



# CHOGGIUNG, LTD.

March 29, 2021

City of Dillingham  
141 Main Street  
Dillingham, AK 99576

Dear Mayor Alice Ruby, Councilmembers, and Interim City Manager Brelsford,

The Choggiung Limited Board of Directors considered and passed Choggiung Resolution 2021-02: Advocating for the City of Dillingham to Re-evaluate the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration and for the City to Replace it With Strong Health Safety Recommendations for the Public and Business on March 27, 2021 (*attached*).

Choggiung's Board has studied the City's Emergency Declaration and follow-on Ordinances, the resultant severe negative impact to its shareholders, its employees, its customers, and surrounding support businesses comprised of **People**. These are real **People** living in Dillingham; **People** that wish to be able to make a living, however have been stripped of the opportunity to do so by the impact of ordinances written by and enforced by the City.

Loss of business triggered by the City's rush to restrict and sustain the restriction of movement of **People** has had lasting and ongoing consequences on the lives of real **People**. Choggiung Limited has suffered a 58% loss of revenue in its local businesses and a 67% loss in its Land Use Permit income leading to a **cut of 40% of the labor hours** we were able to offer **People** over the last twelve months when compared to the prior year. The loss of work has caused innumerable damages to real **People's** lives.

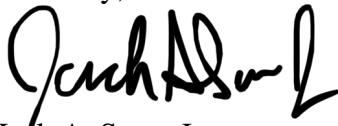
In our lived experience, the **People** that are employed by us have lost their jobs or most of their income and ability to take care of their family, have incurred new mental health issues, have been fined by the City of Dillingham, have delayed necessary and serious health screenings, have missed important educational opportunities, have gone hungry, and generally have had an inferior quality of life when compared to pre-pandemic conditions. We consider these consequences of the City's Emergency Declaration and subsequent Ordinances avoidable going forward given positive developments to combat the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Elected City Officials must recognize the damage inflicted on its citizens in the name of protection and ask the question "is the ongoing enforcement of ordinances that is causing this immeasurable harm to our **People** worth it any longer?" To help answer this, the City must seriously Re-evaluate the Emergency Declaration itself in relation to COVID-19. Choggiung Limited suggests a well-rounded Re-evaluation to include:

1. Access for citizens to a vaccine (currently available and accessible to all high-risk individuals)
2. 60%+ of Dillingham Citizens 20 years and older have been vaccinated with vaccines proven to be efficacious in prevention of serious illness and death.
3. Therapeutics available in case of contraction of disease (many proven, safe options available).
4. 99.95% survival of those who contract COVID-19 pre-vaccine (most everyone survives).
5. Public awareness of COVID-19 & safety precautions.
6. Real accounts of damage caused to **People** other than COVID including mental health issues, physical health declines, job losses, economic opportunity lost, hunger, homelessness, length of time for economic recovery to happen, loss of quality education, missed health screenings, loss of face-to-face time with family and friends etc.
7. Measures taken in other like sized Cities in Alaska currently (Kenai Peninsula, Wasilla has no mask mandate, no travel mandate, no business closure mandates at no great risk to **People** living there)
8. Comparisons of case and death rates from governments that did not mandate measures against COVID to most restrictive (they are similar)
9. A review of safe operating practices implemented by responsible businesses intended to be continued until the threat of COVID subsides.
10. The overall remaining risk to the Community and its **People** from COVID considering vaccines that work to prevent serious illness and death, protective behaviors individuals and businesses practice, and therapeutics against the long-term harm to **People** by enacting and enforcing restrictions on the movement of **People**.

Given Choggiung Limited's Board Resolution and our understanding and experience with COVID-19, we believe we can reasonably expect the City of Dillingham to reach the same conclusion that we did. For the sake of all **People** in Dillingham, we implore the City to re-evaluate its Emergency Declaration deeply and thoroughly and replace mandates with strong health safety recommendations for the public and business.

Sincerely,



Jack A. Savo, Jr  
Choggiung Limited Chairman



Cameron Poindexter  
President & CEO

Cc: KDLG