

Office of the Mayor
Haines Borough, Alaska

Declaration of Emergency

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is caused by the SARS-Cov-2 virus (virus), a new strain of the coronavirus that has not been previously identified in humans and is easily transmittable person to person; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the virus a pandemic; Alaska Governor Dunleavy issued a declaration of public health disaster emergency in response to the anticipated outbreak of COVID-19 in Alaska; and on March 13, 2020 President Donald J. Trump declared a national emergency in response to the virus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, at least three positive cases of COVID-19 have been identified within the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Dunleavy closed all schools in Alaska for two weeks; public access was limited to municipal facilities and services in the Haines Borough; nonessential municipal meetings are canceled until March 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Prime Minister of Canada closed all cruise ship ports in Canada until July 2020, which will dramatically impact the summer tourism season in Haines with a substantial effect to the Haines economy; 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 public health 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 probable COVID-19 outbreak;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jan Hill, Mayor of the Haines Borough, do hereby proclaim on March 17, 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 March 24, 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 virus does not pose a **health or financial emergency in the community**.

Signed and Sealed on this 17th day of March, 2020.



Janice Hill, Mayor

Attest:

Alekka Fullerton, CMC, Borough Clerk