

PROCLAMATION OF EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY FOR WINTER STORMS BY THE CHAIR OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

WHEREAS, Chapter 2.68 of the Los Angeles County Code provides that the Chair of the Board of Supervisors (Chair) may proclaim the existence of a local emergency, pursuant to Government Code section 8558(c), when the Board of Supervisors (Board) is not in session; and

WHEREAS, a "local emergency," is defined in Government Code section 8558(c), in pertinent part, as follows: "[l]ocal emergency' means the duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of a county . . . caused by conditions such as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, cyberterrorism, sudden and severe energy shortage, deenergization event . . . plant or animal infestation or disease . . . or an earthquake, or other conditions . . . which are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of that political subdivision and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat . . ."; and

WHEREAS, as a result of a series of atmospheric river systems, the County has been impacted by high winds, substantial precipitation, closure and damage to highways and roads, evacuation warnings in areas impacted by burn scars, potential for significant debris flows, river and urban flooding, land movement incidents, and widespread power outages. The National Weather Service has forecasted that additional and continuing storms related to this series of atmospheric river systems threaten the County. Coordination, collaboration, and the combined forces of different jurisdictions are imperatively needed to effectively respond to and recover from these and likely forecasted severe winter storms; and

WHEREAS, as of February 1, 2024, there exists conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property on the basis of winter storms in the County, which are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the County, and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat; and

WHEREAS, the mobilization of local resources, and the ability to coordinate interagency response, accelerate procurement of vital supplies, and use mutual aid, will be critical to successfully responding to the emergency for the winter storms; and

WHEREAS, these conditions warrant and necessitate that the County proclaim the existence of a local emergency for the winter storms.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Chair finds that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons exist on the basis of winter storms in Los Angeles County within the meaning of Government Code section 8558(c), and such conditions are or will likely be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the County, and require the combined forces of other political subdivisions to combat; and

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED by the Chair that a local emergency exists for the winter storms in the County, and that the local emergency shall not remain in effect for a period in excess of seven days unless it has been ratified by the Board; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND PROCLAIMED that, during the existence of said local emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency organization of the County shall be those prescribed by State law, by ordinances, and resolutions of the County.

Date: February 4, 2024



LINDSEY P. HORVATH
Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors