

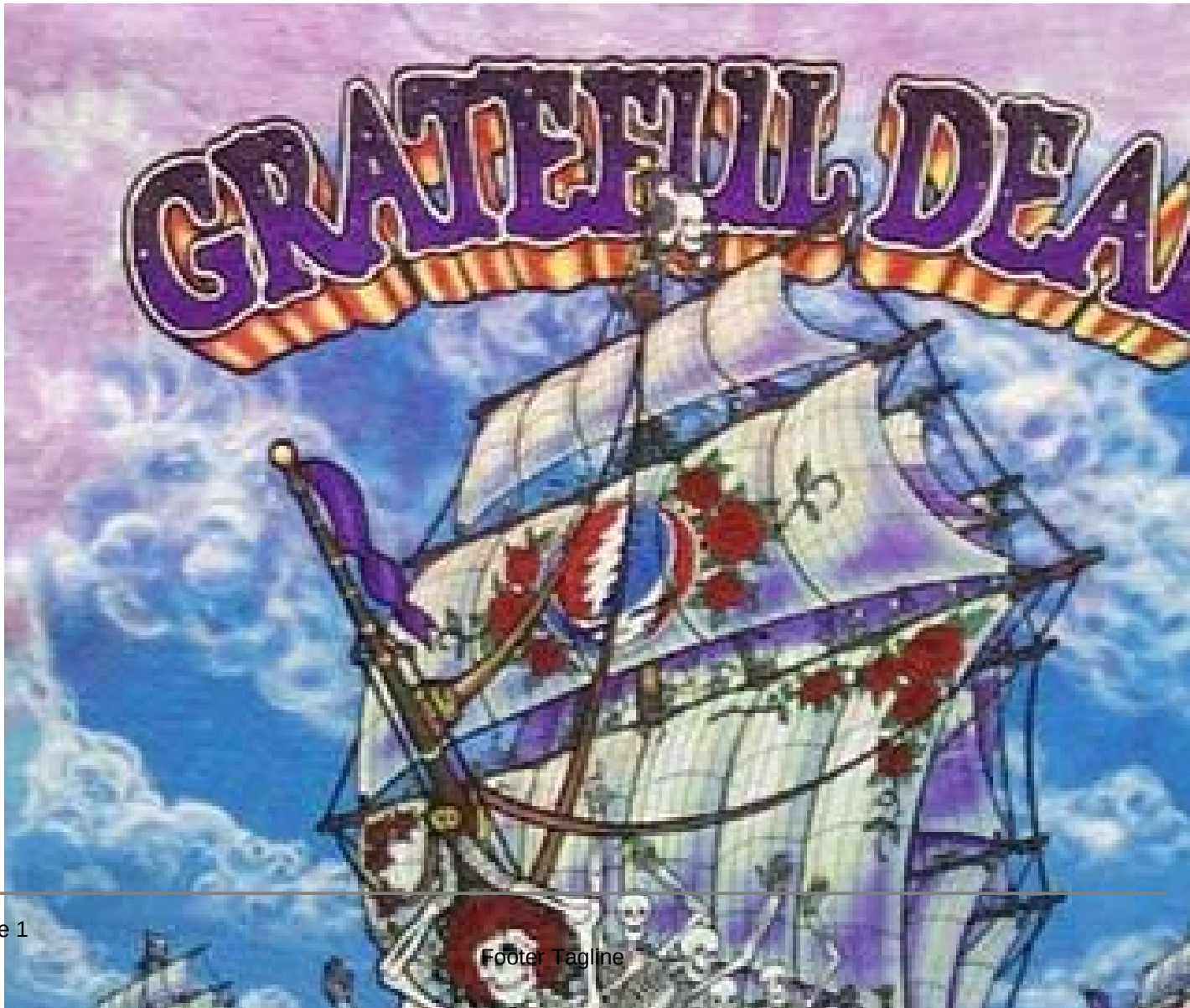


Alaska's Covid Pandemic Battle

Description

Ship of Fools Fights Covid-19 at Anchorage

This story has been updated since its original posting February, 2021 but reflects this writer's understanding of the situation at the time..



This iconic **Grateful Dead** album cover portrays a heartless and soulless frigate group entering a landmine field.
We now know more about what happened.

Some might think our recent Covid-19 Pandemic was mitigated by destroying the private sector economy of Anchorage. Looking over the events of the last year, and comparing outcomes by community, we now know lockdowns made no difference. However, the Anchorage lockdown will surely make it more difficult to return to normalcy in Alaska's largest city.

Ultimately Alaskans would learn that Masks were of no consequence but only caused government to impose ever more rules and mandates in the name of SAFETY.

