

Action:

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 26-065**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY IN RESPONSE TO IMMINENT 2026 TALKEETNA FLOODING AND A REQUEST FOR STATE ASSISTANCE.

WHEREAS, the community of Talkeetna, located within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, has been experiencing ongoing and elevated flood risk due to high water levels at the confluence of three rivers - the Susitna River, Chulitna River, and Talkeetna River; and

WHEREAS, sustained high water flows, fluctuating river stages, and shifting channels have increased the frequency and severity of flooding, resulting in impacts to land, structures, and infrastructure, and creating an imminent risk of additional damage; and

WHEREAS, critical public infrastructure, including but not limited to roads and utilities, has been damaged or is at imminent risk of damage from flooding, disrupting essential services and posing risks to public safety; and

WHEREAS, private property owners have experienced flood-related impacts, including property damage and threats to homes and outbuildings, creating an immediate need for emergency protective measures as well as longer-term flood mitigation and recovery assistance; and

WHEREAS, a coordinated, long-term flood mitigation strategy, supported by State and federal partnerships and sufficient funding, is necessary to protect critical assets and ensure the long-term viability of the Talkeetna community; and

WHEREAS, the scope and severity of these impacts exceed the response and recovery capabilities of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

Section 1. Local Emergency Declaration. The Borough Assembly hereby declares a disaster emergency per AS 26.23.140 to exist in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Section 2. Request for Federal Assistance. The Assembly directs the Manager to pursue federal assistance for long-term mitigation and potential property buyouts as funding allows.

Section 3. Request for State Assistance. The Borough Assembly requests State financial assistance to match federal funding opportunities for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and its residents in its response.

Section 4. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately after its adoption. Because of the ongoing nature of the emergency, this declaration of local emergency shall remain in effect for 180 days.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly this - day
of -, 2026.

EDNA DeVRIES, Borough Mayor

ATTEST:

LONNIE R. McKECHNIE, CMC, Borough Clerk

(SEAL)