

HAINES BOROUGH, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION No. 20-12-897

**A Resolution of the Haines Borough Assembly Certifying the Declaration of Emergency in the Haines Borough Based on the Risk to the Public posed by the major Winter Storm Event in the Haines Borough**

**WHEREAS**, commencing December 1, 2020, the Haines Borough experienced a major Winter Storm event; and

**WHEREAS**, between midnight on November 30, 2020 and 10:00 am December 2, 2020, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Haines Borough received more than 7 inches of rain; and

**WHEREAS**, the ground is already frozen due to significant snowfall so the extreme rain caused serious flooding; and

**WHEREAS**, several roads have washed out and are impassable; and

**WHEREAS**, Lutak Dock (where the Haines Borough receives their fuel barge) is on the other side (away from town) and has limited road access to the dock due to ongoing slide damage; and

**WHEREAS**, the airport, from which patients are medivacked since the Haines Borough has a clinic but no hospital, has limited access due to a washed out road and slide damage between the Clinic and the airport; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to the significant infrastructure loss due to the deterioration/collapse of roads, several Haines Borough residents have lost their homes both due to flooding and mud slides; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wastewater Treatment Facility is overcapacity and cannot keep up with incoming influent; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the Haines Borough water mains was broken and several have been exposed when roads failed, causing potable water loss to one neighborhood; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 2, 2020, the Haines Borough closed its school for an undetermined amount of time; and non-essential Borough facilities and services were closed; and

**WHEREAS**, the Haines Borough has engaged several private contractors to assist the Department of Public Works with clearing and stabilizing roads; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 50 Haines Borough homes have been evacuated and have relocated to local hotels; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 2, the Haines Borough Mayor issued a Declaration of Emergency for the Haines Borough to alert the public to the seriousness of the risk, and provide direction to sources of information and other available resources, while the

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Haines Borough works in cooperation with other local and state agencies through the EOC to implement actions and responses to address the winter storm event; and

**WHEREAS**, the Haines Borough Declaration of Emergency was given prompt and general publicity and was filed with the Alaska division of homeland security and emergency management; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska immediately responded with Emergency Coordination for the Haines Borough Disaster, including Governor Mike Dunleavy, Chief of Staff Ben Stevens, General Torrence Saxe from the National Guard, Department of Public Safety Commissioner Amanda Price, Department of Natural Resources Commissioner Corri Feige, Department of Transportation Commissioner John MacKinnon Emergency Coordination

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to AS 26.23.140, the declaration of local emergency issued by the Mayor on December 2, may not be continued or renewed for a period in excess of seven days, except by or with the consent of the governing board of the political subdivision,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Haines Borough Assembly, in accordance with the recommendations of the Mayor and Haines Borough Emergency Operations Command, by this resolution certifies a declaration of emergency in the Haines Borough based on the major storm event in the Haines Borough. As provided by AS 26.23.140, the intent of this declaration is to activate the response and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local or interjurisdictional disaster or emergency plans, and to authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under those plans. This emergency declaration is in effect until lifted.

Adopted by a duly-constituted quorum of the Haines Borough Assembly on this 8th day of December, 2020.

Attest:

  
Alekka Fullerton, CMC, Borough Clerk



  
Douglas Olerud, Mayor