

DECLARATION OF DISASTER

WHEREAS, severe winter weather poses an imminent threat of widespread and severe property damage, injury, and loss of life due to prolonged freezing temperatures, snow and freezing rain throughout the City of Buffalo which requires emergency action; and

WHEREAS, the severe winter weather has further caused the loss of electric power due to the severe strain being placed on the power grid which serves the City of Buffalo and the majority of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the severe winter weather has further caused damage to water infrastructure resulting in the loss of water pressure and loss of water service, and conservation efforts are needed until repairs can be made to the damaged infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2021, Texas Governor Greg Abbott declared a state of disaster for all 254 counties based on the existence of such severe winter weather threat, and Section 418.108 of the Texas Government Code authorizes the mayor of the City of Buffalo, as the presiding officer of the governing body of a political subdivision, to declare a local state of disaster; and

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden declared that an emergency exists in the State of Texas and ordered federal assistance to supplement state and local response efforts due to the emergency conditions resulting from a severe winter storm beginning on February 11, 2021, and continuing; and

WHEREAS, the City of Buffalo has taken, or will take, prevention efforts to mitigate danger to the residents of the City of Buffalo resulting from severe winter weather due to freezing temperatures, heavy snow and freezing rain; and

WHEREAS, declaring a state of disaster will facilitate and expedite the use and deployment of resources to enhance preparedness and response; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Buffalo, has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect life and property threatened by this severe winter weather,

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

Section 1. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for the City of Buffalo, Texas, pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

Section 2. That pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of 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, unless terminated earlier.

Section 3. That pursuant to §418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary, and shall be given prompt and general publicity.

Section 4. That pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code this declaration activates the City's emergency management plan.

Section 5. That this Proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

DECLARED AND ORDERED this the 19th day of February 2021.

CITY OF BUFFALO, TEXAS



Jerrod Jones, Mayor