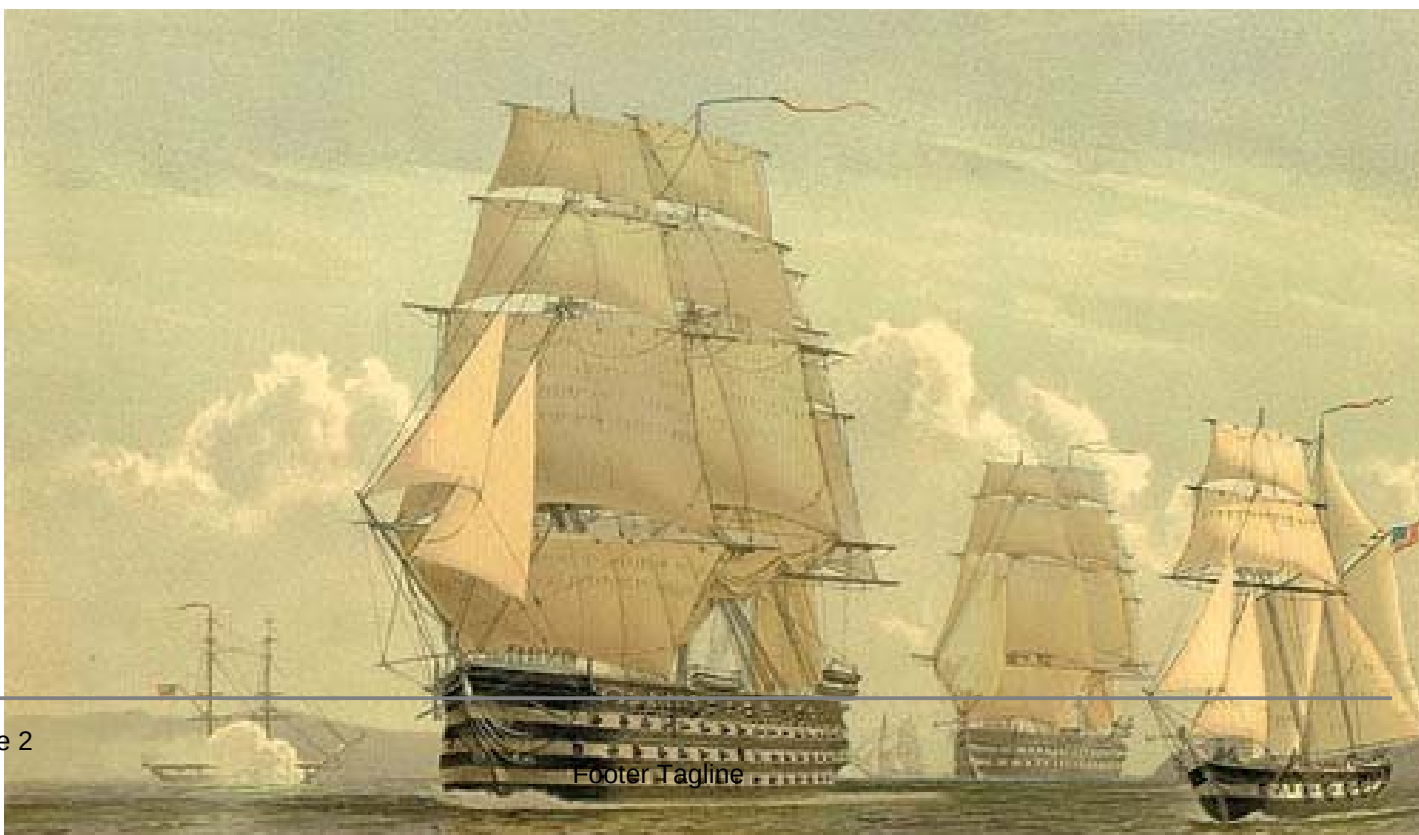
[1]Senator Reinbold Sues Seattle Airlines

A capable captain of any ship strives to reach the chosen destination with as few turns as necessary—a degree or two course change at a time—given requirements of wind and current. When the weather kicks up or other vessels come in proximity of a ship underway the prudent helmsman adjusts as necessary. If calamity should occur the full capability of the ship is assured by protecting means of propulsion and steerage. This is also the rational approach to running any large commercial or government organization; **STEADY AS SHE GOES!**

As the one year marker approaches since China released what we call Covid-19 on the world, this might be a good time to examine how Alaska governmental bodies steered their various vessels through the storm; the ship of the line **State of Alaska**, the frigates **Matsu Borough**, **City of Wasilla**, **City of Palmer** and **Municipality of Anchorage**, all faced the same storm in southcentral Alaska, and all were steered by captains and crew elected by the passengers to provide safe and secure passage.

We can see on e year in from the data what approach to addressing the calamity has made any difference.

The ship of the line *State of Alaska*



USS Pennsylvania (centre foreground) and North Carolina (centre background), ships of the line of the U.S. Navy from the early and mid-19th century. In this 1897 chromolithograph after a watercolour by maritime illustrator Frederick S. Cozzens, the two ships of the line are shown as if accompanied by two navy brigs from earlier in the 19th century (left background and right foreground).

Once the backbone of the world's great navies from the mid-17th century through the mid-19th century, this warship had a high superstructure on its stern and usually carried heavy guns along two decks, according to *Encyclopedia Britannica*. These were the heavy fighting ships that formed a line with each about 100 yards apart stretching as long as 12 miles in a formation for battle. This strategy broke from the previous tactics of individual ships engaging enemy vessels one on one.

[2] Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia (2014, July 20). Ship of the line. Encyclopedia Britannica.

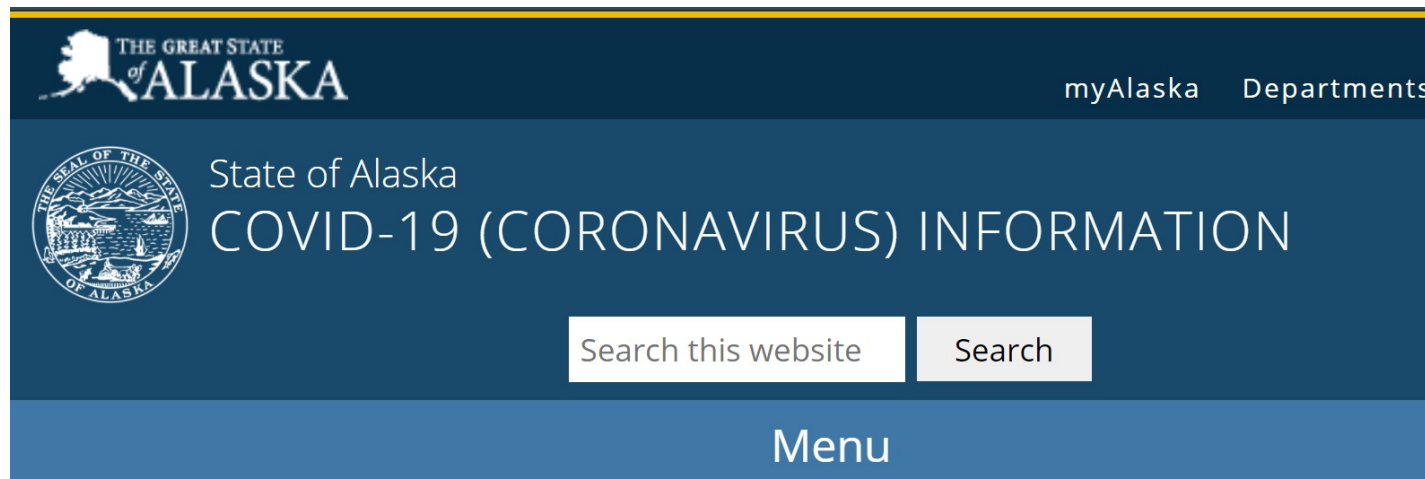
Our Coronavirus war began when a flight returning Americans from Wuhan China landed in Anchorage on January 28, 2020. The **State of Alaska** was on the line as the last airplane allowed to land in the US from China touched down to refuel at **Ted Stevens International Airport** with Americans coming home.

