



# CITY OF SAINT PAUL

## ALASKA

### MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Aubrey Wegeleben, City Clerk

**CC:** Phillip Zavadil, City Manager; Stephanie Mandregan, Finance Director

**DATE:** September 8, 2023

**RE:** Resolution 23-17 - A Resolution of the Council of the City of Saint Paul Rescinding Resolution 21-10 and Indefinitely Suspending City Personnel Policy 10.34 – Employee COVID-19 Vaccination

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**SUMMARY:** Our community, state, and country are in a different place regarding COVID-19 and the majority of individuals that have chosen to be vaccinated for COVID-19 have done so already. City should consider suspending the COVID-19 employee vaccination requirement.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:** City Council has not acted previously on this topic.

**BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:** The initial adoption on September 1, 2021 of Personnel Policy 10.34 – Employee COVID-19 Vaccination was a necessary component of the City’s overall strategy and commitment to maintaining a safe and healthy workplace during the COVID-19 pandemic to further protect the health of City employees, their families, and the community from COVID-19. The Federal government ended the COVID-19 public health emergency on May 11, 2023. The City of Saint Paul COVID-19 emergency declaration ended on March 14, 2023. With a dwindling qualified workforce on the island, the City should be situated to hire qualified individuals for employment opportunities that may become available in the future. The City Council may elect to reinstate this policy if there was another declared COVID emergency.

**ALTERNATIVES:** City Council could choose not to approve this resolution.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:** Unknown savings for recruiting qualified candidates off island for various City employment opportunities that become available.

**LEGAL:** Resolution 23-17 has been reviewed by the City’s legal counsel.

**ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATION:** Approval of this Resolution is recommended.

**PROPOSED MOTION:** I move to approve Resolution 23-17.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Resolution 23-17, Resolution 21-10.