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Memorandum
Agenda Changes/Supplemental Packet

TO: MAYOR CASTNER AND HOMER CITY COUNCIL
FROM: MELISSA JACOBSEN, MMC, CITY CLERK
DATE: APRIL 13, 2020
SUBJECT: AGENDA CHANGES AND SUPPLEMENTAL PACKET

CONSENT AGENDA

Memorandum 20-045 From Councilmember Aderhold Re: Alaska Climate Change Planning Cohort Support.

Written Public Comment

Resolution 20-034, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Approving the City to Apply for Membership to ICLEI USA-Local Governments for Sustainability. Aderhold.

Written Public Comment

Resolution 20-035, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Supporting the Establishment of a Kenai Peninsula Borough Resilience and Security Commission. Aderhold.

Written Public Comment

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance 20-14, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Chapter 5.42 Single-Use Plastic Carryout Bags Section 5.42.040 Exceptions to Change the Deadline for Providing Single-Use Plastic Carryout Bags from February 14, 2020 to September 15, 2020. Smith.

Written Public Comment

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 20-038, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Restating the City's Right of Way Policy to be Consistent with Climate Action and Citizen's Needs. Evensen/Mayor.

Written Public Comment

Resolution 20-039, A Resolution of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Establishing Policy Regarding the Clearing of Vegetation within Street Right-of-Way by the Public Works Department. Lord.

Written Public Comment

Nancy Hillstrand
Coal Point Trading Company
4306 Homer Spit
Homer, Alaska 99603
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April 12, 2020

Dear City Council ,

Our business fully supports these great resolutions Thank-you!

- **Resolution 20-034**, Approving the City to Apply for Membership to ICLEI USA-Local Governments for Sustainability. (Aderhold)
- **Resolution 20-035**, Supporting the Establishment of a Kenai Peninsula Borough Resilience and Security Commission. (Aderhold)
- **Alaska Climate Change Planning Cohort** proposal

- **Resolution 20-038** - Restating the city's right of way maintenance policy to be consistent with climate action and citizen needs (Evenson/Mayor)
- **Resolution 20-039** Establishing a policy regarding the clearing of vegetation within street right-of-way by the public 8works department. (Lord)

PLEASE ADD WORDING TO PROCEDURES PRIOR TO INITIATING BRUSH CUTTING:

Please consider allowing and promoting opportunity to transplant the myriad of free plant material to other areas such as city parks, along eroded creeks or as needed as wind breaks to minimize drifting snow, provide shade from the sun, or moose and bird habitat by using a public service announcement in the local paper. This will be consistent with the climate action Plan, and can minimize urban deforestation for free

As mentioned in the vegetation control policy: *"Newly sprouting small trees,"* as well as willows, rye grass and roses are all highly valuable easily accessible erosion control plant material species. This valuable plant material is very easily dug up and transplanted if advance alert can be given for a limited time frame of opportunity to groups such as school classrooms, boy scouts, girl scouts, parks and rec department, garden club, landscapers, soil and water cooperative, farmers market, or adjacent landowners. Please consider adding this service to "Procedures prior to initiating brush cutting" as an additional routine for vegetation removal.

For instance: Public Works may contact organizations through a weekly or monthly public service announcement to alert organizations of where the plant material is available for transplanting by such and such a date for free.

PROCEDURES PRIOR TO INITIATING BRUSH CUTTING ON SKYLINE NEAR CITY OF HOMER PUMP STATION

For the safety of Homers water supply Please consider a separate specific:

Procedure prior to initiating brush cutting on ROW's or drainage ditches near the Homer water reservoir.

Maintenance in this area requires a different strategy as plant material in the ditches is not only erosion control but also during storm events it keeps the major movement of siltation from running down into where the city of Homers water is pumped from.

This has been a serious problem in the past almost closing down the water treatment plant from major siltation from clearing vegetation out of the drainage ditches.