[3] Anchorage Daily News, Flight With US Evacuees, January 29, 2020

The plane, a government-chartered cargo jetliner, held American passengers who were evacuating from the area where the coronavirus outbreak began. Passengers on the plane were screened twice before leaving China, according to **Alaska Chief Medical Officer Dr. Anne Zink, MD, FACEP**, and they were continuously monitored by medics during the Tuesday flight.

Today, February 17, 2021, these are the official State

Covid-19 recommendations for Alaskans:



Protect Yourself and Others

Together we can slow the spread of COVID-19 and keep our communities safe.



Practice Good Hygiene

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds, practice good hygiene, and cover any cough or sneeze.

Don't touch your face with unwashed hands.



Practice Social Distancing

When you have to leave home, keep a minimum of six feet away from others at all times.



Wear a Mask

The state does not require the use of masks by the public, however health and science experts recommended that you wear a mask in public wherever social distancing is challenging.



Get Tested If

If you are experiencing symptoms, isolate from others and call for a test. If you are tested. If you have symptoms, call your doctor for attention, call your local health department for more information.

Your Health & Safety is our Top Priority.

Do your part and follow the orders and alerts issued by the State of Alaska and your local government. Your actions can save the life of another.

COVID-19 Outbreak Health Ord

There are a few things we strongly advise all Alaskans do to minimize the risk of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands
- Wear a mask when around others
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others when possible
- Keep your interactions and circles small when possible.
- Even for mild symptoms get tested.

At this time the State of Alaska does not order the general use of masks, limit group size, or business operations but does encourage Alaskans to do their part to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Does the State of Alaska order the use of masks by the public?

No. The state does not require the use of masks by the public, however health and science recommended that you wear a mask in public where social distancing is challenging to reduce the likelihood that you unknowingly spread COVID-19.

Can a business or entity require masks?

Yes. Private companies and entities can enact their own requirements.

Does the State of Alaska require masks in State of Alaska facilities?

Yes. On July 22, Governor Dunleavy ordered that: *"All employees, contractors, and visitors to State of Alaska facilities must wear a facemask if social distancing of at least six feet or more between individuals cannot be maintained. This applies to entryways, hallways, stairwells, elevators, and parking areas, and personal offices where a six-foot distance cannot be exercised."*

Can a local community have more restrictions than the state?

Yes, check with local communities as it pertains to non-essential travel off of the road system. Alaska has many small and remote communities that lack a robust healthcare system and may restrict non-essential travel. [View local and borough websites here.](#)

Leadership by the Alaska Legislature

The outbreak caused the **Alaska Legislature** to jump ship into abrupt adjournment. It was up to Captain **Michael Dunleavy** to determine how the ship of state should be run. He depended upon **National CDC** recommendations and advice by Alaska health officials. On March 11, 2020 Gov. Dunleavy declared a **Statewide Health Emergency**. His first COVID-19 HEALTH MANDATE was issued March 13, 2020, to expire November 15, 2020. This initial mandate suspended visitations at prisons, juvenile justice facilities, **Alaska Military Youth Academy** and **Alaska Psychiatric Institute** with limited visitations at **Alaska Pioneer Homes**. A total of 18 HEALTH MANDATES would be ordered by Gov. Dunleavy over the coming three months under this order.

The governor had the authority and responsibility to do this. Some have objected to the mandates.

In his **3rd State of the State Address** Gov. Dunleavy reflected on how Alaskans joined the fight:

*I remember a meeting last spring with a few members of my amazing health team. We were on a video call with **Hans Vogel** who owns a manufacturing company in Palmer. We dumped a bunch of PPE and testing supplies on a table, and asked if there was anything here he could make. As we all know, Hans and Triverus ended up making over 100,000 swabs for testing when we needed them the most.*

*Distilleries stepped up and began producing hand sanitizer. Everyday Alaskans organized charity campaigns and food drives out of the goodness of their hearts. Heroes like **John Sturgeon** used their business connections overseas to secure an entire aircraft full of PPE when every other state was struggling to source supplies.*

*The **University of Alaska** graduated 260 nurses to the pandemic frontlines as well as 400 contact tracers. With the help of the Legislature, many of these nurses were graduated early thanks to nearly 300 regulatory suspensions that took place under the emergency declaration.*

Government **Regulatory Suspensions for new nurses;**

wasn't that easy?

We created the first traveler testing program in the nation, catching nearly 2,400 cases of COVID at our airports. We held a safe summer fishing season that many told us wouldn't be possible.

