

Alta Town Council

Staff Report



To: Town of Alta Staff, Mayor and Town Council
From: Chris Cawley, Assistant Town Administrator/Emergency Manager
Re: COVID-19 Preparedness in Alta
Date: March 11, 2020
Attachments: In-text links (see below)

COVID-19 Facts @ 1600 hrs. 3/11/2020

SYMPTOMS: Cough, fever over 100.4, shortness of breath

3 confirmed cases in State of Utah: Weber/Morgan Health District; Davis County, Summit County. All patients with history of recent travel to areas with community spread of COVID-19.

UT Department of Health advises community spread of COVID-19 IS NOT OCCURRING IN UTAH

-**This means that patients reporting COVID-19 symptoms that have not TRAVELLED to areas with high COVID-19 activity OR had direct contact with COVID-19-positive individuals are determined NOT TO HAVE COVID-19**

Individuals can carry COVID-19 and exhibit no symptoms or only minor symptoms

Individuals over 60 are at highest risk of illness due to COVID-19

What the Town is Doing:

Coordinating with Salt Lake County (SLCO) Health, SLCO Emergency Management, which have declared state of emergency

Coordinating Alta Community Readiness

Developing Continuity of Operations Plan for Town operations

Keeping local declaration of emergency on stand-by should the need arise

Specific Guidance to Hotels from Salt Lake County Health:

Salt Lake County Health Department recommends that businesses and employers, including public lodging, prepare for illnesses and the resulting isolation or quarantine by doing the following things:

- *Require sick employees to stay home, or in Alta's situation that may mean isolating them to their room*
- *Ensure that sick leave policies are consistent with public health guidance in that calling out sick does not result in a financial (or other) penalty to the employee*
- *Get in the habit now of practicing good hand hygiene and good cough etiquette, and encourage employees and customers/guests to do the same*
- *Begin practicing routine environmental cleaning of frequently touched surfaces, such as door knobs, railings, communal surfaces, etc.*

- *Ensure you have at least a two week supply of food, over-the-counter medicines (particularly medicines for respiratory illnesses), and other essential supplies for everyone in the facility, both staff and guests.*
- *Make a plan for the potential that events and gatherings will need to be cancelled. Will business operations need to change if people shouldn't congregate; i.e., can meals all be taken in-room rather than a communal dining room, etc.?*

Town of Alta Reporting Protocol:

DO NOT SEND INDIVIDUALS WITH **SYMPTOMS** OF RESPIRATORY ILLNESS TO ALTA MEDICAL CLINIC. INSTRUCT INDIVIDUALS WITH COUGH, FEVER, SHORTNESS OF BREATH TO REMAIN IN THEIR ROOMS AND FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW:

****Please note that this does not correspond with the protocol we discussed this morning. Steps have been taken out because UT is not reporting community spread. Reporting and response protocols across the State of Utah are subject to change as cases increase and if/when Utah experiences community spread.****

1. If a lodging guest or live-up employee reports the **SYMPTOMS**, individual OR lodge manager calls:
 - a. Medical Provider
 - i. Individual's provider
 - ii. Alta Medical Clinic between 9 AM and 5 PM-801-742-2273
 - iii. UT Coronavirus Hotline 800-456-7707 (when Alta Medical Clinic is closed) (patients will be prompted to indicate SYMPTOMS and appropriate travel/contact history)
 - b. Medical provider will make determination of COVID-19 potential and contact health officials to report potential case and initiate testing
2. Lodging managers encourage all sick guests and live-in employees to isolate regardless of illness.
 - a. Lodge managers aware of individuals isolating themselves due to **SYMPTOMS** call Alta Central to report.
 - i. Alta Central to call deputy on duty, TOA Emergency Manager Chris Cawley

What are we each doing in Alta?

- Waiving limits on paid sick leave for employees with **SYMPTOMS** of respiratory illness
- Alta Clinic considering how to provide "house calls" in order to avoid contaminating Alta Clinic office
- Expressing concern for dorm spaces: dorm guests, employees in group housing use common restrooms, come together from disparate travel origins
- Taking inventory of extraneous furniture items such as throw pillows and blankets that could provide transmission surfaces
- Purchasing anti-viral housecleaning products
- Providing tubes of lodge-branded hand sanitizer to guests
- Planning for continuity of operations should numerous employees get sick, or should employees or guests require quarantine on-site

Town of Alta to research:

Further guidance on implementing, enforcing quarantine
Potential for dedicated quarantine facility/resources in Alta

Sources of Information:

[UT Dept of Health Coronavirus Updates](#)
[SL County Health Coronavirus Information](#)
[UT Coronavirus Twitter](#)
[SL County Health Twitter](#)