Around 1992 critical culverts that allowed siltation settling during storm events, were removed and a new culvert was put in. This mainlined all contaminated road water and silt directly into the creek that travels downhill to the pump station.

"Positive drainage" needs to be treated more strategically in this area.

Now because the culvert that led into the natural settling area was removed, any ***"routine vegetation removal"*** or drainage ditch clearing for **"positive drainage"** will create contamination to the city of Homers water supply during storm events.

The stability of the vegetation mat is a natural infrastructure that holds the silt from inundating the pumps in the reservoir. Extra settling chemicals had to be purchased at that time because of this problem from when the road was "improved". This causes not only additional expense to the city but also adds chemicals to our water. This is another example of the one size does not fit all ordinance.

Thank-you for your hard work and consideration

With Kind Regards,

Nancy Hillstrand

Greetings City Council Members

Please oppose Ordinance 20-14.

Overturning the plastic bag ban during this covid 19 pandemic runs contrary to the best available science. This is a pandemic not a convenience issue.

Please guide the health of the public using the most up to date accurate research about the behaviour of surface spread transmission of covid 19 affecting health.

The estimated virus decay rates on surfaces are found to be highest on plastics. This makes plastic bags the least desirable and more dangerous choice during these uncertain times.

https://www.sciencealert.com/how-long-does-coronavirus-last-on-surfaces

Scientists at the National Institutes of Health, state covid 19 on surfaces can last:

- 3 hours in the air
- 4 hours on copper
- 24 hours on cardboard
- 48 hours on stainless steel
- **72 hours on plastic**

Attached is a recent study about coronavirus on surfaces. This and others, add to the groundswell of documentation against single-use plastic.

The plastic bag ban has been anticipated by businesses for years as it creates safety for the marine environment that we make our living from. Continual vacillating to alter the course of this issue creates undue burden, confusion, and interrupts smooth transitions already underway.

When this bag ban issue first came to the council years ago, retailers like myself, invested and transitioned into cloth bags. Customers using our services on the Homer spit have shared this personal responsibility of working together with businesses, for the common good: health, safety and the environment.

Please remain on course for this common good as the priority not convenience and delay.

Personal responsibility is of utmost importance.

Please provide accurate information to guide pandemic mitigation efforts by consulting the latest scientific findings on surface spread of transmission.

To comprehensively protect frontline workers, customers, and retailers please share best available known practices that prevent Covid 19 such as:

1. asking customers to do their own bagging in their own bag or box (safest)
2. not allow plastic bags
3. use porous bags like cotton
4. wash reusable bags before coming into a store
5. wash hands
6. wear facemasks
7. leave boxes, cloth bags sit for a day or disinfect them

Scientists from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the Centers for Disease Control, Princeton University, and University of California, Los Angeles, experimented with the SARS-CoV-2 virus to determine how fast virus particles broke down outside of a host body.

- “The virus, SARS-CoV-2, can live on plastic for two to three days, versus 24 hours on cardboard.”
- “related viruses, SARS and MERS, lived on plastic as long as nine days.”

Experts including the American Chemistry Council, say:

- “porous surfaces, such as cotton, may be less likely to transmit the virus than smooth surfaces such as plastic, so some reusable bags may be better than others”
- “The virus can also be easily destroyed if a bag is washed with soap and water.”

The city of Homer can help guide the health of the public using the most up to date accurate research on what is known about the behaviour of this virus affecting health.