[4] COVID-29 HEALTH MANDATE, March 13, 2020

On November 16, 2020 Gov. Dunleavy had renewed the declaration of a Public Health Disaster from the Covid-19 outbreak based on over 17,000 confirmed cases of the disease and 84 deaths. By January 12, Alaska had over 47,000 confirmed cases and 222 deaths with a new strain of the SARS-CoV-2 spreading in the United States, identified as being more contagious than the original strain. But the light shown at the end of the tunnel.

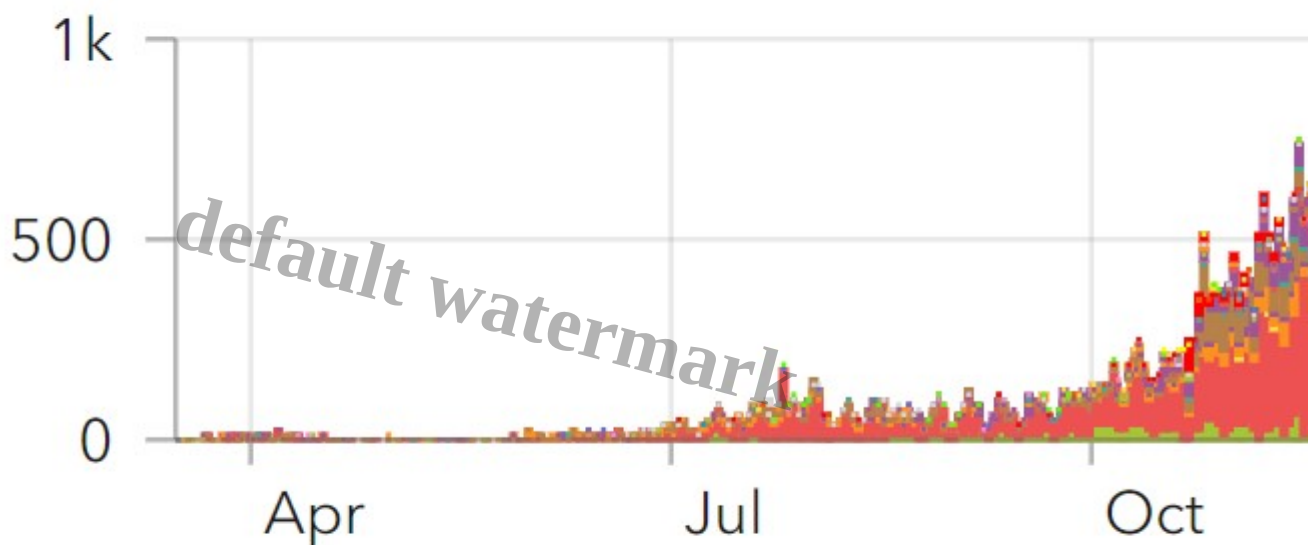
Quick math: $222/47,000 = 0.0047234042553191\%$ Death Rate

[5]Health Orders issued so far.

[6] Dunleavy Emergency Health Orders, 11/15/20

The curve had been flattened, Alaska's ship of the line was still fighting, and the battle still raged. Consolidation of previous health orders were set January 15, 2021.

COVID-19 Cases by Report Date



Includes "confirmed" and "probable". Report submitted to DHSS, not the onset date of symptoms.

The site shown below was accessible when I originally wrote this story but requires sign-in credentials now:

<https://alaska-coronavirus-vaccine-outreach-alaska-dhss.hub.arcgis.com/app/6a5932d709ef4ab1b868188a4c757b4f>

Never let a good Crisis go to waste

[7]Origin of the phrase: *Never let a good crisis go to waste.*

On January 25, 2021 Gov. Dunleavy introduced legislation (SB 56) relating to the extension of the public health disaster order previously issued on January 15, 2021, giving the **Alaska Legislature** the opportunity to fish or cut bait. The legislature is now underway and federal disaster funds are now at stake.

[8]Emergency Health Order 1 links

State Covid-19 disaster status ended February 14.

Posted statewide covid-19 status in mid-February:

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The Latest COVID-19

Updated at Noon Daily. [View detailed data at the link](#)

No New Resident
Cases to Report

Total Resident Cases

54,282

Cumulative (includes recovered cases)

No New Nonresident
Cases to Report

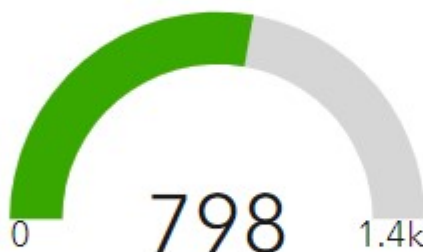
Total Nonresident Cases

2,128

Cumulative (includes recovered cases)

General Acute

Inpatient Bed
Capacity



Number of inpatient beds occupied out of total. (Includes COVID and non-COVID patients)

ICU Bed C



Number of ICU beds occupied out of total. (Includes COVID and non-COVID patients)

Frigates in the Battle Group

Early sailing frigates were smaller and faster than ship of the line vessels but still capable of considerable firepower. Armament on frigates was aligned on a single gun deck with additional guns at other strategic locations. And, while these ships could not stand up to ships of the line in fleet engagements, they served as scouts or as escorts in the battle group, or in protecting merchant convoys from privateers and enemy raiders.

[9]Governor Dunleavy Introduces Bill to Extend Public Health Disaster, January 25, 2021

Every municipal government in Alaska represents a frigate in this past year of battle against Covid-19.

Frigate *Matsu Borough*

Orderly operation of the vessel was the order by Captain **Vern Halter**. While the Borough code provides for 1.25.020 EMERGENCY ORDINANCES none was required. The primary mission of the borough was to inform residents of the situation and distribute federal CARES ACT funds to support the economic engine of small business:

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MATANUS

MSB Home

Home

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Total: Alaska Confirme...

