






**SUBJECT:** AUTHORIZING THE RE-APPROPRIATION OF \$1,000,000 FROM THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE RESERVE FUND TO THE 2022 WINDSTORM DISASTER PROJECT AND APPROVE THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE PROJECT

**AGENDA OF:** February 15, 2022

**ASSEMBLY ACTION:**  
Adopted without objection  
3-1-22 

**MANAGER RECOMMENDATION:** Introduce and set for public hearing.

**APPROVED BY MICHAEL BROWN, BOROUGH MANAGER:** 

Route To:	Department/Individual	Initials	Remarks
	Originator	FIN	
	Finance Director		
	Borough Attorney		
	Borough Clerk		

**ATTACHMENT (S) :** Fiscal Note: YES X NO \_\_\_\_\_  
MSB Disaster Declaration (1 pp)  
State of Alaska Declaration (5 pp)  
Ordinance Serial No. 22-019 (2 pp)  
Resolution Serial No. 22-021 (2 pp)

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:** Beginning January 1, 2022, The Matanuska-Susitna Borough experienced a winter storm that brought extreme cold weather and sustained strong winds. Impacts from the storm included multi-day power disruptions, windblown debris and downed trees blocking transportation infrastructure and damage to public, private and commercial property.

Disaster Declarations were signed by the Borough Manager and Mayor on January 3, 2022 and by the Governor of Alaska on January 6, 2022.

**RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:** Approve this legislation to re-appropriate \$1,000,000 from the Emergency Reserve Fund 100 to the 2022 Windstorm Disaster Project 55030 Fund 445 to cover associated costs with the disaster until state and federal reimbursements can be determined.

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH  
FISCAL NOTE

Agenda Date: February 15, 2022

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZING THE RE-APPROPRIATION OF \$1,000,000 FROM THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE RESERVE FUND TO THE 2022 WINDSTORM DISASTER PROJECT AND APPROVE THE SCOPE OF WORK AND BUDGET FOR THE PROJECT

ORIGINATOR: FINANCE

FISCAL ACTION (TO BE COMPLETED BY FINANCE)	FISCAL IMPACT <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
AMOUNT REQUESTED \$1,000,000	FUNDING SOURCE AW Emergency Resp. Reserve
FROM ACCOUNT # 100 242.160	PROJECT
TO ACCOUNT: 445.00.00 3XX.XXX	PROJECT # 55030
VERIFIED BY: <i>Yvonne Wiland</i>	CERTIFIED BY:
DATE: 2-2-22	DATE:

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027
Personnel Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land/Structures						
Grants, Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING						

CAPITAL	1,000.0					
---------	---------	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

General Fund	1,000.0					
State/Federal Funds						
Other						
TOTAL	1,000.0					

POSITIONS:

Full-Time						
Part-Time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

PREPARED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DEPARTMENT: *Cherianne Skendzel* DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: *2/2/22*





**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH**  
**Department of Emergency Services**  
**Office of Emergency Management**

680 North Seward Meridian Parkway • Wasilla, AK 99654  
Phone (907) 861-8004 • Fax (907) 861-8014  
[www.matsugov.us](http://www.matsugov.us)

**DISASTER DECLARATION**

WHEREAS, commencing on January 1, 2022, the Matanuska Susitna Borough sustained steady and damaging winds throughout the Matanuska Susitna Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska Susitna Borough is a political subdivision within the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the following conditions exist as a result of the disaster emergency: damages to Borough and State infrastructure; damage to homes and businesses to include debris, roofs, broken windows, frozen pipes; and damages to vehicles; and

WHEREAS, prolonged and sustained loss of basic utilities to large populations of the Matanuska Susitna Borough; and

WHEREAS, the severity of the disaster will likely exceed the capability of local resources; and

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Borough Manager and Mayor of the Matanuska Susitna Borough hereby declare a Disaster Emergency per AS. 26.23.140 to exist in the Matanuska Susitna Borough.

FURTHER, it is requested that the Governor of the State of Alaska declare a Disaster Emergency to exist, as described in AS. 26.23.020, and provide State financial disaster assistance under the Public Assistance and Individual Assistance to the Matanuska Susitna Borough in its response and recovery from this event.

FURTHER, the undersigned certify that the Matanuska Susitna Borough has expended to date, local resources in an amount to be determined, with costs continuing to grow as a result of this disaster emergency.

Signed this 3rd day of January, 2022.

