

# China's Tianjin tightens control over travel after omicron cases

BEIJING (Reuters) - The northern Chinese city of Tianjin tightened exit controls and is requiring residents to obtain approval from employers or community authorities before leaving town in an effort to block the spread of the highly transmissible omicron variant.

The port city to the southeast of Beijing reported 21 domestically transmitted cases with confirmed symptoms on Sunday, the National Health Commission said on Monday, up from three a day earlier.

Tianjin, with around 14 million residents, said over the weekend it detected two local cases of infection with the omicron. The source of the infections and route to the community remained unclear, and officials

had yet to announce how many other local cases were caused by omicron.

The highly transmissible omicron variant is rapidly spreading globally, forcing several countries to tighten travel rules, and presents a heightened challenge to China's efforts to quickly extinguish local outbreaks.

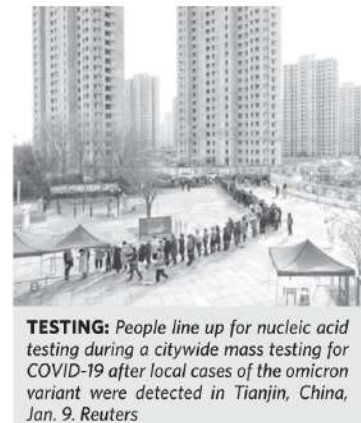
China's quick containment strategy has taken on extra urgency in the run-up to the Winter Olympics, to be staged in Beijing and neighboring Hebei province starting Feb. 4, and with the Lunar New Year holiday travel season beginning later this month.

Tianjin's mass testing scheme, which it aims to complete in two days, is part of its effort to "resolutely prevent the virus spreading to

other provinces, regions and cities, especially Beijing," the city government said in a letter to residents on Monday.

Last year, China hosted several foreign diplomatic delegations in Tianjin instead of Beijing, including those from the United States. The city is also one of north China's most important oil and gas terminals and a production base for European plane-maker Airbus and hosts data storage centers for Chinese technology firms such as Tencent.

In China's central Henan province, the city of Anyang detected two local omicron infections traced to a student arriving from Tianjin, a local paper backed by Communist party authority in Anyang said on Monday.



**TESTING:** People line up for nucleic acid testing during a citywide mass testing for COVID-19 after local cases of the omicron variant were detected in Tianjin, China, Jan. 9. Reuters

It remained unclear how many other local cases in Anyang were omicron. The city of 5.5 million residents suspended all bus services from Sunday.

Prior to the Tianjin and Anyang outbreak, China had reported a handful of omicron cases among international travelers, and at least one locally transmitted omicron infection.

# Putin dreams of a Russian 'sphere of influence.' Kazakhstan protesters are the latest to push back

**By Isabelle Khurshudyan**  
The Washington Post

MOSCOW - To Russian President Vladimir Putin, the collapse of the Soviet Union "was the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the century."

He made that statement in 2005, just months after Ukrainians launched their "Orange Revolution" and began to shake off Russia's influence in the

country, spurring Kyiv's pro-democracy leanings. Two years earlier, an uprising in the Caucasus country of Georgia had ousted its Soviet-held-over president.

Although Putin clings to Soviet nostalgia - and to a self-drawn map of Moscow's "sphere of influence" that covers much of the former empire - the countries surrounding Russia have other ideas. The latest example is

sweeping anti-government protests in Kazakhstan that have rattled a political system entrenched for three decades and brought in Russian-led forces to try to keep a lid on the unrest.

Putin has long accused the West of trying to curtail Moscow's reach. Now, he is portraying Russia as more threatened than ever and is demanding guarantees from the United States and NATO that the military alliance will stay out of what he considers the Kremlin's turf, and he has called for the removal of NATO infrastructure installed in Eastern Europe after 1997.

NATO has said Moscow can never dictate the alliance's future. But negotiations between Russian and U.S. envoys begin Monday in Geneva in efforts to close the divide and cool tensions over Ukraine, near whose eastern border Russia has massed military forces.