56,008

DHSS

Source: [Cumulative Cases Map Table All](#)

The Matsu Borough distributed some \$10.5 Million to 652 approved applicants.

<https://msbcares.matsugov.us/>

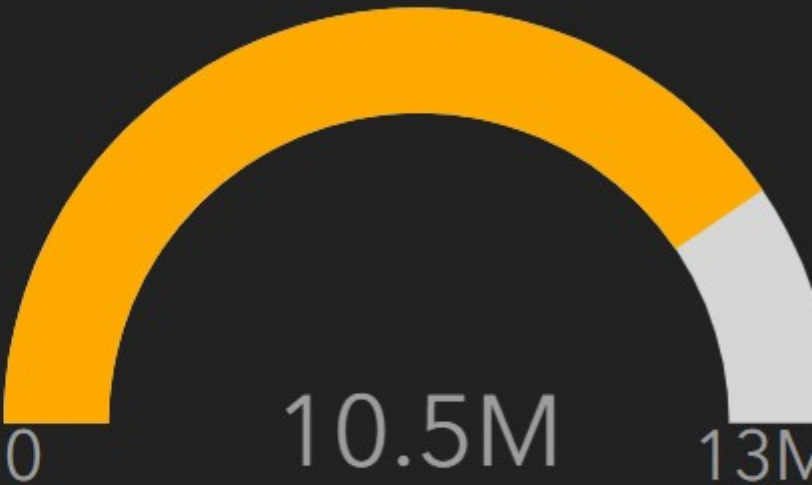
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USKA-SUSITNA

GovernmentServicesDepartments

t Distribution Dashboard

Total Amount of Funds Distributed



This local government imposed no additional mandates beyond what the state had set.

Frigate City of Wasilla

At the onset, on March 27, 2020 Captain **Bert Cottle** issued an Emergency Order providing precautionary measures in anticipation of a Covid outbreak. This was in response to Emergency order of Gov. Mike Dunleavy. The **Wasilla City Council** extended that order by Resolution Serial No. 20-13 which stated in part: *the Emergency Proclamation Declaration of Public Health Disaster shall continue until the conditions related to COVID-19 and this Public Health Disaster are resolved and the City has issued a proclamation terminating the Emergency Proclamation Declaration or until a subsequent Proclamation or Resolution related to this Disaster is issued.*

The primary concern was for welfare of the passengers and operation of the engine powering the fastest growing region of the state. State orders were enough, although Borough facilities were closed. An election brought a new Captain, former deputy mayor **Glenda D. Ledford**, to the command helm. At the January 25, 2021 Regular Meeting Captain Ledford reported to the city council that she had not instituted any new regulations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. At the February 10, Wasilla City Council meeting Relief and Recovery Grants Program Phase V funding was approved.

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Summary Statement: From July 14, 2020, the City of Wasilla offered four different phases to assist the community. There have been small business grants, personal assistance (e.g., mortgage and rental assistance), and unemployment amounts provided through these grant programs.

<u>Summary:</u>	<u>Small Business</u>
Phase I	555,800.00
Phase II	792,800.00
Phase III	556,400.00
Phase IV	594,800.00
Sub-total:	2,499,800.00
Return of Funds (Phase IV)	
Direct Expense	33,415.74
Total:	2,533,215.74

Administration now wishes to offer an additional phase as part of Phase V that would mirror the previous phases for profit entities located within the City of Wasilla from February 9, 2021, through March 19, 2021, to address COVID19 impacts to the City of Wasilla.

The goal was protecting and serving the good people who pay taxes and contribute to the well-being of the community.

Frigate *City of Palmer*

Again, this historic community followed the leadership of the ship of the line ***State of Alaska***, and when a mask mandate was proposed, it took three Special Meetings and the testimony of many locals to finally revert to the State standard.

Ord

Subject: Emergency Ordinance Issuing M

Agenda of: November 18, 2020 (Wedne

Council Action: ☐ **Adopted**
☒ **Defeated**

Orig

Originator: Deputy Mayor Sabrena

Summary Statement/Background:

The COVID-19 pandemic has generated a public health system, endangering the lives and well-being of our citizens, asking citizens to remain diligent in social distancing.

The CDC recommends wearing masks and practicing physical distancing. In line with his recommendation, the City Council will preserve the health and safety of our community.

The City Council has the authority to issue a resolution.

State Mandates were considered adequate. By the time the resolution was reduced from a requirement to a recommendation the wind was out of the sails.

Main Motion: To Approve Ordinance

Moved by:	Combs
Seconded by:	Daniels

City of Palmer, Alaska: December 4, 2020, Continued City Council

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Primary Amendment #1: To Replace

Moved by:	Daniels
Seconded by:	Combs
Vote:	4 Yes/3 No (
Action:	Motion Carri

Vote on Motion: To Approve Ordinance

Vote:	3 Yes/4 No (Best, Carring
Action:	Motion Failed

Frigate *Ship of Fools* at Anchorage

Quick to recognize a good crisis must never go to waste, Captain **Ethan Berkowitz** brought his frigate at Anchorage to face the challenge by immediately issuing mandates shutting down businesses and alienating Anchorage residents from those elites acting from the poop deck. No government employee missed a paycheck.

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MUNICIPALITY OF

Office of the Mayor



Mayor Ethan

MUNICIPALITY OF PROCLAMATION OF ADDITIONAL IN RESPONSE

ISSUED BY THE MAYOR OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 3

I HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY
OF 5:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2020, TO THE
MUNICIPALITY. THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY
SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL 11:59 P.M.
SUPERSEDE ALL CONFLICTING LAWS DURING

With a stroke of his pen Captain Berkowitz ordered everybody to their cabins. His majesty would go on to issue detailed mandates and prohibitions for every activity of crew and passengers.

