



**CITY OF AUSTIN DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF  
DISASTER FOR SEVERE WINTER WEATHER**

**Recitals**

**WHEREAS**, beginning in the morning hours of January 24, 2026 and extending through at least January 25, 2026, the City of Austin (the City) and the Central Texas area is expected to be affected by severe winter weather, including sustained below-freezing temperatures and dangerous ice conditions, that will likely impact area roadways and could cause other damage, injury, or even loss of life; and

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code authorizes the declaration of a state of disaster if a threat of disaster is imminent; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code authorizes the presiding officer of the governing body of a political subdivision to declare a local state of disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, Sections 418.109 and 418.020 of the Texas Government Code authorize a local government to provide mutual aid assistance in accordance with its policies and procedures and to make arrangements necessary to acquire, prepare, or equip sites for temporary housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has activated its emergency shelter operations and is prepared to receive individuals who are without adequate shelter; and

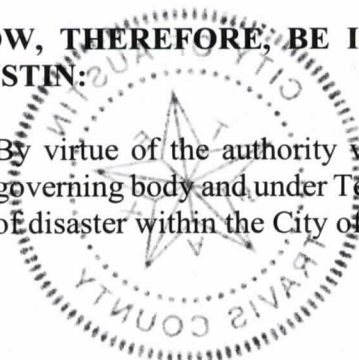
**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to issue this declaration of a local state of disaster in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of our residents and to activate emergency plans as contemplated in state law; and

**WHEREAS**, this declaration is not intended to prohibit or inhibit business within the City; and

**WHEREAS**, City facilities may continue with normal operations during this local state of disaster.


**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.

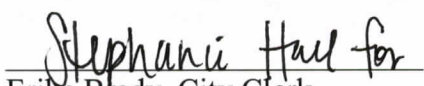


2. Pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the local state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the City Council.
3. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration 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 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City's Emergency Management Plan. All other Charter, statutory, and ordinance powers vested in me and all officers of the City 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 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2026, 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 23 day of January 2026, by Mayor Kirk Watson, whose signature I hereby attest under my hand.

  
Erika Brady, City Clerk