Thank-you for your time, effort and consideration

Nancy Hillstrand
Coal Point Trading Company
907-235-9772
April 12, 2020

CORRESPONDENCE

Aerosol and Surface Stability of SARS-CoV-2 as Compared with SARS-CoV-1

TO THE EDITOR: A novel human coronavirus that is now named severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (formerly called HCoV-19) emerged in Wuhan, China, in late 2019 and is now causing a pandemic.[1] We analyzed the aerosol and surface stability of SARS-CoV-2 and compared it with SARS-CoV-1, the most closely related human coronavirus.[2]

We evaluated the stability of SARS-CoV-2 and SARS-CoV-1 in aerosols and on various surfaces and estimated their decay rates using a Bayesian regression model (see the Methods section in the Supplementary Appendix, available with the full text of this letter at NEJM.org). SARS-CoV-2 nCoV-WA1-2020 (MN985325.1) and SARS-CoV-1 Tor2 (AY274119.3) were the strains used. Aerosols (<5 μm) containing SARS-CoV-2 ($10^{5.25}$ 50% tissue-culture infectious dose [$TCID_{50}$] per milliliter) or SARS-CoV-1 ($10^{6.75\text{-}7.00}$ $TCID_{50}$ per milliliter) were generated with the use of a three-jet Collison nebulizer and fed into a Goldberg drum to create an aerosolized environment. The inoculum resulted in cycle-threshold values between 20 and 22, similar to those observed in samples obtained from the upper and lower respiratory tract in humans.

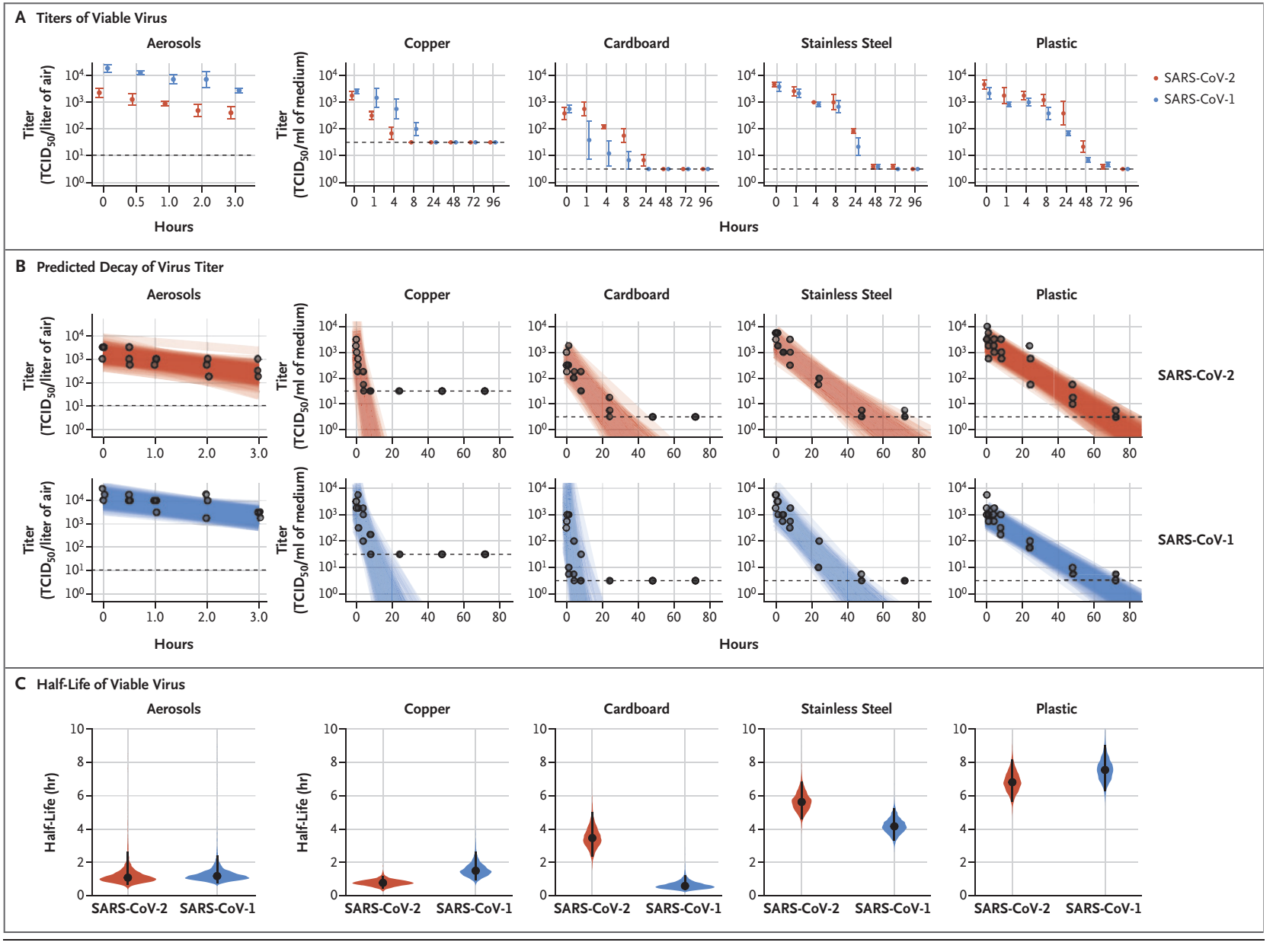
Our data consisted of 10 experimental conditions involving two viruses (SARS-CoV-2 and SARS-CoV-1) in five environmental conditions (aerosols, plastic, stainless steel, copper, and cardboard). All experimental measurements are reported as means across three replicates.

