

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, commencing December 1, 2020, the Haines Borough is experiencing 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 has received more than 7 inches of rain, and;

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

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

WHEREAS, the Haines Borough is currently on emergency power supply (diesel generator) and there is currently 7,000 gallons of Diesel available in town; and

WHEREAS, Lutak Dock (where the Haines Borough receives their fuel barge) is on the other side (away from town) on one of the washed out roads; and

WHEREAS, the airport, from which patients are medivacked since the Haines Borough has a clinic but no hospital, is also inaccessible due a washed out road 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 when the road failed, causing potable water loss to one neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, on December 2, 2020, the Haines Borough closed its school; 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, several Haines Borough residents have had to evacuate and have relocated to local hotels; and


WHEREAS, a declaration of emergency will alert the public to the seriousness of the risk, and provide direction to sources of information and other available resources, all while the Haines Borough works in cooperation with other local and state agencies through the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to implement actions and responses to address the weather event;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Douglas Olerud, Mayor of the Haines Borough, do hereby proclaim on December 2, 2020 a declaration of emergency in the Haines Borough and in accordance with

the recommendations of the Haines Borough Emergency Incident Command. This proclamation is in effect for seven (7) days until the Haines Borough Assembly adopts this declaration by resolution at its regular assembly meeting December 8, 2020. 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. Further, I hereby request that the Haines Assembly continue this declaration until it determines that the emergency does not pose a threat to our community.

Dated this 2nd day of December, 2020 at Haines, Alaska.




Douglas Olerud, Mayor

Attest:


Alekka Fullerton, CMC, Borough Clerk