For Putin, the wider goals are to rework the consequences of the Soviet Union's demise in 1991 - what Putin last month called "a disintegration of historical Russia." But 30 years on, the generation rising into power in those countries do not share Putin's romanticism of the Soviet Union, in part because they never lived it.

In western Kazakhstan - where protests started over steep fuel price increases - some demonstrators chanted "Old man, go!" in reference to 81-year-old Nursultan Nazarbayev, who was the country's president from the collapse of the Soviet Union until 2019 but remains de facto ruler. In 2020

**GOVERNMENT OF GUAM**  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
DEPARTAMENTON SALLIT PUPLEKO YAN SETISION SUSIAT

**The Guam Board Nurse Examiners**  
Regular Virtual Board Meeting  
Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 3:00PM.  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://zoom.us/j/95974397232>  
Meeting ID: 959 7439 7232 Passcode: 808507

**Meeting Agenda:**

- I. Call To Order
- II. Proof Of Publication
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Adoption Of Agenda
- V. Approval Of Minutes
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Treasurer's Report
- VIII. Committee Reports
- IX. Nursing Education
- X. Administrator's Report
- a) GBNE Complaints:
  - 1) GBNE-CO-19-005
  - 2) GBNE-CO-19-018
  - 3) GBNE-CO-20-003
  - 4) GBNE-CO-20-004
  - 5) GBNE-CO-20-007/1, 2, 3, 4, 6 & 7
  - 6) GBNE-CO-20-008
  - 7) GBNE-CO-21-001
  - 8) GBNE-CO-21-003
  - 9) GBNE-CO-21-004
  - 10) GBNE-CO-21-005
  - 11) GBNE-CO-21-006
  - 12) GBNE-CO-21-007
- XI. Old Business
  - a) GMTCC CNA Graduate, Howard Redlia
- XII. New Business
  - a) GBNE Resolution 2020-02 Amendment
  - b) Temporary Work Permit Applications
  - c) Examination Applications
  - d) Endorsement Applications
  - e) APRN Applications
  - f) Prescriptive Authority Applications
  - g) Reinstatement Applications
  - h) Renewal Applications
- XIII. Announcements
- XIV. Adjournment

To view the names of the applicants being considered, go to:  
<https://guamhplp.org/gbne>  
To view the LIVE Streaming link:  
<https://facebook.com/HPLPGuam>

For more information, please contact the Board office at (671) 735-7409-12. Persons needing telecommunication device for the Hearing/Speech Impaired (TDD) may contact (671) 475-8339.

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**TAMUNING-TUMON-HARMON MUNICIPAL PLANNING COUNCIL**  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
6:30 P.M. Thursday - January 13, 2022  
Tamuning Community Senior Center  
2nd NOTICE

**This is an In person meeting. It will also be live-streamed on our Tamuning Mayor's Office Facebook page. Individuals wishing to participate may contact Tamuning Mayor's Office at 671-646-5211 or email [mayor@crivera.tatuha@gmail.com](mailto:mayor@crivera.tatuha@gmail.com)**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Infresia
- IV. Approval of Minutes of December 09, 2021
- V. Mayor's Report:
  - a. MAYORS' COUNCIL OF GUAM News from Monthly Meeting
  - b. Guam Land use Commission Application No. 2020-31A. Zone Variance request for Height, to construct two 26-story multi-family structures.
  - c. Guam Land Use Commission Application 2020-31B. Vista del Mar Int'l, LLC; Tentative Development plan request for a proposed hotel-resort with water park, multi-family And single family development, Lots 10163-R2 & 10189-2, Tamuning.
  - d. Guam Land Use Commission Application No. 2021-24A-Revised Application, 24-B Building Height Variance-GTA
- VI. Sister Command's Report
- VII. Youth Congress Representative's Report:
- VIII. Old Business:
- IX. New Business:
- X. Committee Reports:
- XI. Announcements:
- XII. Adjournment:

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