City of Diomede Resolution 20-03

2020 CITY OF DIOMEDE COVID-19 RESPONSE DISASTER DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the City of Diomede, Alaska is a political subdivision that has jurisdictional boundaries outside of an unorganized borough; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Organization (WHO) declared a COVID-19 a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a declaration of public health disaster emergency in the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, March 13, 2020, United State President Donald J. Trump declared a national emergency in response to the corona virus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), (WHO), and Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (AKDHSS) continue to issue direction and mandates regarding the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Norton Sound Health Corporation Health Care services are urgent or emergent and must continue, but with enhanced screening and safety measures; and

WHEREAS, COVID -19 infections are continuing across Alaska. To prevent the Diomede Clinic and Norton Sound Health Corporation health care system from being overwhelmed, the community of Diomede will continue practicing social-distancing every time people return from mainland Nome or Anchorage.

WHEREAS, City of Diomede is in compliance with State of Alaska Mandatory Travel Declaration and the City of Nome to embark or disembark on PathFinder Aviation and other Nome Airport Terminals; and

WHEREAS, to protect the Pilot and Crew of PathFinder Aviation, all passengers taking flight must be tested for COVID-19 virus in Nome or Diomede, 3 days before entering the PathFinder Hangar and must wear a face mask; and

WHEREAS, PathFinder Aviation contract for Diomede flights to conduct Federal U.S. Mail deliveries and 'Approved' passenger flights continue; and

WHEREAS, PathFinder Aviation will not accept to carry out packages or freight from local residents of Nome and Little Diomede, and

WHEREAS, to avoid exposure to COVID-19 virus, no passengers are permitted to fly from Wales to Diomede, *via* PathFinder Helicopters; and

WHEREAS, to avoid exposure to COVID-19 virus and to protect the community members, no private-owned boats from other coastal villages are permitted to land on Little Diomede; and

WHEREAS, to ensure zero risk exposure to COVID-19 virus village to village travel is prohibited, all Private Boat Owners must abide by the State of Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandate 011 & 012 (Social-Distancing & Intrastate Travel), and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor of Diomede, now declares a disaster emergency in the City of Diomede. 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.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Diomede specifically request disaster relief for COVID-19 Virus Pandemic.

I, the Acting City Administrator of the City of Diomede hereby certify the foregoing Resolution #2020-03 was adopted by a duly convened meeting on this **28**th **Day of April 2020.** For foregoing Resolution was approved by **6** in favor, **O** opposed, **O** absent, **O** abstained.

ATTEST:

Marlene "Opik" Ahkinga, City Mayor

Rebecca K. Ozenna, Acting City Clerk