EMERGENCY ORDER 01-2020

Suspension of Unrestricted Entry into the North Slope Borough Communities of Utqiagvik (Barrow), Point Hope, Point Lay, Wainwright, Atqasuk, Nuiqsut, Anaktuvuk Pass and Kaktovik

On March 18, 2020, the North Slope Borough Mayor executed a Declaration of Emergency concerning the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic for the North Slope Borough.

The potential for widespread transmission of the Coronavirus threatens our people. The North Slope Borough is an isolated network of communities with limited medical resources. Those traveling could unwittingly bring this virus into our communities, threatening our residents, especially our elders. In the past, our people and culture experienced similar threats to our health and lives. Our elders remember the loss of nearly an entire generation, and we must act now, out of an abundance of caution, to avoid a regional pandemic and loss of life.

The North Slope Borough is unable to effectively evaluate and monitor all travelers arriving from areas the Coronavirus has already infected. The potential for undetected transmission of the Coronavirus by infected individuals seeking to enter our communities is too great. Given the importance of protecting our people from the threat of this harmful communicable disease, I have determined that it is in the interests of the North Slope Borough to take action to restrict and suspend entry into our communities. We endeavor not to endure, but to prevent the presence of the Coronavirus from spreading to the North Slope of Alaska.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY K. BROWER JR., Mayor of the North Slope Borough, find that the unrestricted entry into the Communities of Utqiagvik (Barrow), Point Hope, Point Lay, Wainwright, Atqasuk, Nuiqsut, Anaktuvuk Pass and Kaktovik by persons described in Section 1 of this order would, except as provided for in Section 2 of this order, be detrimental to the interests of the North Slope Borough, and that their entry should be subject to certain restrictions, limitations, and exceptions. Therefore, I order the following:

Section 1. Limitation on Entry. The unrestricted entry into the North Slope Borough communities of Utqiagvik (Barrow), Point Hope, Point Lay, Wainwright, Atqasuk, Nuiqsut,
Anaktuvuk Pass and Kaktovik of all travelers is hereby suspended and all entry denied subject to Section 2 of this order. This includes entry by air, sea and land.

Section 2. Scope of Limitation on Entry.

(a) Section 1 of this proclamation shall not apply to:

(i) Air traffic controllers, Department of Transportation maintenance staff, pilots and crew members of aircraft who remain within the Federal Aviation Administration & Department of Transportation restricted areas of North Slope Borough community airports.

(ii) Any person that has obtained a waiver approved by the Mayor of the North Slope Borough. Requests for waivers will be considered only if the individual requires urgent care that cannot be provided at a medical facility in their community on slope or demonstrates that their travel is in the best interest of the health and welfare of others. Each approved waiver must be accompanied by procedures that may include quarantine provisions.

(iii) The point of contact for waiver requests is: TravelWaiver@north-slope.org

Section 3. Implementation and Enforcement. North Slope Borough travel coordinators, the Police Department and regional medical facilities shall implement this proclamation as it applies to entry into our communities.

(a) The North Slope Borough expects the full cooperation of Federal and State agencies operating on behalf of residents of the North Slope Borough. Special consideration is expected from the Transportation Safety Administration to ensure that all travelers subject to the proclamation are not permitted to board aircraft traveling to the North Slope Borough communities identified in this proclamation.

(b) The North Slope Borough expects the full cooperation of contractors and private businesses serving the North Slope Borough and its residents.

(c) Any person who willfully obstructs or circumvents the application of this order shall be a priority for the prosecution of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment of up to 6 months and by fine up to $500.

Section 4. Termination. This order shall remain in effect until April 15, 2020, unless terminated earlier by the Mayor of the North Slope Borough.

Section 5. Effective Date. This proclamation is effective at 12:01 a.m. Alaska daylight time on March 28, 2020.
Section 6. Severability. It is the policy of the North Slope Borough to enforce this order to the maximum extent possible for the safety of the public. Accordingly:

(i) if any provision of this proclamation, or the application of any provision to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this proclamation and the application of its provisions to any other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby; and

(ii) if any provision of this proclamation, or the application of any provision to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid because of the lack of certain procedural requirements, the relevant Borough officials shall implement those procedural requirements to conform with existing law and with any applicable court orders.

Section 7. General Provisions.

(a) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the North Slope Borough, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand this twenty-sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty.

[Signature]

Harry K. Brower, Jr.
North Slope Borough Mayor