



**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
MAYOR DAVE BRONSON**

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY
(Public Health & Safety Civil Emergency)**

**ISSUED BY THE MAYOR OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
PURSUANT TO ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 3.80.040.**

WHEREAS, on this date of January 26, 2024 at 5 p.m., an event constituting a Civil Emergency has occurred within the Municipality of Anchorage, specifically: all cold-weather sheltering options have been at or near capacity for weeks, temperatures have dropped below zero on several consecutive nights, overnight temperatures are projected to continue to be unseasonably cold, and many Anchorage residents have no sheltered location in which to take refuge, leaving them in danger of serious harm and even death (this event is hereinafter referred to as the “Cold Weather Sheltering Civil Emergency”); and

WHEREAS, the continuing cold weather and negative degree temperatures will likely result in further personal injury and loss of life to vulnerable citizens; and

WHEREAS, all rooms and beds at several hotels providing shelter under contracts with the Municipality are currently at capacity; and

WHEREAS, the Cold Weather Shelter at a former Solid Waste Services building is currently at capacity; and

WHEREAS, all other shelters are currently at capacity or at near-capacity with waitlists to access sheltering services; and

WHEREAS, the demand for shelter by the Municipality’s unhoused residents is not met at this time and danger to these residents is compounded by the recent and forecasted extremely cold temperatures; and

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the Municipality to attempt to provide shelter accessible by homeless individuals during cold weather, especially during nights when temperatures fall below zero; and

WHEREAS, Municipal resources could be made available to allow vulnerable residents to seek shelter from the cold; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor may exceed the 150-client capacity set forth by AMC 16.120.020D by activating an emergency shelter pursuant to AMC 16.120.020A.(2) under a declaration of civil emergency; and



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
MAYOR DAVE BRONSON

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

WHEREAS, the Mayor has authority to make use of all available resources of the Municipality as may be reasonably necessary to cope with an emergency and has authority to alter the function of Municipal departments, agencies, or personnel for the purpose of facilitating emergency services per AMC 3.80.060F; and

WHEREAS, Municipal resources could be made available to allow for vulnerable citizens to seek shelter and get out of the cold;

WHEREAS, this emergency proclamation will continue until February 9, 2024, at 5 p.m.; and

NOW THEREFORE; pursuant to the authority granted in Article V, Section 5.02 of the Home Rule Charter for the Municipality of Anchorage, AMC 3.80.040, and AMC 3.80.100, I hereby declare that a Civil Emergency exists within the Municipality of Anchorage based upon the events and circumstances specified above; and

I HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS TO BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY TO PRESERVE PUBLIC SAFETY AND WELFARE WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO THE MUNICIPALITY. THE FOLLOWING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS HAVE THE POWER OF LAW, SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR THE DURATION OF THIS EMERGENCY, AND SHALL SUPERSEDE ALL CONFLICTING LAWS DURING THE EXISTENCE OF THIS EMERGENCY.

1. The Municipality of Anchorage Health Department (AHD) is hereby authorized to make use of all available municipal resources of the municipal government, including municipal personnel, facilities, and equipment, to the fullest extent necessary, to address the effects of the Public Health & Safety Civil Emergency. Specifically, AHD is directed to create space at existing Municipal sheltering facilities to accommodate more persons needing shelter.
2. Municipal facilities may be used for sheltering or warming services. AHD in consultation with the Anchorage Fire Department (AFD) may arrange, as expeditiously as possible, for such facilities to be used for sheltering or warming while this order is in effect.
3. Acquisition of supplies, equipment, services, personnel, fuel, or food as may be necessary to expand sheltering capacity at Municipal facilities shall be executed in accordance with AMC 7.20.090. Other requirements of AMC chapters 7.15 and 7.20 shall not apply to such acquisitions.



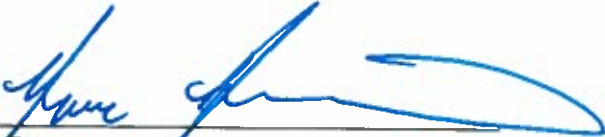
MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
MAYOR DAVE BRONSON

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

4. Anchorage Police Department (APD) and AFD personnel may transport persons encountered outdoors with no place to shelter from the cold to Municipal-run or funded sheltering facilities or to other Municipal facilities during operating hours. APD and AFD may only transport people who wish to be transported to a shelter or indoor public places and who consent to be transported to such places. Consent to transport can be withdrawn at any time. In the event a person being transported withdraws consent to transportation, Municipal personnel shall let the person out of the vehicle as soon as it is safe and in a location without immediate traffic hazards to the person. APD and AFD personnel may only transport people in vehicles and in portions of vehicles designed for human transportation.

5. Nothing in this proclamation of emergency shall be construed to limit the powers, authority, and responsibilities provided in the Cold Weather Sheltering Plan.

DATED this 26th Day of January 2024.



Dave Bronson
Mayor
Municipality of Anchorage