

**ANCHORAGE, ALASKA  
EO No. 2020-2**

1 **AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ENACTING**  
2 **A MANDATE THAT DURING THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**  
3 **INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS SHALL SHELTER**  
4 **OVERNIGHT AT DESIGNATED LOCATIONS OR OTHER OVERNIGHT**  
5 **SHELTER.**  
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8 **WHEREAS**, the Anchorage Emergency “Hunker Down” Order EO-03 included an  
9 Emergency Regulation No. 1 that requires everyone currently in the Municipality of  
10 Anchorage to stay at home as much as possible except to work in certain critical  
11 jobs and for limited occasions such as for groceries or other important goods, for  
12 health care, and to get fresh air; and  
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14 **WHEREAS**, Regulation No. 1 of EO-03 exempted individuals experiencing  
15 homelessness from its coverage, but “strongly urged [them] to obtain shelter”; and  
16

17 **WHEREAS**, in order to comply with Center for Disease Control and Prevention  
18 guidelines for social distancing while staying overnight, homeless shelter providers  
19 in Anchorage have reduced their shelter bed capacity so that bedding can be  
20 separate by 6 feet; and  
21

22 **WHEREAS**, in conjunction and coordination with the homeless shelter providers,  
23 March 21, 2020 the Mayor announced the Sullivan and Ben Boeke arenas would be  
24 operated as temporary shelters for up to 480 individuals experiencing  
25 homelessness, 24 hours a day, to provide additional capacity with bedding at least  
26 6 feet apart; and  
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28 **WHEREAS**, on March 31 the Mayor announced the Dempsey Anderson Ice Arena  
29 would likely be used to house homeless coronavirus patients as a quarantine center;  
30 and  
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32 **WHEREAS**, there are an estimated 1,100 unsheltered homeless individuals in  
33 Anchorage, a vulnerable population that tends to suffer from weakened immune  
34 systems and underlying health conditions due to the harsh nature of street life and  
35 often compounded by chronic alcohol and substance misuse and mental health  
36 challenges; and  
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38 **WHEREAS**, constituents have contacted Assembly Members reporting  
39 encampments of homeless individuals with tents erected wall to wall growing by the  
40 day, and observing and sending pictures of groups of more than 10 congregating  
41 regularly in or near encampments; and  
42

43 **WHEREAS**, the Assembly finds the foregoing conditions may increase the spread  
44 of COVID-19 and if not addressed apparently will result in overwhelming health care  
45 services, is detrimental to the ability to respond and treat persons ill from COVID-

1 19, and this effect is substantial enough to endanger the public health, safety or  
2 welfare; now, therefore

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4 **THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY ORDAINS:**

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6 **Section 1.** For the duration of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency  
7 proclaimed by the Mayor, the following uncodified ordinance shall apply throughout  
8 the Municipality:

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10 Assembly Emergency Ordinance No. 2020-\_\_\_\_

- 11  
12 1. Everyone currently in the Municipality of Anchorage (the  
13 “Municipality”) shall stay at home as much as possible, except to work  
14 in certain critical jobs, listed in Regulation #5 of the Mayor’s  
15 Emergency Order 03; to buy, sell, or deliver groceries or other  
16 important goods; to receive or provide health care; and to get fresh air  
17 without contacting others. On the limited occasions when individuals  
18 leave home, they should maintain social distancing of at least six feet  
19 from any person outside their household whenever possible.  
20 Individuals are also encouraged to practice recommended hygiene,  
21 including regular hand washing.  
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23 a. All individuals in the Municipality of Anchorage who experience  
24 homelessness and do not have a place to shelter overnight  
25 shall seek overnight shelter at a currently operating shelter or  
26 at one of the temporary homeless shelters designated by the  
27 Mayor during the Emergency. Staying overnight in a prohibited  
28 campsite, as defined in AMC section 15.20.020B.15. does not  
29 qualify as overnight shelter.  
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31 b. Police or peace officers finding an individual outdoors staying  
32 overnight in a tent or prohibited campsite shall issue a warning  
33 and order the individual to relocate to a designated temporary  
34 shelter or other overnight shelter before 8:00 p.m. the following  
35 day. An individual so ordered that stays overnight in a tent or  
36 prohibited campsite a second consecutive night is a violator of  
37 this emergency ordinance, unless shelter beds are not  
38 available to accommodate the individual.  
39  
40 2. This Emergency Ordinance is enforceable under AMC section  
41 3.80.090.  
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43 **Section 2.** The Municipal Clerk is directed to distribute this Emergency Ordinance  
44 to the Mayor, Chief of Police, and Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness as  
45 soon as possible.  
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47 **Section 3.** This Emergency Ordinance shall be effective at 5 p.m. on April 16,  
48 2020, and pursuant to Charter § 10.03 shall expire after 60 days after its adoption  
49 unless sooner repealed by resolution.

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PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Municipal Clerk

