



Greetings Neighbor,

The City of Oakland is informing residents that at approximately Noon today, the Grand Princess Cruise ship docked at an currently unused terminal at the Port of Oakland and the passenger disembarkation process has begun. The Federal and State public health agencies managing this operation issued a message describing the measures they are employing to prevent local exposure and protect workers and our community.

Please note that City of Oakland employees are not directly involved in this operation; the City and Port of Oakland's role is solely that of support to the Federal and State agencies. Alameda County health officials have been consulted throughout this process.

Here is a section of the plan developed by State and Federal officials for community safety during this operation:

At no time will any passengers or Grand Princess staff be outside of the ship without close medical supervision or federal/state escort. There will be no threat to the community from direct contact with any passengers or cruise ship staff. All equipment associated with this operation will be disinfected prior to demobilization at the pier and will not reside in any community location. Federal officials will be constantly evaluating risk during this operation and mitigating any potential breach of safety. Health and Human Services senior medical and safety staff will oversee all operations.

For more information see below or click these links: <http://www.oesnews.com/federal-and-state-partners-protect-the-community-of-oakland-while-supporting-the-safe-return-of-passengers-from-the-grand-princess-cruise-ship/>.

-Dan K.

Update from HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness & Response and the California Office of Emergency Services

The State of California continues to work in partnership with the federal government to aid in the safe return of passengers from the Grand Princess Cruise ship. The mission is centered around protecting the health of the passengers, AND ensuring that when the passengers disembark, the public health of the United States, the State of California, and local partner communities is thoroughly protected.

As a reminder, NONE of the passengers who disembark will be released into the general public.

The Grand Princess cruise ship docked in the Port of Oakland and has begun the disembarking process today (Monday). Federal support teams from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness & Response within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) have setup disembarking screening protocols to focus first on helping those individuals who require immediate emergency medical care, not necessarily related to COVID-19 exposure.

Once this first cohort of individuals has disembarked, the federal staff will begin disembarking the 962 California residents aboard. Most California residents who disembark will be transferred to Travis Air Force Base (with a few going to Marine Air Station Miramar) for testing and quarantine. These passengers will not have any contact with the general population in Oakland or any nearby community.

After California residents are disembarked, non-Californians will be transported by charter flights by the federal government to facilities in other states. The crew will be quarantined aboard the ship. If a crew member is in need of more acute medical care, they will be transferred in a secure fashion to an appropriate medical facility in California.

The Grand Princess will only stay in Port of Oakland for the duration of disembarkment. This ship will depart Oakland as soon as possible and will remain elsewhere for the duration of the crew's quarantine.

To protect the public health and safety there will NOT be family reunification at the Port Site.

Key points:

- The ship will only be docked during the duration of the disembarkment. The ship will depart Oakland as soon as possible and will remain elsewhere for the duration of the ship crew's quarantine.

- The passengers will NOT be released into the general public.
- Passengers who require acute medical treatment and hospitalization will be transported to health care facilities in California that are prepared to accept such patients.
- Passengers who do not require acute medical care following health screenings:
 - California residents will go to a federally-run isolation facility within California for testing and isolation.
 - Non-Californians will be transported by chartered planes by the federal government to facilities in other states.
 - The crew will be quarantined and treated aboard the ship away from Oakland.

Why Oakland?

Many people are asking, “Why Oakland?” According to CalOES: “After careful review of all options, the Port of Oakland was selected as the best site for the ship to disembark. There are limited docks that would be able to dock a ship of that size, and the Port of Oakland location was the easiest to seal off, securely move passengers toward their isolation destination and protect the safety of the public.”

Governor Newsom praised Mayor Schaaf and local leaders for their leadership: “The City of Oakland, Alameda County and the Port of Oakland are stepping up in a major way, and their residents deserve universal praise. They are showing the world what makes our state great - coming to the rescue of thousands of people trapped aboard this ship and helping tackle a national emergency,” said Governor Gavin Newsom.

Mayor Schaaf stated, “Oakland’s role in this operation is to support our state and federal authorities as they conduct a critical public health mission to help those impacted by the COVID-19 virus... I have been repeatedly assured that no one will be quarantined in Oakland, nor will any passengers be released into the general public.”

Mayor Schaaf emphasized that from the outset she made it clear to State and Federal officials that this is a community that has suffered decades of environmental injustice and racism, and she sought and received strong assurances that the operation would:

- Employ the best isolation practices known
- Minimize the time the ship and its passengers are in Oakland
- Ensure that no one will be released into our community

Mayor Schaaf's top three priorities:

1. to ensure the safety and health of our community, especially the workers and residents closest to the Port;
2. to ensure that the public and community stay informed, guided by the facts, not fears; and

3. to do the right thing to help these people who have been stranded on the ship and not let fear dictate our humanity.
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Attention to Oakland's Unsheltered Population

Councilmember Kalb has asked about the potential for the virus to spread among our homeless population. City staff are working to make sure the needs of Oakland's unsheltered population are being addressed. There are several initiatives underway and the team will continue to work with Alameda County health officials and our service providers to stay ahead of this virus. Below is a quick reference of current initiatives:

- Working with emergency shelters to ensure service providers are aware of and have implemented the County's health and safety protocols.
 - Increasing health and hygiene services to an additional 20 encampments to augment hand sanitizer, wash stations, and portable toilet service. Units will be cleaned three times per week. The City has requested additional health and hygiene funding from the County as well.
 - Purchased personal hand sanitizers in bulk and will distribute to individuals residing in encampments during outreach and engagement efforts.
 - Provided a list of potential hotels/motels to the County that can be utilized in the event quarantine sites must be established.
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Reminder: Click below for information or to file a complaint

[OAK311](#) -- Report illegal dumping, traffic safety, and infrastructure matters

[Code Enforcement](#) -- Report blighted buildings & yards, and other Code violations

[Animal Services](#) -- Report distressed or vicious animals

[Parking Information](#) -- Info and Answers on all things Parking in Oakland

[Vehicle Abatement](#) -- Report abandoned vehicles here

[Keep Oakland Housed](#) -- Homeless Prevention

[Read Councilmember Kalb's past Newsletters here!](#)

D A N K A L B

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