

Filed with the City Secretary on February 16, 2021, at 1:20 p.m.

DECLARATION BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ARLINGTON  
OF  
A LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER

- WHEREAS, on approximately February 12, 2021, the City of Arlington, Texas (City) began experiencing severe winter weather that resulted in prolonged freezing temperatures, heavy snow and freezing rain; and
- WHEREAS, this severe weather is impacting the entire State of Texas and due to the record low temperatures, the Texas power system is currently facing unprecedented demand for electricity, and
- WHEREAS, as a result of such demand, the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) has requested utilities across the State to implement controlled power outages to reduce high demand and protect the integrity of the electric grid; and
- WHEREAS, the length of the controlled outages has resulted in citizens not having power for extended periods of time;
- WHEREAS, all of these conditions continue and pose an imminent threat of widespread and severe property damage, injury, and loss of life;
- WHEREAS, on February 12, 2021, Texas Governor Greg Abbott issued a Disaster Declaration for all 254 counties in the State due to the threat imposed by the severe winter weather; and
- WHEREAS, on February 14, 2021, President Joseph Biden, Jr. issued a Federal Emergency Declaration for the State of Texas in response to the severe winter weather; and
- WHEREAS, on February 15, 2021, Tarrant County Judge B. Glen Whitley issued a Disaster Declaration for Tarrant County due to the severe winter weather; and
- WHEREAS, on February 15, 2021, Governor Abbott announced that the State is deploying maximum resources to local officials throughout the State to respond to the severe winter weather and to restore power to communities, and he has deployed the Texas National Guard across Texas to conduct welfare checks and assist local authorities in transitioning Texans in need to local warming centers; and
- WHEREAS, another round of severe winter weather is expected today and tomorrow on top of the already dangerous conditions that exist; and
- WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 4.01 of the Emergency Management Chapter of the Ordinances of the City of Arlington authorizes the Mayor to declare by proclamation a local state of disaster and to promulgate, as a result thereof, such regulations as he deems



necessary to protect life and property and preserve critical resources; NOW  
THEREFORE,

BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ARLINGTON, TEXAS:

I.

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

II.

That, pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code and Article IV, Section 4.01 of the Emergency Management Chapter of the Ordinances of the City of Arlington, this declaration of a local state of disaster shall continue until revoked, but in no event to exceed a period of seven days, unless continued or renewed by the City Council of the City of Arlington, Texas.

III.

That this declaration of disaster authorizes the City of Arlington to temporarily or permanently acquire, by lease, purchase, or other means, sites required for temporary housing units, warming stations, or emergency shelters for those impacted by the severe winter weather.

IV.

That the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute any and all contracts and agreements related to this emergency regardless of the dollar amount.

V.

That this declaration of disaster activates the City of Arlington's Emergency Management Plan pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code and 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, and activates the preparedness and response aspects of such plans as provided therein.

VI.

That this declaration of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.

VII.

That if any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of these emergency regulations or any application of them to any person, structure, gathering, or circumstance is held to be invalid

or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of these regulations.

VIII.

That any ordinances or regulations that conflict with the regulations promulgated herein are suspended or modified as necessary to make these regulations effective. Suspension or modification of the ordinances and regulations shall remain in effect until these regulations are terminated or until the state of disaster is terminated, whichever is sooner.

IX.

These regulations shall have the effect of an ordinance when duly filed with the City Secretary.


X.

In accordance with Article IV, Section 4.01(A)(4) and Article VII of the Emergency Management Chapter of the Ordinances of the City of Arlington, a person who violates any provision of these regulations shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not to exceed \$500 for each offense.

XI.

That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

SO DECLARED AND ORDERED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021, at 1 : 00 p.m.



W. JEFF WILLIAMS, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
TERIS SOLIS, City Attorney



BY \_\_\_\_\_