SARS-CoV-2 remained viable in aerosols throughout the duration of our experiment (3 hours), with a reduction in infectious titer from $10^{3.5}$ to $10^{2.7}$ $TCID_{50}$ per liter of air. This reduction was similar to that observed with SARS-CoV-1, from $10^{4.3}$ to $10^{3.5}$ $TCID_{50}$ per milliliter (Fig. 1A).

SARS-CoV-2 was more stable on plastic and stainless steel than on copper and cardboard, and viable virus was detected up to 72 hours after application to these surfaces (Fig. 1A), although the virus titer was greatly reduced (from $10^{3.7}$ to $10^{0.6}$ $TCID_{50}$ per milliliter of medium after 72 hours on plastic and from $10^{3.7}$ to $10^{0.6}$ $TCID_{50}$ per milliliter after 48 hours on stainless steel). The stability kinetics of SARS-CoV-1 were similar (from $10^{3.4}$ to $10^{0.7}$ $TCID_{50}$ per milliliter after 72 hours on plastic and from $10^{3.6}$ to $10^{0.6}$ $TCID_{50}$ per milliliter after 48 hours on stainless steel). On copper, no viable SARS-CoV-2 was measured after 4 hours and no viable SARS-CoV-1 was measured after 8 hours. On cardboard, no viable SARS-CoV-2 was measured after 24 hours and no viable SARS-CoV-1 was measured after 8 hours (Fig. 1A).

Both viruses had an exponential decay in virus titer across all experimental conditions, as indicated by a linear decrease in the $\log_{10}TCID_{50}$ per liter of air or milliliter of medium over time (Fig. 1B). The half-lives of SARS-CoV-2 and SARS-CoV-1 were similar in aerosols, with median estimates of approximately 1.1 to 1.2 hours and 95% credible intervals of 0.64 to 2.64 for SARS-CoV-2 and 0.78 to 2.43 for SARS-CoV-1 (Fig. 1C, and Table S1 in the Supplementary Appendix). The half-lives of the two viruses were also similar on copper. On cardboard, the half-life of SARS-CoV-2 was longer than that of SARS-CoV-1. The longest viability of both viruses was on stainless steel and plastic; the estimated median half-life of SARS-CoV-2 was approximately 5.6 hours on stainless steel and 6.8 hours on plastic (Fig. 1C). Estimated differences in the half-lives of the two viruses were small except for those on cardboard (Fig. 1C). Individual replicate data were noticeably "noisier" (i.e., there was more variation in the experiment, resulting in a larger standard error) for cardboard than for other surfaces (Fig. S1 through S5), so we advise caution in interpreting this result.

