



OCC RECEIVED AT
FEB 3 '23 PM4:24

**CITY OF AUSTIN DECLARATION OF DISASTER
CAUSED BY SEVERE WINTER WEATHER**

Recitals

WHEREAS, beginning in the evening hours of January 30, 2023, the City of Austin began experiencing severe winter weather, including dangerous ice conditions, and the severe winter weather continued during the week, resulting in significant and historic ice accumulations on roads and trees and widespread power outages; and

WHEREAS, Section 418.004(1) of the Texas Government Code defines disaster to be the “occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or man-made cause, including fire, flood, earthquake, wind, storm, wave action, oil spill or other water contamination, volcanic activity, epidemic, air contamination, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, riot, hostile military or paramilitary action, extreme heat, cybersecurity event, other public calamity requiring emergency action, or energy emergency;” and

WHEREAS, Sections 418.108, 418.109 and 418.020 of the Government Code authorizes the presiding officer of the governing body to declare a local state of disaster, as well as authorizing a local government to provide mutual aid assistance in accordance with its policies and procedures and may make arrangements necessary to acquire, prepare, or equip sites for temporary housing; and

WHEREAS, the Central Texas area and Austin are experiencing extreme cold temperatures and a severe ice storm which has resulted in widespread and severe property damage, injury, or loss of life to residents; and

WHEREAS, the City has activated its emergency shelter operations and is open to take in people with inadequate shelter; and

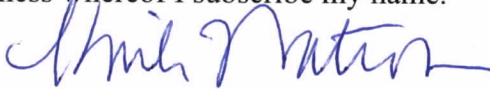
WHEREAS, it is necessary to issue this disaster declaration in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of our residents and activate emergency plans as contemplated in state law; however, the City is otherwise open and continues operations; and

WHEREAS, this declaration is not intended to prohibit or inhibit business within the City and operations at City facilities may continue with their normal operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

1. By virtue of the authority vested in me by the City Charter, as the presiding officer of the governing body and under Texas Government Code, Section 418.108, **I DECLARE** a local state of disaster within the City of Austin.
2. Pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of local disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the City Council.
3. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Clerk.
4. Pursuant to Section 418.018(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of assistance activates the City's Emergency Management Plan. All other Charter, statutory, and ordinance powers vested in me and all officers of the City of Austin to act in this local state of disaster are activated. This declaration activates the recovery and rehabilitation aspects of all applicable local or interjurisdictional emergency management plans and authorizes the furnishing of all aid and assistance as deemed necessary or desirable by those administering such plans.
5. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas, the City may take actions necessary to protect the health of persons in the City.
6. This declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.
7. The City Clerk is directed to give prompt and general publicity of the issuance of this DECLARATION.

DECLARED this the 3rd day of February 2023, in the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas, in witness whereof I subscribe my name.



Kirk Watson
Mayor, City of Austin

Filed with me, the City Clerk of the City of Austin, this the 3rd day of February 2023, by Mayor Kirk Watson, whose signature I hereby attest under my hand.



Myrna Rios, City Clerk

