Our goal in communications about the new coronavirus, COVID-19, is to share the advice we receive from both the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the CDC. Since the containment of this virus depends on all of us using our best judgement in addition to the precautions the Town has put in place, this morning’s update is important for those who are planning or have recently completed international travel. As you will see in the first bullet point, it is critical that all travelers understand the expectation if they are traveling to/from countries identified within this Update.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced revised guidance regarding travelers to certain countries returning to the US and recommended procedures for reducing the risk of transmission of the virus associated with COVID-19. The CDC link is also here: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers (click on the travel notice beside each country).

**Change in guidance for returnees from Level 2 and 3 countries:**

- Returning travelers from Level 3 countries other than China and Iran (currently Italy and South Korea) are asked to self-quarantine (“stay home”) for 14 days since the date of entry to the United States and self-monitor for symptoms consistent with COVID-19. CDC’s Division of Global Migration and Quarantine (DGMQ) will NOT be providing traveler information on returnees from these countries to states. DPH will NOT be asking local health departments to educate these travelers on self-quarantine nor actively monitor these individuals during their 14-day quarantine period.

- Returning travelers from Level 2 countries (currently Japan) are asked to limit contact with others and self-monitor for symptoms. DGMQ will NOT be providing traveler information on returnees from level 2 countries to states. DPH will NOT be asking local health departments to educate these travelers on self-monitoring.

**Summary of guidance already in place:**

Foreign nationals may not travel from China or Iran to the United States. US residents returning from these countries will continue to be identified for state health departments by DGMQ and DPH will continue to request local health department assistance in monitoring these returnees and supporting them to self-quarantine for 14 days.