We found that the stability of SARS-CoV-2 was similar to that of SARS-CoV-1 under the experimental circumstances tested. This indicates that differences in the epidemiologic characteristics of these viruses probably arise from other factors, including high viral loads in the upper



The New England Journal of Medicine

Figure 1 (facing page). Viability of SARS-CoV-1 and SARS-CoV-2 in Aerosols and on Various Surfaces.

As shown in Panel A, the titer of aerosolized viable virus is expressed in 50% tissue-culture infectious dose ($TCID_{50}$) per liter of air. Viruses were applied to copper, cardboard, stainless steel, and plastic maintained at 21 to 23°C and 40% relative humidity over 7 days. The titer of viable virus is expressed as $TCID_{50}$ per milliliter of collection medium. All samples were quantified by end-point titration on Vero E6 cells. Plots show the means and standard errors (I bars) across three replicates. As shown in Panel B, regression plots indicate the predicted decay of virus titer over time; the titer is plotted on a logarithmic scale. Points show measured titers and are slightly jittered (i.e., they show small rapid variations in the amplitude or timing of a waveform arising from fluctuations) along the time axis to avoid overplotting. Lines are random draws from the joint posterior distribution of the exponential decay rate (negative of the slope) and intercept (initial virus titer) to show the range of possible decay patterns for each experimental condition. There were 150 lines per panel, including 50 lines from each plotted replicate. As shown in Panel C, violin plots indicate posterior distribution for the half-life of viable virus based on the estimated exponential decay rates of the virus titer. The dots indicate the posterior median estimates, and the black lines indicate a 95% credible interval. Experimental conditions are ordered according to the posterior median half-life of SARS-CoV-2. The dashed lines indicate the limit of detection, which was $3.33\times10^{0.5}$ $TCID_{50}$ per liter of air for aerosols, $10^{0.5}$ $TCID_{50}$ per milliliter of medium for plastic, steel, and cardboard, and $10^{1.5}$ $TCID_{50}$ per milliliter of medium for copper.

respiratory tract and the potential for persons infected with SARS-CoV-2 to shed and transmit the virus while asymptomatic.[3,4] Our results indicate that aerosol and fomite transmission of SARS-CoV-2 is plausible, since the virus can remain viable and infectious in aerosols for hours and on surfaces up to days (depending on the inoculum shed). These findings echo those with SARS-CoV-1, in which these forms of transmission were associated with nosocomial spread and super-spreading events,[5] and they provide information for pandemic mitigation efforts.

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Dr. van Doremalen, Mr. Bushmaker, and Mr. Morris contributed equally to this letter.

The findings and conclusions in this letter are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Names of specific vendors, manufacturers, or products are included for public health and informational purposes; inclusion does not imply endorsement of the vendors, manufacturers, or products by the CDC or the Department of Health and Human Services.

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Disclosure forms provided by the authors are available with the full text of this letter at NEJM.org.

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DOI: 10.1056/NEJMc2004973

From: Bill Lovett
To: Department Clerk
Subject: Plastic Bag Ban
Date: Monday, April 13, 2020 11:54:14 AM

RE: Ordinance 20-14, An Ordinance of the City Council of Homer, Alaska Amending Homer City Code Chapter 5.42 Single-Use Plastic Carryout Bags Section 5.42.040 Exceptions to Change the Deadline for Providing Single-Use Plastic Carryout Bags from February 14, 2020 to September 15, 2020. Smith. Introduction March 23, 2020, Public Hearing and Second Reading April 13, 2020.
I would like to thank the city council for reconsidering the deadline for the single use plastic bags. I was for the original intent of the ordinance and in fact voted in favor of it, but the ordinance was poorly crafted in the respect that it did not address the seasonal businesses that would be affected.Giving the seasonal businesses the same time window to use up existing stock is only fair, even more so now with the unprecedented hardships that small business is now facing. Again,this is not changing in any way the intent of the ordinance, it is simply allowing businesses who chose to use up their existing stock to do so.
Sincerely, Catrin Lovett

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