



City of Avalon

Santa Catalina Island, CA

March 9, 2020

Dear Residents of Avalon,

We, the City Council, take the health, safety, and public welfare of our community as our first and most important priority. The City has been closely monitoring the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and are in contact with local, state, and national health agencies regularly.

As of today, the California Department of Public Health has not issued an advisory to cancel public events as the health risks from COVID-19 to the general public remains low at this time; however, they have issued guidance for public event organizers (<https://www.cdph.ca.gov>). City Staff will continue to monitor the website and will coordinate with our business partners, as additional information is available.

We are also in close, regular communication with local, state, and federal partners about the cruise ships. The cruise ship industry (including Carnival Corporation and Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.) are implementing enhanced screening protocols for all crewmembers and passengers, including mandatory thermal scans and temperature checks before boarding and onboard, a comprehensive screening questionnaire, and a follow-up tertiary check (If needed). Any crewmember or passenger who does not pass the checks and evaluation will not be permitted on the ship. All cruise ships are required to inform the U.S. Coast Guard and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of any ships entering U.S. waters. The U.S. Coast Guard and CDC are in regular contact with the City of Avalon.

There will be continuous updates on the City website (www.cityofavalon.com) regarding the situation. We will continue to pay close attention to this developing epidemic. We ask the community for your help. Below are a few simple preventative actions you can take to help avoid the spread of COVID-19:

- Stay calm
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds
- Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands
- If sick, stay home
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

Sincerely,

Avalon City Council