Mike Brown, Borough Manager

Edna DeVries, Mayor

*Providing Outstanding Borough Services to the Matanuska-Susitna Community.*

IM 22-040  
OR 22-019  
RS 22-021

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. Box 110001  
Juneau, AK 99811-0001  
907-465-3500



550 West Seventh Avenue, Suite 1700  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
907-269-7450

Governor Mike Dunleavy  
STATE OF ALASKA

January 6, 2022

The Honorable Peter Micciche  
Senate President  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 111  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

The Honorable Louise Stutes  
Speaker of the House  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 208  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear President Micciche and Speaker Stutes:

On January 3, 2022, following a series of strong winter storms that impacted the state, I declared a state disaster for the Fairbanks North Star, Matanuska-Susitna (Mat-Su), and Denali Boroughs, the City of Nenana, and the Delta/Greely and Copper River Regional Education Attendance Areas (REAAs). The state declaration authorizes funds to be made available for the state's individual, temporary housing, and public assistance programs, along with necessary administrative and disaster management expenses.

Beginning on or around December 15, 2021, the State of Alaska experienced an atypical change in the strength and location of the jet stream that steered a series of low-pressure storm systems into the Bering Sea, through the West Coast, and into Interior Alaska. This unusual weather pattern produced an atmospheric river, bringing warm and moist air from the Pacific Ocean. Over the Christmas holiday weekend, this weather system produced record precipitation in the Fairbanks area and across other regions in Interior Alaska.

These highly unusual winter storms produced extreme cold temperatures, strong winds, wind chills to 45 degrees below zero, freezing rain (resulting in ice accumulation), and heavy snowfall. Impacts from this severe weather included downed power lines, widespread power outages involving over 14,000 residents, road closures (including major highways), hazardous driving conditions, water in building crawl spaces and basements, and building damage across much of Interior Alaska. The National Weather Service (NWS) – Fairbanks Office reports this storm produced 1.93 inches of liquid precipitation on December 26, 2021, the wettest December day on record and third wettest day on record for Fairbanks. Also, NWS measured 4.75 inches of precipitation in December, the wettest December on record, and the second wettest winter month on record.

On December 29, 2021, the Fairbanks North Star Borough mayor requested disaster assistance from the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) to support the Borough transporting

IM 22-040  
OR 22-019  
RS 22-021



The Honorable Peter Micciche  
The Honorable Louise Stutes  
January 6, 2022  
Page 2 of 3

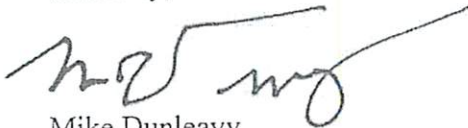
residents to shelter who were unable to leave their homes due to access and power issues. The Alaska National Guard deployed eight personnel with vehicles to Fairbanks on January 1 - 4, 2022 to meet this request.

The Interior extreme weather was closely followed by another strong storm further south. Beginning January 1, 2022, strong cold northerly air brought extreme cold weather and sustained strong winds to the Mat-Su Borough and Copper River Basin. Wind gusts over 80 miles per hour, with wind chills to 40 degrees below zero were recorded. Impacts from this storm included multi-day power disruption to over 18,000 Mat-Su residents, windblown storm debris, overturned vehicles on highways, downed trees, wind and freeze damage to homes, schools, government structures, commercial businesses, and other property.

The Mat-Su Borough declared a local declaration of disaster emergency for this storm on January 3, 2022 and requested state disaster assistance.

The total estimated disaster-related response and recovery costs for this disaster have not been fully quantified; therefore, I am limiting expenditures for this disaster to \$1 million from the Disaster Relief Fund pursuant to Alaska Statute (AS) 26.23.020(i) and (k), and per AS 26.23.025(a) this letter serves as the initial finance plan. The current balance of the Disaster Relief Fund is \$3,435,998.60 and a supplemental appropriation is not required at this time.

Sincerely,



Mike Dunleavy  
Governor

Enclosures: Declaration of Disaster Emergency

cc: The Honorable Click Bishop, Finance Committee Co-Chair, Alaska State Senate  
The Honorable Bert Stedman, Finance Committee Co-Chair, Alaska State Senate  
The Honorable Neal Foster, Finance Committee Co-Chair, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable Kelly Merrick, Finance Committee Co-Chair, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable Scott Kawasaki, District A, Alaska State Senate  
The Honorable Robert Myers, District B, Alaska State Senate  
The Honorable David Wilson, District D, Alaska State Senate  
The Honorable Mike Shower, District E, Alaska State Senate  
The Honorable Shelley Hughes, District F, Alaska State Senate  
The Honorable Bart LeBon, District 1, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable Steve Thompson, District 2, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable Mike Prax, District 3, Alaska State House of Representatives

IM 22-040  
OR 22-019  
RS 22-021

The Honorable Peter Micciche  
The Honorable Louise Stutes  
January 6, 2022  
Page 3 of 3

The Honorable Grier Hopkins, District 4, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable Adam Wool, District 5, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable Mike Cronk, District 6, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable Christopher Kurka, District 7, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable Kevin McCabe, District 8, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable George Rauscher, District 9, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable David Eastman, District 10, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable DeLena Johnson, District 11, Alaska State House of Representatives  
The Honorable Cathy Tilton, District 12, Alaska State House of Representatives  
Neil Steininger, Director, Office of Management and Budget  
Akis Gialopsos, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor

IM 22-040  
OR 22-019  
RS 22-021



STATE OF ALASKA  
DECLARATION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, starting on December 15, 2021, an atypical change in the strength and location of the jet stream steered a series of low-pressure storm systems into the Bering Sea, and onshore through the West Coast, and into Interior Alaska; and

WHEREAS, this unusual weather pattern produced an atmospheric river, accompanied by warm and moist air from the Pacific Ocean, that produced record precipitation over the Fairbanks area and other regions across Interior Alaska over the Christmas holiday weekend; and,

WHEREAS, these highly unusual winter storms produced extreme cold temperatures, strong winds, wind chills to 45 degrees below zero, freezing rain (resulting in ice accumulation), heavy snowfall with impacts including downed power lines, widespread power outages involving over 14,000 residents, road closures (including major highways), hazardous driving conditions, water in building crawl spaces and basements, building damage; and,

WHEREAS, beginning January 1, 2022, strong cold northerly air brought extreme cold weather and sustained strong winds to the Matanuska-Susitna (Mat-Su) Borough and Copper River Basin with wind gusts over 80 miles per hour and wind chills to 40 degrees below zero; and,

WHEREAS, impacts from this January storm included multi-day power disruption to over 18,000 Mat-Su residents, windblown storm debris, overturned vehicles on highways, downed trees, wind and freeze damage to homes, schools, government structures, commercial businesses, and other property; and,

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks North Star, Mat-Su, and Denali Boroughs, the City of Nenana, and the Delta/Greely and Copper River Regional Education Attendance Areas (REAs) are each political subdivisions of the State of Alaska, and several of these jurisdictions have requested state disaster assistance for these storms; and,

WHEREAS, the response to these storms required the use of local, borough, utility, contracted, and state resources to provide public safety, emergency management, shelter operations, emergency supplies, power restoration, road clearance, and storm debris removal that protected the public and infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, the severity and magnitude of this emergency are beyond the timely and effective response and recovery capability of local resources, immediate and emergency assistance is needed, and there are insufficient regularly appropriated local funds to cover these requirements.

THEREFORE, on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2022, under authority granted by Alaska Statute 26.23.020(c), I hereby declare that a condition of disaster emergency exists in the Fairbanks North Star, Denali, and Matanuska-Susitna Boroughs, the City of Nenana, and the Delta/Greeley and Copper River REAs, and this condition is of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant a disaster declaration in order to provide assistance.

IM 22-040  
OR 22-019  
RS 22-021

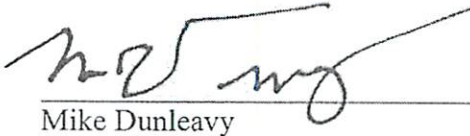
2021 - 2022 Statewide Storms

January 6, 2022

Page 2 of 2

FURTHER, the Commissioner of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) is hereby authorized to utilize funds made available for these purposes which are considered necessary for disaster assistance, to include disaster individual, temporary housing, and public assistance, and necessary administrative and disaster management expenses. State funds are proposed to be spent under AS 26.23.020(i) and (k) and AS 26.23.050. The Commissioner of DMVA or his designee is the designated State Coordinator; and, is further authorized to task, as necessary, state departments and agencies in accordance with the State Emergency Operations Plan; and is further authorized to exercise, as necessary, the provisions provided under Alaska Statutes 26.23.020(g)(1), (2), (3), (7), and (9).

By:



Mike Dunleavy  
Governor

IM 22-040  
OR 22-019  
RS 22-021