



**GREATER KETCHIKAN AREA
JOINT DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, City of Ketchikan, and City of Saxman participate jointly in the Greater Ketchikan Area LEPC, and the Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center for disaster planning, mitigation, response, and recovery; and

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, is easily transmissible person to person, and which poses a significant public health risk; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020 the Ketchikan EOC stood up to begin monitoring and provide a framework for coordinated communications, preparedness and response; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) declared the virus a pandemic; and

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

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

WHEREAS, a positive case of COVID-19 has been identified within the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Dunleavy closed all schools in Alaska for two weeks; and multiple other facilities and services in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough including the City of Ketchikan and City of Saxman were suspended due to precautionary methods for protecting the community from the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Prime Minister of Canada closed all ports in Canada to ships carrying more than 500 people until July 2020, which will dramatically impact the cruise ship calls into Ketchikan with a substantial effect to the Ketchikan economy; and

WHEREAS, a proactive approach taken by individuals and communities to slow the rate of infection will reduce the negative impact on our health care system.

NOW THEREFORE, in accordance with the recommendations of the Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center, we now declare a disaster emergency in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, City of Ketchikan, and City of Saxman. 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.

Signed this 16th day of March, 2020

Frank Seludo
Mayor, City of Saxman

Bob Sivertsen
Mayor, City of Ketchikan

Rodney Dial
Mayor, Ketchikan Gateway Borough

ATTEST:

Lori Richmond
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Kim Stanker
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Kacie Paxton
Borough Clerk