

**ORDER OF HEALTH OFFICER**  
**January 7, 2021**

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 isolate, 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, the reignition 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, resulting declining new cases and test positivity over the last several weeks;

WHEREAS, former Governor Bullock 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, former Governor Bullock issued an directive requiring, under certain circumstances, the use of masks ("Mask Directive");

WHEREAS, on November 17, 2020 former Governor Bullock issued a directive limiting gathering size, expanding mask usage requirements, and limiting hours of operations and occupancy for certain businesses in the State;

WHEREAS, in order to bring Yellowstone County into full compliance with former Governor Bullock's Directives and with the objective of reducing new cases and community spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the Local Public Health Officer issued orders on November 19, 2020 and December 10, 2020 following and expanding upon the State Directives;

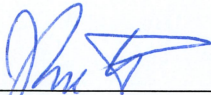
WHEREAS, on January 5, 2021, Greg Gianforte, Governor of the State of Montana, outlined his Administration's plans and principles to control the spread and impact of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, at this time it has been determined that individuals of Yellowstone County are, as described in Governor Greg Gianforte's January 5, 2021 statements, expected to determine and maintain adequate precautionary measures by virtue of their own judgement;

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 immediately, all prior Local Public Health Officer's orders currently in effect shall be rescinded and no longer be in effect. In their place, each individual and business is expected to develop, maintain, and modify as appropriate to evolving conditions related to COVID-19, plans, actions, and processes to reduce the risk of spreading the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19. It is recommended that these efforts consider and incorporate well-established and proven public health measures that reduce and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses (including but not limited to reducing contact among individuals who do not live in the same household, limiting group size, avoiding settings where at least six (6) feet of physical distancing cannot be reliably maintained between non-household members, enhanced hygiene and sanitation processes, mask usage, and the like). In addition, any such plans and efforts should require compliance with any applicable Governor's and Local Public Health Officer's orders and directives that might be in place now or in the future, and take all reasonable measures to ensure continued attempts to prevent the spread of COVID-19.**

**This Order replaces and supersedes earlier Orders by the Local 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