

**AMENDED ORDER OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER  
December 10, 2020**

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus a pandemic;

WHEREAS, all states in the United States, including Montana, have experienced confirmed cases of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Yellowstone County Unified Health Command has activated response plans and protocols to prepare for cases of COVID-19 in Yellowstone County;

WHEREAS, the Yellowstone County Unified Health Command has also worked to identify, contact, and as appropriate quarantine, monitor, and/or test individuals in Yellowstone County who have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 in coordination with the State of Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

WHEREAS, proactively implementing mitigation and containment measures to slow the spread of the virus is in the best interests of Yellowstone County and its people;

WHEREAS, the re-ignition of the economy and the status of the community's mental health are also vital and in the best interests of Yellowstone County and its people;

WHEREAS, safeguards have been implemented to mitigate the circumstances of this outbreak's impact on the services, personnel, equipment, supplies and facilities of Yellowstone County;

WHEREAS, based upon all of the above, the Governor of the State of Montana, in consultation with public health authorities, on April 22, 2020 implemented a plan titled "Reopening the Big Sky: A Phased Approach" ("Plan");

WHEREAS, on July 15, 2020, the Governor of the State of Montana issued an order requiring, under certain circumstances, the use of masks ("Mask Order");

WHEREAS, the Plan provided specific, phased circumstances under which it is expected the State of Montana and its people may begin the process of opening previously closed or altered businesses, organizations and workplaces;

WHEREAS, the Plan provides Local Public Health Officers the ability to analyze the spread of COVID-19 within their own communities and adjust the Plan as necessary;

WHEREAS, on November 17, 2020 the Governor of the State of Montana issued an order limiting gathering size, expanding mask usage requirements, and limiting hours of operations and occupancy for certain businesses in the State;

WHEREAS, on November 19, 2020 the Local Public Health Officer issued an order mirroring the Governor's November 17, 2020 order and providing additional clarifications, guidelines and restrictions;

WHEREAS, it is now necessary to extend the Local Public Health Officer's November 19, 2020 order and provide additional guidance;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 50-2-118 of the Montana Code Annotated, a Local Public Health Officer in carrying out the purpose of the public health system shall take steps to limit contact between people in order to protect the public health from imminent threats;

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2020 and October 14, 2020 the Public Health Officer implemented additional measures to attempt to curb the increases in numbers of cases and these orders were extended through December 9, 2020 in an Order dated November 6, 2020;

WHEREAS, despite the October measures, cases are now consistently reaching over 70/100,000/day, the Local Public Health Officer has determined that additional measures beyond the Plan must be implemented within Yellowstone County;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, pursuant to Title 50, Chapter 2, Part 1, and specifically Section 50-2-118 of the Montana Code Annotated:

**Effective at 12:00 AM MST on December 31, 2020 for a period of time up to and through 11:59pm on January 31, 2021, the Local Public Health Officer's Order of November 19, 2020 is extended. This Order likewise incorporates any and all additional Directives, Orders or written opinions of the Governor or his designees.**

**This Amended Order contains all of the requirements, restrictions and guidelines of the November 19, 2020 order, plus the following guidance, creating a new exception to the limitation on hours of operation:**

- Fuel stations located within one (1) mile of an interstate highway only if "pay at the pump" services are unavailable. Only fuel sale operations when there is not a pay-at-the pump option are an exception. Fleet sales of fuel for commercial transportation for which pay-at-the-pump is not possible qualify for this exception. Any other services (including but not limited to retail sales, food and beverage sales, and bar / restaurant / casino services) provided by the fuel station must close by 10:00 PM and may not serve customers or allow customers who do not meet the exception in the facility until 4:00 AM. Self-service, pay-at-the-pump fuel services remain allowed 24 hours per day under this Order.

**This Order replaces and supersedes earlier orders by the Public Health Officer unless explicitly noted and is effective as indicated above pending further notification or modification of this order by the Local Public Health Officer.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN FELTON  
HEALTH OFFICER FOR CITY-COUNTY OF YELLOWSTONE, MONTANA