



# CITY OF CANNON BEACH

## Q&A Regarding the Cannon Beach Visitor Exclusion Resolution

### **(1) Why are these orders necessary?**

Despite orders and recommendations by state and federal health authorities to reduce travel, limit congregating in large groups and abide by social distancing guidelines, during the weekend of March 21-22, 2020 the City of Cannon Beach experienced a significant influx of visitors from outside the immediate area. These visitors congregated throughout the City without following social distancing guidelines and caused a depletion of critical resources such as food and supplies at local vendors.

Because many of the local residents of Cannon Beach are retired, the demographics of the City skew older than the rest of the population, and therefore our residents are more vulnerable to the deadly effects of COVID-19. Moreover, the northern Oregon coast has limited medical resources, which further endangers the local population when there are large influxes of visitors during times of declared emergencies.

The City of Cannon Beach is concerned that without additional action, the City will remain a destination for travelers during spring break and while schools are closed for an extended period. Out of concern for our residents, the City is sending a strong message to visitors that the City would appreciate if they heeded the warnings and orders from our state and federal government and not put our residents at risk.

### **(2) What do these orders require?**

It requires that visitor to leave the City and all hotels and other overnight rentals within the City close to overnight guests.

### **(3) When do these orders take effect?**

All visitors should evacuate immediately, but no later than 11:59pm on Monday, March 23.

### **(4) How long will these orders be in effect?**

The restriction on hotels will remain in effect for the duration of the state of emergency. The visitor evacuation order is in effect until April 6, 2020, when it will be re-evaluated.

### **(5) What counts as a “hotel?”**

Under the City’s code, if a facility is subject to the local transient lodging tax, it is subject to the order to close. This includes all traditional hotels, lodging houses, RV sites, and short term rentals.

The full definition includes: “a structure or part of a structure that is occupied or designed for occupancy by transients for lodging or sleeping, including a hotel, inn, tourist home or house, motel, studio hotel, bachelor hotel, lodging house, rooming house, dwellings including: single-family residence, duplex, multiple-family dwelling, manufactured dwelling, bed and breakfast, dormitory, public or private club, camping spaces and RV sites at a fixed location, or other similar structure.” CBMC 3.12.010

## **(6) Who is a “visitor”?**

A visitor is defined as any individual who is spending time in the City for pleasure, recreation or non-business reasons and is not a resident, property owner or business owner. The order also provides specific examples of individuals who are not visitors. This list is not designed to be exhaustive. Some of these examples are explained in more detail below:

*a. Invitees of local residents and property owners.*

Individuals invited by a resident or property owner are not subject to the order. This could include a college student sent home from school, or a property owner allowing a friend to stay at their home free of charge.

Although discouraged, this would also allow resident and property owners to have social visitors at their homes.

*b. Vendors, agents and service providers of local residents, property owners, and businesses.*

This category would include visiting home nurses, contractors working in the City or needed on an emergency basis, and delivery trucks to local businesses.

*c. Individuals traveling through the streets and highways within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City who do not stop.*

Visitors may still travel through the City.

*d. County residents traveling to the City of Cannon Beach to obtain essential services such as food and gas.*

Clatsop County residents (and others) may still travel to Cannon Beach to grocery shop, go to the food pantry, check post office boxes or any reason other than recreation or pleasure trips.

## **(7) How will the order be enforced?**

First by warnings and education. Second under the City’s authority pursuant to ORS 401.990, which makes it a class C misdemeanor to violate this type of order.