

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY (2025 WESTERN ALASKA STORM DISPLACEMENT)

ISSUED BY THE MAYOR OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE PURSUANT TO ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CHARTER SECTION 5.02 AND ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 3.80.040.

WHEREAS, beginning on October 8, 2025, storms, including the remnants of Typhoon Halong, devastated large portions of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region in Western Alaska, bringing unprecedented flooding that destroyed large amounts of property and displaced thousands of our fellow Alaskans from their homes; and

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2025, Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a disaster declaration pursuant to state law in which the Governor activated the State of Alaska's Public and Individual Assistance programs within the Kashunamiut, Lower Yukon, and Bering Strait Regional Education Attendance Area, as well as the Northwest Arctic and North Slope Borough, and authorized the deployment of state personnel, Alaska National Guard, and Alaska State Defense Force service members to coordinate the State's disaster response in what the State has described as "one of the most significant airlift efforts in recent Alaska disaster response history"; and

WHEREAS, Anchorage is the population center in the State, and the region's aerial and logistical hub, with the largest airport and seaport, the most hospitals, the most large-community facilities, and is collocated with the regional command headquarters for the U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, and the Alaska National Guard; and

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2025, the Municipality learned that, given the degree of widespread destruction to the land, homes, and infrastructure caused by the remnants of Typhoon Halong, the State and residents of multiple villages have determined that their communities are no longer habitable and coordinated the mass evacuation of entire communities as part of a concerted Statewide effort to provide vital and lifesaving assistance to residents of Western Alaska; and

WHEREAS, evacuees have arrived in Anchorage, the State has requested support and technical assistance from the Municipality in helping to identify municipal or private resources that can be made available to the State as it provides temporary assistance to evacuees; and

WHEREAS, to date, the Municipality has made the Egan Center, the Spenard Recreation Center, and the Fairview Recreation Center available to provide temporary shelter and has helped identify other potential municipal resources; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality has incurred and is expected to continue to incur expenses as a result of making municipal resources and staff available to the State's disaster response efforts;

WHEREAS, the Municipality expects that many evacuees will need to stay in Anchorage through the winter because of the devastating destruction of their homes and community facilities in Western Alaska and the difficulties of restoration and construction during the winter months.

WHEREAS, the Municipal budget does not cover expenses associated with providing technical assistance to the State in the State's management of this disaster; and

WHEREAS, experience has shown that a municipal emergency declaration can provide essential flexibility in emergency response and can facilitate reimbursement of emergency expenditures from the State or Federal government and that the lack of a municipal emergency declaration can interfere with reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Assembly has by Emergency Ordinance 2025-1 temporarily amended AMC 3.80.030 to enable the declaration of an emergency in these circumstances,

NOW, THEREFORE; pursuant to the authority granted in Section 5.02 of the Home Rule Charter for the Municipality of Anchorage and Anchorage Municipal Code 3.80.040,

I HEREBY DECLARE THAT AN EMERGENCY EXISTS WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE BASED UPON THE EVENTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES SPECIFIED ABOVE; and

I HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS TO BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY TO PRESERVE PUBLIC SAFETY AND WELFARE WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO THE MUNICIPALITY. THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS HAVE THE POWER OF LAW, SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR THE DURATION OF THIS EMERGENCY, AND SHALL SUPERSEDE ALL CONFLICTING LAWS DURING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS EMERGENCY:

- 1. The Municipality of Anchorage Comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan (CEOP) is hereby activated to the fullest extent necessary. Nothing in this proclamation of emergency shall be construed to limit the powers, authority and responsibilities provided in the CEOP.
- 2. The Municipal Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is authorized to request assistance from the State of Alaska for the provision of any funds, services, functions, supplies or materials determined by the OEM to be necessary to meet public safety and welfare needs arising from or incidental to the 2025 Western Alaska Storm Displacement.
- 3. To the extent necessary to implement the CEOP or otherwise to preserve and protect the public safety, health and welfare from the effects of the 2025 Western Alaska Storm Displacement, the requirements of Chapters 7.15 and 7.20 of the Anchorage Municipal Code (AMC) are hereby suspended for the duration of this emergency, except for the requirements set forth in AMC 7.20.090.
- 4. All resources of the municipal government, including municipal personnel, are hereby available as necessary to cope with this emergency. Municipal departments, agencies, or personnel may be transferred or altered in function for the purpose of performing or facilitating performance of services responsive to this emergency.

DATED this 17th day of October, 2025.

Suzanne LaFrance, Mayor

Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska