



March 3, 2020

Message to our Bayview Community on COVID-19

Dear Bayview Community,

As you may have heard, additional cases of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) have been confirmed in King and Snohomish County, including six deaths. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to all those who have been affected by these losses and to anyone directly impacted by this outbreak.

We recognize that media and rapidly evolving conditions related to COVID-19 create fear, uncertainty and anxiety. It is important to emphasize that while the number of cases are increasing, the vast majority of the illnesses around the world are mild, with fever and cough and the immediate health risk for the general public is still relatively low.

Currently, no members of the Bayview community have been diagnosed with COVID-19. We want to share with you information, resources, and examples of proactive steps Bayview is taking to help safeguard and protect the health of our community.

What is Bayview doing to proactively keep our community as healthy as possible?

Bayview continues to adhere to universal precautions of infection control such as practicing good hygiene. We are also increasing our disinfection and sterilization daily routine on all “high-touch” surfaces. These are measures and techniques we employ already, every day. However, as a precautionary measure, we are making the same types of preparations that we would normally make for any potentially disruptive situation, such as an outbreak of pandemic flu. This includes working with management and senior leadership to maintain our operations and services in the event of a disruption. We are also working in consultation with King County and State Department of Health agencies, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and Infection Control Preventionists to monitor conditions and follow the most current recommendations. We are also taking preventative measures to minimize exposure by limiting events and activities involving the outside community. Even if these measures prove to be unnecessary, they will protect our community now and moving forward.

What can we do as a community to help prevent the spread of illnesses like flu and coronavirus?

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Wash hands often with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if water is not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home while you are sick and avoid close contact with others.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.





BAYVIEW

A POINT OF VIEW

Considerations for Overseas travel:

We strongly advise that anyone planning personal travel overseas consult current CDC [Travel Notices](#) before departing. Because the situation is changing daily, it is possible that the CDC will add more countries to the list.

Stay informed:

Information is changing frequently. We recommend the following resources for ongoing updates:

Public Health Seattle & King County Coronavirus webpage: www.kingcounty.gov/COVID
WA State Dept. of Health Coronavirus webpage: www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus
Centers for Disease Control: <http://www.cdc.gov/covid19>

Remain calm and show compassion:

This virus poses a global challenge - compassion, empathy, and sense of togetherness is required in these extraordinary times.

Where should questions be directed?

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We will continue to monitor COVID-19 updates closely and will share new information or details as they become available. Remember, continue to follow daily personal hygiene best practices!

Sincerely,

Joel Smith, Health Services Administrator

