

Proposed by:	Administration
Attorney Review:	09/24/2020
Vote:	5 Aye 0 Nay 1 Absent

**MUNICIPALITY OF SKAGWAY, ALASKA
RESOLUTION NO. 20-41R**

A RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SKAGWAY, ALASKA ESTABLISHING THE TIER II SNOW GRANT, A PROGRAM TO HELP YEAR-ROUND RETAIL STOREFRONTS MAINTAIN THEIR TRADITIONAL PRESENCE IN THE COMMUNITY DURING THE 2020/2021 WINTER SEASON, AND TO MITIGATE THE IMPACTS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY OF SKAGWAY.

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Municipality of Skagway declared an emergency based on the risk to the public posed by the global COVID-19 pandemic and the substantial adverse economic impacts to Skagway residents, which was confirmed by the Assembly on March 19, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Skagway businesses rely upon the tourism industry for financial stability; and

WHEREAS, the widespread cancellation of cruises to Alaska has and will continue to have a detrimental impact on all Skagway businesses; and

WHEREAS, impacts to the local economy due to COVID-19 travel restrictions and health mandates have been and will continue to be devastating, with an estimated total community revenue loss of approximately \$160 million for the 2020 season alone; and

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Skagway wishes to implement the Tier II SNOW Grant (Skagway Normal Operations for Wintertime) to help provide retail services to residents in hopes of keeping them both mentally and physically healthy during the long winter months in Skagway, Alaska, and to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the financial stability of Skagway businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Tier II SNOW Grant will be funded from Sales Tax; and

WHEREAS, to qualify for Tier II SNOW Grant funding, eligible businesses must have maintained an open storefront from November 2019 through March of 2020, paid municipal sales tax during that same period, and must commit to maintaining an open storefront from October 15, 2020 through March 31, 2021; and

WHEREAS, for the purposes of the Tier II SNOW Grant, “storefront” shall mean an occupied room or suite of rooms in a building at street level and immediately behind a storefront, that is accessible to customers during business hours, and “retail business” means a business that sells real or tangible personal property for any purpose other than resale, as defined in SMC 4.08.005(A)(7);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Borough Assembly of the Municipality of Skagway establishes the Tier II SNOW Grant program as follows:

Tier II SNOW Grant Funding - Retail:

- Total funding: \$150,000
- Maximum funding per business: \$6,500
- Payment will be disbursed by the end of each month from October 2020 through April 2021.
- Businesses that received funding from the Municipality's Small Business Emergency Grant program are also eligible to receive funding for the Tier II SNOW Grant program.
- If a business is closed by a state or local mandate due to COVID-19 response, they will continue to receive funding through the life of the grant program.

Eligibility:

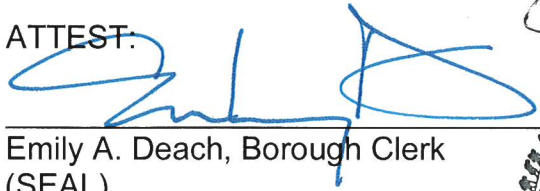
- Primary place of business is Skagway, Alaska.
- Must be a retail business that sells real or tangible personal property for any purpose other than resale, as defined in SMC 4.08.005(A)(7).
- Must have maintained an open storefront from November 2019 through March of 2020.
- Must have paid municipal taxes in both the fourth quarter of 2019 and the first quarter of 2020.
- Must commit to maintaining an open storefront four days per week (minimum two hours/day) from October 15, 2020 through March 31, 2021 (a one-month closure will be allowed).
- Business agrees to comply with all federal, state, and local COVID-19 protocols, in existence and which may become necessary in the future.
- Business agrees to require employees to wear cloth face coverings over the nose and mouth at all times when indoors, and outdoors when six-foot distancing is not possible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

PASSED AND APPROVED by a duly constituted quorum of the Borough Assembly of the Municipality of Skagway this 1st day of October, 2020.


Andrew Cremata, Mayor

ATTEST:


Emily A. Deach, Borough Clerk
(SEAL)