Emergency Order 9 on May 11, 2020 (Phase Two) was heartily endorsed by Hizzonerâ??s majority on the Municipal Assembly provided a total lockdown.[9]

The largest city in the state was fighting the battle at anchorage. We all then witnessed Mayor Berkowitzâ?? abrupt resignation effective October 23, 2020 in disgrace, for a â??consensual, inappropriate messaging relationshipâ?• with a local television anchor.

[10] Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia (2017, January 26). *Frigate*. *Encyclopedia Britannica*. <https://www.britannica.com/technology/frigate>

The soap opera continued with an unelected Acting Mayor **Austin Quinn-Davidson** picking up the effort with EO-15 on November 25, 2020. It contained 5-1/2 pages of renewed â??Hunker Downâ?• emergency mandate clarifications. This was getting easier because so many businesses had already been shut down to never return, although some were still trying to stay viable. On January 18, 2021 Acting Mayor Quinn-Davidson issued EO-18 â??Easing Up.â?•

Eagle River/Chugiak was far enough away to miss direct fire from the Municipality of Anchorage as she floundered, while our two representatives on the 11-member Assembly attempted to bring reason to deliberations.

Letâ??s look at the numbers now that the battle is being won.

Anchorage population: 291,538

State population: 737,438 = 39.6% of the state lives in Anchorage.

<https://datausa.io/profile/geo/anchorage-ak/>

Matanuska-Susitna Borough population: 103,464 = 14% of the state population.

<https://datausa.io/profile/geo/matanuska-susitna-borough-ak#demographics>

State Covid-19 cases as shown above: 54,282.

Anchorage Cases: 25,582 = 47% of state cases in Anchorage.

Matsu cases: 7946 = 14% of state cases in Matsu Borough.

With 39.6% of the population Anchorage had 47% of cases. With 14% of the state population, Matsu Borough had 14% of cases.

Finally, state deaths from covid-19 have been 280 souls. Anchorage deaths are 152, which equals 54% of the state total. With 31 recorded deaths Matsu Borough had 11% of the deaths. A review of the Muni.org webpage will reveal a very complicated array of means to expand government with CARES Relief funds. Matsu Borough relief funds went primarily to local business and individuals.

Recovery of the frigate *Municipality of Anchorage* is going to be difficult and the spectacle has been regrettable as local residents were shut out of Assembly meetings and cut off for having views differing from local elected officials.

From the song by Grateful Dead:

Ship of fools on a cruel sea

Ship of fools sail away from me

It was later than I thought when I first believed you

Now I cannot share your laughter, ship of fools

References:

[1] Senator Reinbold Sues Seattle Airlines

<https://donnliston.net/2023/05/senator-reinbold-sues-seattle-airlines/>

[2] Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia (2014, July 20). Ship of the line. Encyclopedia Britannica.

<https://www.britannica.com/technology/ship-of-the-line>

[3] Anchorage Daily News, Flight With US Evacueesâ, January 29, 2020

<https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/2020/01/29/flight-with-us-evacuees-from-china-set-to-land-in-anchorage-where-passengers-will-be-rescreened-for-virus/>

[4] COVID-29 HEALTH MANDATE, March 13, 2020

http://dhss.alaska.gov/News/Documents/press/2020/SOA_03132020_COVID-19_HealthMandate.pdf

[5] Dunleavy looks Back on One Year of COVID-19 with 3rd State of the State address, January 28, 2021

<https://gov.alaska.gov/newsroom/2021/01/28/dunleavy-looks-back-on-one-year-of-covid-19/>

<https://gov.alaska.gov/newsroom/2021/01/28/governor-dunleavy-to-deliver-virtual-state-of-the-state-address-to-alaskans/>

[6] Dunleavy Emergency Health Orders, 11/15/20

<https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-order/>

[7] Origin of the Statement Never let a good crisis go to waste.

The âPoliticalâ use of the phrase âNever let a good crisis go to wasteâ is based upon the points made in **Saul Alinskyâs** book **Rules for Radicals**, page 89, in the section marked communication: âin the arena of action, a threat or a crisis becomes almost a precondition to communication.â Therefore, any crisis can be used to force the need for control. If the crisis is allowed to continue long enough people will cry out to government, for relief from the result of the crisis.

[8] Emergency Health Order 1 links

<https://covid19.alaska.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/01.15.21-Outbreak-Health-Order-No-1-Suspension-of-Laws-DD4.pdf>

Appendix to Order 1

<https://covid19.alaska.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/01.15.21-Outbreak-Health-Order-No-1-Appendix-A-Final-DD4.pdf>

[9] Governor Dunleavy Introduces Bill to Extend Public Health Disaster, January 25, 2021

<https://gov.alaska.gov/newsroom/2021/01/25/governor-dunleavy-introduces-bill-to-extend-public-health-disaster/>

[10] Britannica, T. Editors of Encyclopaedia (2017, January 26). *Frigate*. *Encyclopedia Britannica*.

<https://www.britannica.com/technology/frigate>

[11] Municipality of Anchorage, Proclamation of Emergency Order 09, May 11, 2020

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Municipality of Anchorage

Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY ORDER EO-09 PHASE TWO: RECOVERY

ISSUED BY THE MAYOR OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE PURSUANT TO ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 3.80.060H.

The COVID-19 pandemic has generated a public health emergency that threatens to overwhelm our health system, endangering the lives and wellbeing of the people of Anchorage. More than a month of hunkering down has resulted in a flatter curve and prevented the exponential growth of cases. In conjunction with the State we are ready to begin the process of slowly getting Anchorage back to business, with significant precautions in place. This order is put forward to preserve the health and safety of our community while taking the first step to open the economy.

I HEREBY ORDER THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO PRESERVE LIFE IN AND ADJACENT TO THE MUNICIPALITY. THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS BEGIN AT 8:00 A.M. ON MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020 AND REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL MODIFIED. THIS ORDER REPLACES EO-07 version 1.

