



Peaks Island Council Updates and Bulletins

City Council Urged to Ensure Essential Travel Only on Island Ferry Service

In the lead-up to renewal of Portland's Stay-at-Home order on Monday night, the Peaks Island Council reached out to the City Council and City Manager urging that the provisions of the order be used to make efforts to eliminate all but essential travel on the ferries to and from the islands more robust.

While such measures were not included in the order adopted, at the conclusion of the vote Councilor Jill Duson made the point to her colleagues that the Council needed to further review ways to reduce non-essential ferry travel to the islands.

The City Council agreed to have more discussion of this at the City Council meeting on April 13th.

The islands are dependent on ferries and barges for access to essential food, fuel and care. Those lifelines will be broken if crew members become ill. The chances of crew members becoming ill can be reduced by reducing the number of travelers.

The Peaks Island Council asks that the City Council include or apply provisions in the Stay-at-Home order that would provide more robust measures to ensure that non-essential travel is excluded from ferry traffic between the mainland and the Portland Islands.

The Peaks Island Council thanks Councilor Duson for her leadership, and the Mayor, and the entire Council for their consideration regarding this matter. The PIC also acknowledges and thanks CBL, barge operators, and importantly, the crews for their efforts in these extraordinary times.

A list of Portland City Council members with their email addresses can be found at:<http://www.portlandmaine.gov/1872/Council-Bios>

If you would like to receive Peaks COVID 19 Response Committee and PIC updates directly in your email box, please send an email to randyschaeffer@gmail.com with "subscribe" in the subject line.

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