City of Diomede
Resolution 20-05

2020 CITY OF DIOMEDE COVID-19 RESPONSE
DISASTER DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the City of Diomede, Alaska is a political subdivision that has jurisdictional boundaries outside of an unorganized borough; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Organization (WHO) declared a COVID-19 a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, Governor Dunleavy issued a declaration of public health disaster emergency in the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, March 13, 2020, United State President Donald J. Trump declared a national emergency in response to the coronavirus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), (WHO), and Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (AKDHSS) continue to issue direction and mandates regarding the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Norton Sound Health Corporation Health Care services (NSHC) are urgent or emergent and must continue, but with enhanced screening and safety measures of wearing masks, gloves, and goggles; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 infections are continuing across Alaska. To prevent the Diomede Clinic and Norton Sound Health Corporation health care system from being overwhelmed, the community of Little Diomede will practice safe distancing, hand washing/sanitizing, disinfect “high-touch” surfaces—Door knobs, light switches, table/desk tops, chairs, computers, cash registers, phones, coffee pot handles, etc., in public workplaces; and

WHEREAS, All Public Workplaces on Diomede must establish and post up Safety Guidelines or plans to protect themselves and all customers from the risks of COVID19 exposure; and

WHEREAS, if an individual tests ‘POSITIVE’ for COVID19 on Little Diomede, that person will be immediately situated at his/her home or placed at the designated room of the Diomede School or other designated house for a 14 Day Quarantine with very strict guidelines not to exit the house; and
WHEREAS, City of Diomede may hire 1 person to help households in quarantine, to haul water, deliver food purchases from local stores, haul out trash and honeybuckets. To keep the hired help from COVID19 exposure, protective gear will be worn and he or she is not to enter the house; and

WHEREAS, Diomede Washeteria will post a schedule for individuals or households who are in Quarantine. Head of Household or other adults are responsible for following strict guidelines of mask wearing, not allowing others in the premises, and thoroughly sanitizing high-touch surfaces of the facilities after washers, dryers, and shower use. City of Diomede will discontinue or refuse service to those who do not comply with guidelines; and

WHEREAS, City of Diomede urges people to keep a 6 feet distance from one another in public workplaces, such as the Stores, Office Buildings, Schools, in general open public areas; and

WHEREAS, City of Diomede’s goal is prevention of exposure to COVID19 virus, while allowing travel for the purposes of Critical Personal Needs, Essential Services, Critical Infrastructure Work, and Subsistence Hunting or Fishing; Individuals entering or leaving Diomede must follow safety measures of practicing safe distancing (6 Feet apart), mask wearing, hand washing/sanitizing, avoid large social crowds and gathering, quarantining before traveling, and taking COVID-19 Tests; and

WHEREAS, Travelers (who are not Critical Infrastructure/Essential Services) coming into Diomede, must complete the **14 Day Quarantine Alaska State Mandate** with this one of these two options: **OPTION 1**—14 Day Self-Quarantine in Nome + take a COVID 19 Test. **OPTION 2**—7 Days Quarantine in Nome + COVID TEST and 7 MORE DAYS in Diomede + Final COVID19 Test with the Diomede Clinic = 14 DAYS QUARANTINE; and

WHEREAS, Critical Infrastructure/Essential Service Workers may fly into Diomede, and are not required to quarantine for 14 Days, but must follow City of Diomede’s COVID19 Restrictions, and will need to present negative COVID19 results before traveling; and

WHEREAS, All Essential Services/Critical Infrastructure Workers must file a protective plan with **akcovidpland@ak-prepared.com**, before entering Little Diomede, and

WHEREAS, Self-isolation or Quarantine helps prevent the spread of infection of COVID19. People who are in quarantine means they must stay at home, separate themselves from others in the household, avoid entering public workplaces and stores, wash hand frequently, wipe down surface area frequently; and

WHEREAS, City of Nome designates Nome Airport and City Field as Essential Air Travel Districts during the COVID19 Pandemic. As of June 30, 2020, City of Nome and PathFinder Aviation **does not require** travelers to complete Travel Permit forms to fly into and out of Little Diomede; and
WHEREAS, Individuals traveling from outside Alaska, must complete 14 Day Quarantine in Anchorage or Nome, and must present ‘Negative COVID19 Test’ results to PathFinder Aviation and wear a mask before traveling to Diomede; and

WHEREAS, to protect the Pilot and Crew of PathFinder Aviation, all passengers must present ‘negative test results’ for COVID 19 Virus and wear a face mask in the hangar and aircraft; and

WHEREAS, As an important safety precaution, Children under the age of 2 years should not wear a mask inside the PathFinder Hangar and in the Aircraft; and

WHEREAS, PathFinder Aviation is contracted for Diomede flights to conduct Federal U.S. Mail deliveries, Passenger and chartered flights, only assigned PathFinder Agents are allowed to open the helicopter doors; and

WHEREAS, Hired PathFinder Agents and U.S. Post Office Manager are the only individuals allowed on Helipad upon the arrival of PathFinder Aviation; and

WHEREAS, People who bring carry-out packages to PathFinder Hangar must wear a mask and gloves to prevent the spread of COVID19 virus; and

WHEREAS, to avoid exposure to COVID-19 virus, no passengers are permitted to fly from Wales to Diomede, via PathFinder Helicopters; and

WHEREAS, to avoid exposure to COVID-19 virus and to protect the community members, private boat owners from other coastal villages are NOT permitted to land skiffs and enter the village of Little Diomede, without present proof of ‘Negative COVID19 Test’ results to the City of Diomede Council Member or City of Diomede Representative; and

WHEREAS, to avoid risk exposure of COVID-19 virus, Private Boat Owners of Little Diomede, must request permission in advance to their Tribe or City Government to enter the village and must provide ‘Negative COVID19 Test’ results if landing on mainland communities of Alaska; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor of Diomede, now declares a local disaster emergency in the City of Diomede. 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, the City of Diomede specifically request disaster relief for COVID-19 Virus Pandemic.

I, the Acting City Administrator of the City of Diomede hereby certify the foregoing Resolution #2020-05 was adopted by a duly convened meeting on this 30th Day of June 2020. For foregoing Resolution was approved by 5 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 absent, 0 abstained.

ATTEST:

Marlene “Opik” Ahkinga, City Mayor

Heather Ivanoff, City Clerk