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.
- Airlines operating at SEA suspended international flights and reduced service. There are 321 international flights cancelled for March, 573 cancelled for April, and 131 in May. Airlines flying domestic routes significantly reduced flights across networks.
- Some of SEA's dining options are still open for passengers with essential travel. Latest blog on dining and retail adjustments.
- 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.

• The Port and NWSA made sections of Terminal 46 available for trailers, container equipment and storage needs in support of the U.S. Army’s Field Hospital 10 at Century Link Exhibition Center. Read the statement.

• 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.

Sections of Terminal 46 have been made available to the US Army to support the Army Field Hospital at Century Link Exhibition Center.

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.

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.

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