



**TRAVIS COUNTY DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER DUE TO
APRIL 8, 2024 SOLAR ECLIPSE**

Recitals

WHEREAS, on April 8, 2024, Travis County, Texas will be in the path of totality of a total solar eclipse that will cross North America, passing over Mexico, United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS, this solar eclipse event 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 event on April 8, 2024, 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 County Judge of Travis County has determined from information provided by emergency management personnel, that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the health, safety and welfare of Travis County residents and visitors that will be impacted by the total solar eclipse event; and

WHEREAS, the Travis County Judge, in consultation with emergency management, law enforcement, and fire and rescue officials, has determined that the county, city, state and federal roads, streets, and highways will be stressed beyond capacity during certain times of the total solar eclipse event, and the stress and overcapacity of these streets, roads and highways may create a public safety hazard with law enforcement, emergency medical, and fire and rescue officials being impeded and delayed in responding to calls for service; and

WHEREAS, due to these conditions, the County Judge urges all residents of Travis County to stay at home if possible, get gas and groceries and run errands in advance, make non-urgent appointments for a different day, watch the solar eclipse from home or a location near home, do not block roadways to watch the eclipse, and if travelling to watch the eclipse, download what3words.com on your mobile device, which could help first responders find you in an emergency.

WHEREAS, the Travis County Judge has determined that a registration process for property owners in the unincorporated areas of the County who intend to allow their property to be used for solar eclipse viewing and that will involve or result in over fifty (50) people being on their property for the Solar Eclipse viewing on April 8, 2024, is necessary and in the best interests of the public safety and emergency response; 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, pursuant to Government Code section 418.108(g), a County Judge is authorized to control ingress and egress from a local disaster area, and control the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in that disaster area.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE
OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS THAT:**

1. A local state of disaster is hereby declared for Travis County, Texas, pursuant to section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code due to the April 8, 2024 Solar Eclipse Event.

2. Pursuant to section 418.108(b) of the 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 Commissioners Court of Travis County, Texas.

3. Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the appropriate response, recovery and rehabilitation aspects of the Travis County emergency management plan and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under this Declaration and Order.

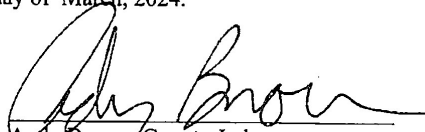
4. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas and the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 (Chapter 418 of the Government Code), the County may take actions necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of persons in the County and critical infrastructure protection in response to this local state of disaster, including providing disaster relief, emergency response and services, including services to assist with roadways and vehicles, and facilitating access to food, water, shelter and to protect and rehabilitate property due to this disaster, and 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; and

5. To register with the County as specified in paragraph number 4 above, property owners must complete an application using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/q/sqDAJIE4C9> (or QR Code at the end of the Order), providing their name, address, contact information, and detailing the number of people who will be present on their property on April 8, 2024 for emergency preparations and response. This registration requirement will allow officials and emergency responders to better prepare for traffic congestion, roadway conditions, emergency response and related issues. Failure to provide registration may result in visitors not being able to access neighborhoods and private property throughout the County due to the traffic conditions and influx of people due to the solar eclipse event; and

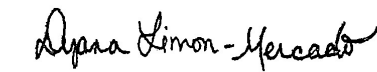
6. Pursuant to section 418.108(c) of the Government Code, this Declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.

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

DECLARED AND ORDERED this 8th day of March, 2024.


Andy Brown, County Judge
County of Travis, Texas

Filed with the Clerk of Travis County:


Dyana Limon-Mercado, County Clerk

MAR 08 2024

Date: _____



FILED AND RECORDED
OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS

Dyana Limon-Mercado

Dyana Limon-Mercado, County Clerk
Travis County, Texas

2024024860

Mar 08, 2024 12:01 PM

Fee: \$0.00

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STAYS IN FILE