1. Everyone currently in the Municipality of Anchorage (the "Municipality") shall limit outings and physical contact with those outside their household. On the occasions when individuals leave home, they should maintain physical distancing of at least six feet from any person outside their household whenever possible. Even with physical distancing, individuals may not gather in groups of more than 50 people. Individuals are also strongly encouraged to practice recommended hygiene, including wearing a cloth face covering or mask whenever in public and regular hand washing.
2. It is strongly recommended, in accordance with CDC guidance, that certain individuals within the Municipality should take even greater precaution. Anyone particularly at-risk from COVID-19 should reduce exposure by staying at home, not physically going to work, and not doing their own shopping if possible. People particularly at risk of complications from COVID-19 include those 60 years and older and individuals of any age with a serious underlying medical condition. Household members of those who are at elevated risk should implement these more stringent guidelines as well, to the extent possible.
3. Individuals likely to be contagious with COVID-19 are required to reduce contact with others even further.
 - a. People who are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 (including the following symptoms when not attributable to other known causes: coughing, shortness of breath, and fever) shall stay home except to seek medical care. Businesses shall not knowingly permit symptomatic employees or others likely to be contagious with COVID-19 to work outside the home.
 - b. Individuals who have recently travelled outside Alaska are required, in accordance with the State Health Mandate 10.1, to self-quarantine for fourteen days.

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Municipality of Anchorage

Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor

- c. Household members of those who are possibly contagious should exercise physical distancing and enhanced hygiene within the home, and refrain from leaving the home to the extent possible.
4. Businesses and entities identified as critical may continue to be open. While open, those businesses and entities should permit remote work where feasible and comply with physical distancing guidelines as much as possible by maintaining six-foot social distancing for employees and for members of the public, including when any customers are standing in line. Businesses must allow and shall strongly encourage employees to wear cloth face coverings or masks when around the public or in close proximity to other employees. Businesses may require customers or clients to wear face coverings or masks. A list of businesses defined as critical is listed below at paragraph number eight.
5. Other businesses, services, and entities in the Municipality may be eligible to operate if they fit into one of the sectors below and can follow the health mandates that apply to phase two operations in their respective sectors. Operating criteria are explained in Attachments A through O. Businesses, services, and entities that fit into multiple sectors should follow the mandates for each sector as applicable.
 - a. Retail Businesses. Operating criteria is in Attachment A.
 - b. Non-Critical, Non-Public Facing Businesses (i.e. Professional Services). Operating criteria is in Attachment B.
 - c. Non-Critical, Public Facing Businesses (i.e. interact with public, have storefronts, or operate inside others' homes). Operating criteria is in Attachment C.
 - d. Personal Care Services. Operating criteria is in Attachment D.
 - e. Dine-in Food. Operating criteria is in Attachment E.
 - f. Childcare. Operating criteria in Attachment F.
 - g. Outdoor Fitness and Gyms. Operating criteria is in Attachment G.
 - h. Social, Religious, and Other Gatherings. Operating criteria is in Attachment H.
 - i. Libraries, Museums, and Archives. Operating criteria in Attachment I.
 - j. Swimming pools. Operating criteria in Attachment J.
 - k. Bars. Operating criteria is in Attachment K.
 - l. Theaters. Operating criteria in Attachment L.
 - m. Bowling Alleys. Operating criteria in Attachment M.
 - n. Bingo Halls. Operating criteria in Attachment N.
 - o. Daycamps. Operating criteria in Attachment O.
6. Non-critical businesses that do not fit into any of the sectors in part five, above, or which cannot follow the mandates for safe operation must remain closed. Special events, outdoor retail markets, and other gatherings are subject to gathering size limits that may prevent their operation.
7. Nothing in this order shall require the use of a mask or cloth face covering by anyone for whom doing so would be contrary to his or her health or safety because of a medical condition; anyone unable to tolerate a mask due to a disability; a child in a childcare setting; a child under the age of 2 years; or an older child if the parent, guardian, or person responsible for the child is unable to place the mask safely on the child's face. If a person declines to wear a mask or face covering because of a medical condition or

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Municipality of Anchorage

Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor

disability as described above, such person shall not be required to produce medical documentation verifying the stated condition or disability.

8. To qualify as a critical business (to include non-profit and other entities), an entity's operation must primarily consist of one or more of the following:
- a. "Healthcare Operations" including hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, other healthcare facilities, home healthcare services providers, mental health providers, companies and institutions involved in the research and development, manufacture, distribution, warehousing, and supplying of pharmaceuticals, biotechnology therapies, consumer health products, medical devices, diagnostics, equipment, services, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services. "Healthcare Operations" also includes veterinary care and healthcare services provided to animals. "Healthcare Operations" does not include fitness and exercise gyms and similar facilities.
 - b. Businesses providing any services or performing any work necessary to the operations and maintenance of "Critical Infrastructure," including, but not limited to, the Port of Alaska, public works construction, construction of housing, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil production, roads and highways, trucking and shipping companies, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems;
 - c. First responders, emergency management personnel, emergency dispatchers, court personnel, and law enforcement personnel;
 - d. Critical Government Functions, meaning all services needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies and provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Federal and State of Alaska employees should follow direction of their employer regarding whether and where to report to work;
 - e. Defense and national security-related operations supporting the U.S. Government or a contractor to the U.S. government;
 - f. Grocery stores, supermarkets, food banks, marijuana dispensaries, convenience stores, farmer's markets, and other establishments engaged in the retail sale of food, beverages, or other household consumer products (such as cleaning and personal care products, pet food and pet supplies). This includes stores that sell groceries and also sell other non-grocery products, as well as stores that sell products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and operation of residences;
 - g. Food cultivation, including fishing, hunting, farming, and livestock;

