



## APRIL 17: 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:

- The Port will provide rent relief for qualifying business tenants and customers throughout its maritime and landside properties, including office, retail, and restaurants, along with recreational and commercial moorage. [Read more.](#)
- SEA was awarded \$192M in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation as part of the CARES Act to offset financial damage due to the unexpected drop in air travel and to limit the spread of COVID-19. Our airport team is working to complete a utilization plan for the grants. The grants can be used to fund operations and maintenance as well as debt relief, with the requirement of maintaining 90 percent of the previous employment levels. This will allow SEA to continue operations, such as utilities, security and janitorial services, for essential passenger traffic and continued critical cargo operations.

## 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.
- People are traveling less. Passenger volumes have declined 90-95%. Overall daily flights are down by two-thirds compared to normal operations. Airlines flying domestic routes significantly reduced flights across networks. Airlines suspended and reduced international flights, totaling 684 cancelled international flights in April, 210 in May and 175 in June.
- SEA was awarded \$192M in grant funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation as part of the CARES Act to offset financial damage due to the unexpected drop in air travel and to limit the spread of COVID-19. Our airport team is working to complete a utilization plan for the grants. The grants can be used to fund operations and maintenance as well as debt relief, with the requirement of maintaining 90 percent of the previous employment levels. This will allow SEA to continue operations, such as utilities, security and janitorial services, for essential passenger traffic and continued critical cargo operations.



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- Some restaurants are open with reduced operating hours and food service only for grab-and-go and orders to go. [Latest blog on dining and retail adjustments](#). [Explore how](#) to support local businesses at the airport without traveling.
- 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 Northwest Seaport Alliance total container volumes dropped 21.6% in March 2020, compared to March 2019. Full imports declined 28.2% while full exports decreased 8.6% year over year. [Read more](#).
- Some business at Fishermen's Terminal are open and operating under proper protocols while the North Pacific Fishing Fleet prepares for the fishing season. Amid social distancing, [here is how](#) you can support local business at Fishermen's Terminal.



[Here is how you can support local business at Fishermen's Terminal](#)



## FOR EMPLOYEES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Need answers on small business relief? The Port has collaborated with regional partners to offer free webinars about small business relief options. Register and learn more at our [website](#).
- Explore this [blog post](#) on how the federal CARES Act will benefit our region.
- Port of Seattle Commission meetings will be held virtually until the public health crisis subsides.
- 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.
- Coordinating regional emergency response with the state, county, city, and other leaders.



## HOW YOU CAN STAY HEALTHY

- 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.
- On April 3, 2020 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offered a new recommendation that people living in areas with significant community-based spread of COVID-19, such as King County, voluntarily wear a cloth face covering when they are in a public setting where maintaining a physical distance of six feet away from others may be difficult.