

Presented by: The Manager
Presented: 01/07/2026
Drafted by: Law Department

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA

Serial No. 4038

**A Resolution of the City and Borough of Juneau Declaring a Local
Emergency in Response to the December 2025 to January 2026 Winter
Storm and a Request for State and Federal Assistance.**

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Juneau (the “City and Borough”) is a political subdivision of the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, commencing on December 27, 2025, and continuing, the City and Borough of Juneau has sustained record-breaking snowfall events, resulting in cumulative snowfall totals significantly exceeding historical averages; and

WHEREAS, the intensity and duration of the snowfall have resulted in dangerous snow load conditions on roofs, with measured snow densities and depths approaching and exceeding standard design load assumptions for many structures, thereby creating an imminent risk of roof failure, collapse, and injury; and

WHEREAS, the City and Borough has identified critical public infrastructure, including municipal buildings, schools, emergency response facilities, waste and wastewater treatment facilities, and other essential structures, that require immediate snow load reduction and clearing to protect life, safety, and continuity of operations; and

WHEREAS, the excessive snow accumulation has placed extraordinary strain on the municipal water utility system, including restricted access to facilities, impaired operations, freezing risks, and reduced system reliability, necessitating additional operational assistance and resources beyond normal capacity; and

WHEREAS, heavy snowfall and subsequent melt have obstructed fire hydrants, storm drains, culverts, and drainage infrastructure, significantly impairing emergency response capabilities, increasing flooding risk, and creating hazards to public safety; and

WHEREAS, steep terrain and snowpack conditions throughout the City and Borough have substantially increased the risk of avalanches, threatening residential neighborhoods, transportation corridors, utilities, and emergency responders, and requiring specialized monitoring, forecasting, and mitigation support; and

42 WHEREAS, the cumulative impacts of these conditions have caused significant
43 financial harm and strain, and have exceeded the capacity of available local personnel,
44 equipment, and funding to adequately respond without external assistance; and
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46 WHEREAS, the ongoing conditions of the weather continues to constitute a clear and
47 present threat of danger to life, property, and public facilities and infrastructure in the City
48 and Borough.
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50 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA:
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52 **Section 1.** The Assembly of the City and Borough of Juneau hereby declares a
53 local emergency to exist within the City and Borough of Juneau due to the December 2025 to
54 January 2026 Winter Storm.
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56 **Section 2.** The City and Borough requests that the Governor of Alaska provide
57 such State assistance as may be available to address the ongoing emergency and to request
58 additional assistance from Federal agencies where State capability is not adequate,
59 including but not limited to assistance for:
60

- 61 1) Critical public infrastructure snow load clearing;
- 62 2) Water utility operational assistance;
- 63 3) Fire hydrant, drainage, and stormwater infrastructure clearing and support;
64 and
- 65 4) Avalanche monitoring, forecasting, and mitigation support.
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67 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This resolution shall be effective immediately after
68 its adoption.
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70 Adopted this 7 day of January, 2026.
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73 _____
74 Beth A. Weldon, Mayor

74 Attest:
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77 _____
78 Breckan L. Hendricks, Municipal Clerk