

**CITY OF CRAIG  
RESOLUTION 20-18**

**2020 Port St. Nicholas Landslide and Flooding Disaster Declaration**

WHEREAS, in 24 hours between October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, the Craig area received 1.4” of rain and sustained high winds; and,

WHEREAS, in 24 hours between October 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, the Craig area received 3.2” of rain with windy conditions; and,

WHEREAS, areas of Prince of Wales are prone to landslide activity when weather conditions include substantial rainfall; and,

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2020, the City of Craig activated the Craig Emergency Operations Center to monitor flooding and landslides in areas on Prince of Wales Island, and was notified that there were two landslides along the Port St. Nicholas Road blocking vehicular traffic, as well as areas of blocked culverts causing flooding and other damage at several areas along the Port St. Nicholas Road; and,

WHEREAS, in the 48 hours between the morning of October 31 and the morning of November 2, an additional 7.4 inches of rain fell in the area, most of which fell in a single 24-hour period; and,

WHEREAS, the rainfall event beginning October 31 led to additional landslide and heavy water runoff events that further damaged the Port St. Nicholas Road; and,

WHEREAS, the flooding and landslides directly and adversely impacted the Port St. Nicholas Road, causing closure the road, disruption of electric service, and adjacent private property damage; and,

WHEREAS, the Port St. Nicholas Road is owned and operated by the City of Craig; and,

WHEREAS, the response needed to reopen the road and provide public safety exceeds the city’s ability to respond solely with city resources, and response costs are not included in the current year’s budget; and,

WHEREAS, initial recovery work to temporarily reopen the Port St. Nicholas Road began on October 27 and continues as of the effective date of this resolution; and,

WHEREAS, restoring the road to its pre-event condition will require extensive site work to clear the road surface, drainages and drainage structures, the cost of which is estimated in the hundreds of thousands of dollars and take months to complete; and,

WHEREAS, the city has authority to regulate the use and operation, maintain, and otherwise govern and manage activities along the Port St. Nicholas Road per Alaska Statutes 29.35.020; and,

WHEREAS, prior to the referenced storm events, the City of Craig EOC was already engaged in the 2020 COVID-19 response and mitigation based on the State of Alaska Declared Disaster on March 11, 2020; the Presidential Declared Disaster on March 13, 2020; and the City of Craig Declared a Disaster on March 24, 2020 through Resolution 20-06; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mayor of the City of Craig, as the principal executive officer of the city, with support of the Craig City Council, now declares a disaster in response to damage caused by hazardous weather events, and the resulting landslides beginning October 25, 2020. 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.

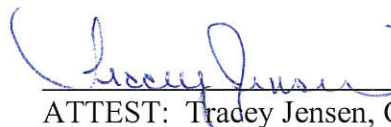
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Craig City Council intends this declaration to remain in effect through hazardous weather events occurring subsequent to October 25, and enables the Mayor to declare an end to the emergency, or perpetuate the declaration, at his discretion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Craig requests that the State of Alaska declare a disaster on Prince of Wales Island and make both public assistance and individual assistance funds available from the State Disaster Relief Fund in response to the flooding and landslide events between October 25<sup>th</sup> and November 2<sup>nd</sup> and any subsequent flooding or landslides during ongoing weather events related to the current soil and hydraulic conditions.

APPROVED THIS FIFTH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2020.



Mayor Tim O'Connor



ATTEST: Tracey Jensen, City Clerk

