



City and Borough of Juneau
City & Borough Manager's Office
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DATE: December 22, 2020

TO: Sen. Gary Stevens, Legislative Council Chair

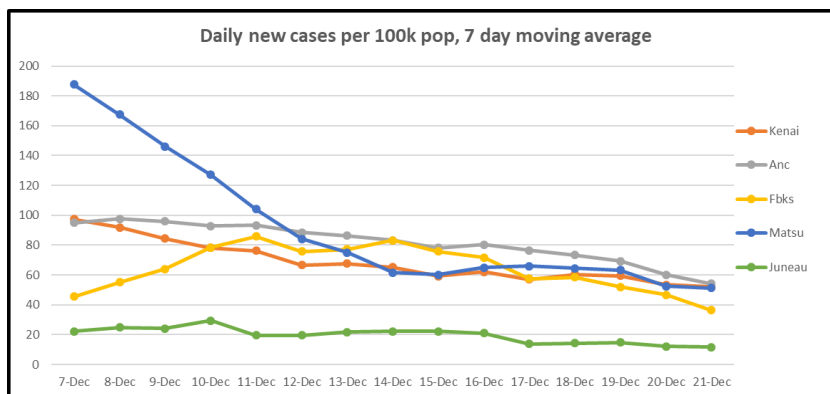
FROM: Mila Cosgrove, Deputy City Manager,
Incident Commander, City and Borough of Juneau Emergency Operations Center

RE: CBJ readiness for the Legislative Session

The City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska's Capital City, is looking forward to hosting the 2021 Legislative session. Given the unique environment created by the COVID pandemic, CBJ thought it would be helpful to outline what legislators and staff can expect during session.

Community Pandemic Response:

Juneau has an effective Covid response team and is ready to assist the legislature in meeting safely. This includes access to testing, community mitigation measures designed to reduce risk of exposure to people who are out and about in the community, mobile integrated health team that can provide services on site, and community transparency regarding efforts to reduce COVID exposure. While our numbers are always subject to change, at the present time, Juneau has the lowest COVID positivity rate (adjusted for population) of any major urban area in the state.



Housing and Hospitality

The CBJ Assembly, working through the Alaska Committee, has made funds available to assure adequate housing for session. Currently, the Alaska Committee is running an RFP process to identify and assist in creating a robust list of options tailored for all housing needs. In addition, our local restaurants and bars remain open and are well practiced in serving the community safely.

Local Testing Capacity

The CBJ runs a local testing operation that includes on site testing as needed. In addition, the community has just received delivery of the Roche Cobas 6800 a high volume PCR testing machine that will allow 24 hour turnaround for COVID testing. The machine was just installed, staff training is occurring and we expect to be fully operational in mid January.

In addition, testing at the Juneau International Airport is available free of charge to all arriving passengers. Testing at the airport is efficient and turnaround times are quick.

Local Medical Services:

In the unfortunate event that someone tests positive for COVID and needs medical care, Bartlett Regional Hospital provides high quality medical services. All standard medical care is available including remdesivir, monoclonals, and dexamethasone treatments. Should a patient need a higher level of care, medevac services to Anchorage or Seattle are available through multiple airlift services.

Juneau looks forward to hosting legislators and staff in the upcoming session. We stand ready to work with legislative leadership to provide the best environment possible for the important work ahead.