

ORDER OF THE TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT CONTINUING DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER DUE TO APRIL 8, 2024 SOLAR ECLIPSE

RECITALS

STAYS IN FILE

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2024, Travis County Judge Andy Brown, acting in accordance with authority granted by §418.108 of the Texas Government Code, declared a local state of disaster for Travis County due to the Solar Eclipse occurring on April 8, 2024 to protect the health, safety and welfare of Travis County residents and visitors that will be impacted by the solar eclipse event; and

WHEREAS, Travis County will be in the path of totality of this total solar eclipse event, which is expected to significantly increase, and potentially double the population of Travis County throughout the days leading up to and including the day of the solar eclipse on April 8, 2024, thereby leading to extreme traffic congestion, enormous strains on first responder and law enforcement organizations, hospital systems, food, grocery and fuel shortages, telephone service disruptions, along with strains on County infrastructure, thereby threatening the safety of County residents; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 (Chapter 418 of the Government Code) authorizes the declaration of a state of disaster if a threat of disaster is imminent and necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of individuals in Travis County that will be impacted by the disaster; and

WHEREAS, §418.109 and §418.020 of the Government Code authorizes a local government to provide mutual aid assistance in accordance with its policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, Texas Government Code Chapter 418, Section 418.108 authorizes the County Judge of a county to declare a local state of disaster, and exercise the powers granted therein on an appropriate local scale; and

WHEREAS, the conditions necessitating declaration of a local disaster continue to exist, and Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code provides that a local state of disaster may not be continued for a period of excess of seven days without the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The recitals set forth in this Order are true and correct.
- 2. That the state of disaster proclaimed for Travis County, Texas by the County Judge on March 8, 2024 shall continue until terminated by Order of the Travis County Commissioners Court.
- 3. This Order is passed as an emergency measure and pursuant to section 418.108 of the Texas Government Code and shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.
- 4. All Travis County officials and employees are authorized to do any and all things necessary or convenient to accomplish the purpose of this Order.
- 5. Pursuant to §262.024 of the Texas Local Government Code, the Commissioners Court hereby orders that contracts for goods and services needed to provide resources to respond to the Solar Eclipse Event covered by the Disaster Order, including requests for provision of disaster relief,

emergency response, and services to assist with roadways and vehicles, and facilitating access to food, water, shelter, and the protection and rehabilitation of property due to this disaster, are exempt from the requirements established by Section 262.023 of the Texas Local Government Code because they are contracts for the purchases in the case of a public calamity that must be made promptly to relieve the necessity of the citizens of the State of Texas and are necessary to preserve the health and safety of residents.

- 6. In order to protect the health, safety and welfare of persons in the County and critical infrastructure protection in response to this local state of disaster, the Travis County Commissioners Court authorizes the provision of disaster relief and response, including emergency response and services, and facilitating access to food, water, shelter and to protect and rehabilitate property due to this disaster, and in order for officials and emergency responders to better prepare for traffic congestion, roadway conditions, emergency response and related issues, to require private property owners in the unincorporated areas of the County who intend to allow their property to be used for solar eclipse viewing, including watch parties, camping and parking on their property, and that will involve or result in over fifty (50) people being on their property on April 8, 2024, to register with the County as set forth in the Disaster Declaration; and
- 6. The Travis County Commissioners Court consents and approves, pursuant to §418.109 of the Government Code, mutual aid and assistance to any continued or renewed national, state and local declarations until consent is withdrawn.
- 7. Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Government Code, this Order continues activation of the County's emergency management plan.
- 8. Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code provides that such a declaration of local disaster may not be continued for a period of more than seven days without the consent of the governing body of the political subdivision.
- 9. Pursuant to section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this Order continuing the local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.

| Andy | Brown, County Judge, Travis County |
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| Jeffrey Travillion Commissioner Precinct 1 | Brigid Shea Commissioner Precinct 2 |
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| Ann Howard Commissioner Precinct 3 | Margaret Gomez Commissioner Precinct 4 |
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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this 2th day of March, 2024.

| Filed with the Clerk of Travis County: | | MAR 0 8 2024 |
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| Dyana Limon-Mercado, County Clerk | Date: | MAR U O 2024 |
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Travis County, Texas

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