PROCLAMATION

A DECLARATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY WITHIN THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH DUE TO THE SHOVEL CREEK WILDLAND FIRE AND REQUESTING STATE AND FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

WHEREAS, On June 21st, 2019, a wildfire, designated as the Shovel Creek Fire, started in a Full fire protection area which is immediately adjacent to a Critical fire protection area; and

WHEREAS, Five additional wildland fires are burning in the Fairbanks North Star Borough (Borough) in either Full or Limited fire protection areas; and

WHEREAS, High temperatures and erratic winds have pushed the Shovel Creek Fire towards more heavily populated areas of the Borough, specifically, the Murphy Dome area; and

WHEREAS, The state of Alaska has a Type 2 Incident Management Team in charge of the fire and is upgrading it to a Type 1 Team on or about July 4th, 2019; and

WHEREAS, The Shovel Creek Fire has caused the need to issue Level 3 evacuation notices to the Martin and Perfect Perch Subdivision, Level 2 notices to Lincoln Creek, McCloud, and Murphy subdivisions and a Level 1 notice to the Chatanika river corridor due to actual threats to life and property; and

WHEREAS, The heavy smoke from the surrounding fires has caused health concerns throughout the Borough; and

WHEREAS, The Borough Animal Control division has facilitated with the evacuation and housing of animals and domestic livestock to evacuation centers in the Borough that it established and operates; and

WHEREAS, The Borough has furnished staff and expects to have additional staffing needs to provide emergency planning, alerting and notification, information management and sheltering during the fire evacuations; and

WHEREAS, The Shovel Creek Fire is threatening residential structures within the Borough and has a high likelihood of persisting in the threat and threatening additional subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, The Borough has expended and committed Borough emergency funds to facilitate the needs of the community during this emergency; and
WHEREAS, Fairbanks North Star Borough Code (FNSBC) 2.16.040 outlines the responsibilities of the mayor in regards to disasters; and

WHEREAS, The severity and magnitude of the emergency is anticipated to be beyond the timely and effective response capabilities of local resources; and

WHEREAS, The Shovel Creek Fire is declared to be a disaster due to the imminent threat to people, homes and structures within the Borough; and

WHEREAS, The declaration of a disaster is necessary to allow for resources to be properly allocated to assist with evacuations and displaced residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that in accordance with FNSBC 2.16.040 and AS 26.23.140 the Fairbanks North Star Borough Mayor declares a disaster emergency exists with the Fairbanks North Star Borough; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with FNSBC 2.16.040, orders and/or regulations may be issued as necessary to deal with this Disaster Emergency; and,

FURTHERMORE, it is requested that the Governor of the State of Alaska declare a Disaster Emergency to exist as described in AS 26.23 and provide State Assistance and Individual Assistance to the Fairbanks North Star Borough in its response and recovery from this event.

PROCLAIMED AND DECLARED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July, 2019 at 10:35 A.M.

Bryce Ward, Mayor
Fairbanks North Star Borough

ATTEST:

April Trickey, CMC
Borough Clerk

APPROVED:

Jill S. Dolan
Borough Attorney