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Municipality of Anchorage

Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor

- h. Businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged, unsheltered, or otherwise vulnerable individuals;
- i. Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services;
- j. Gas stations and auto-supply, auto-repair, towing companies, and related facilities;
- k. Banks, mortgage companies, insurance companies, and related financial institutions;
- l. Hardware stores;
- m. Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, landscapers, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and operation of residences and critical businesses;
- n. Businesses providing mailing and shipping services;
- o. Educational institutions for purposes of facilitating distance learning;
- p. Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers;
- q. Restaurants, bars, breweries, food trucks, and other facilities that prepare and serve food and beverages. Food establishments are subject to the restrictions laid out in the Phase 1 Operating Requirements, Food. Bars and breweries remain closed to dine-in service but may do pick-up or delivery subject to updated state guidance easing restrictions on delivery and to-go sale of alcohol;
- r. Businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home;
- s. Businesses that supply other critical businesses with the support or supplies necessary to operate;
- t. Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences;
- u. Businesses that provide transportation services of passengers or goods, including the Alaska Railroad;
- v. Home-based care for seniors, adults, or children;
- w. Hotels, residential facilities and shelters for seniors, adults, and children;
- x. Professional services, such as legal or accounting services, when necessary to assist critical businesses, to assist clients in fulfilling urgent legal mandates or legal needs which cannot wait,

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to prepare for and attend to court hearings and court deadlines, and to practice trust and estates law. Professional service providers providing critical services shall follow the restrictions in Attachment B Non-Critical, Non-Public Facing Businesses (Professional Services) to the greatest extent possible.

- y. Childcare facilities, subject to updated criteria for increased hygiene and physical distancing. Childcare facilities are considered critical for the children of critical workers, with criteria for opening more broadly in Attachment F.
- z. Sewing, quilting, and fabric stores, subject to the restrictions in Attachment A: Retail.
- aa. Sporting goods stores supplying fishing and hunting gear.

Any critical designation received from the Mayor prior to the date of this order remains in effect.

DATED this 11th day of May, 2020.

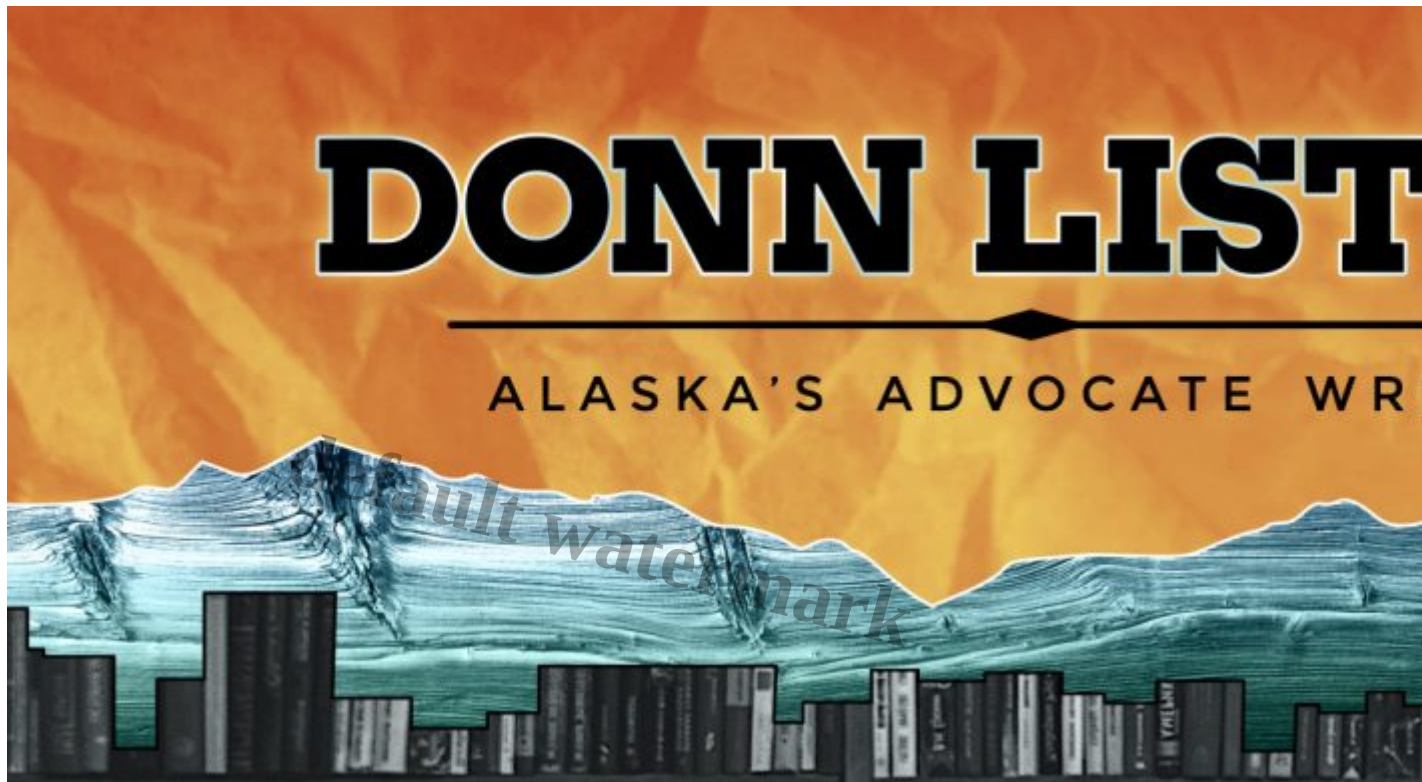

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[10] Berkowitz Resigns as Mayor

<https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/anchorage/2020/10/13/anchorage-mayor-ethan-berkowitz-announces-resignation/>



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donn