

From: [Commissioner, DOT \(DOT sponsored\)](#)
To: [DOT All Staff](#)
Subject: COVID Update from Commissioner MacKinnon
Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 1:54:09 PM

Dear DOT&PF Team:

These times are extremely stressful and confusing for many of us. I will keep you informed of what is happening at DOT&PF.

Your health and well-being is important to us. I want to assure you that your work space is safe. We have instructed our cleaners to increase their attention to detail and I am asking each of you to practice the highest level of hygiene possible. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds and use social distancing. Please do not come to work if you are sick. If you have allergies and sneeze, have itchy eyes and a runny nose - share that with your colleagues so they know to not worry.

To keep you as informed as possible, we have set up a DOT&PF COVID web page at <http://www.dot.state.ak.us/covid19info/> with information and links to more information including links to the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services(DHSS) and Center for Disease Controls COVID web sites. The Division of Personnel and Labor Relations has set up a website with guidance for employees at <https://doa.alaska.gov/dop/directorsOffice/covid19/>

The State has set up its Incident Command System (ICS) which is a standardized hierarchical structure that provides for a cooperative response by multiple agencies and is set up to organize and coordinate response activities and ensures that the most pressing needs are met and that precious resources are used without duplication or waste. DOT&PF is a part of the ICS with DHSS being the lead agency.

For those of you who have kids at home follow the guidance in the Coronavirus FAQ for State Employees that was put out this past weekend and is on our web site <https://doa.alaska.gov/dop/directorsOffice/covid19/faq/> and work with your supervisor. We are working to be as flexible as possible.

Deputy Commissioner Mary Siroky is assigned full-time to the rapidly changing news of COVID and is communicating daily with DOT Leadership.

Internally, we are working with Division of Personnel, the Governor's office and the ICS to get the questions we are hearing from you, answered. We are working to get as many folks as possible set up for telecommuting should that become necessary.

I will update you weekly or sooner as the situation warrants.

At DOT&PF, we are responsible for maintaining the state's vital transportation system. Safety of the traveling public is a key element of our mission. I need you to stay healthy so we can continue to do that.

John MacKinnon

Commissioner

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities