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City of Sebastopol

PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, Section 2.36.050 of the Sebastopol Municipal Code identifies the Fire Chief as the Director of Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.36.060 (a) of the Sebastopol Municipal Code empowers the Director of Emergency Services to:

1. Request the City Council to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a “local emergency” if the City Council is in session, or to issue such proclamation if the City Council is not in session. Whenever a local emergency is proclaimed by the Director, the City Council shall take action to ratify the proclamation within seven days thereafter or the proclamation shall have no further force or effect.

WHEREAS the Director of Emergency Services of Sebastopol does hereby find:

That conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen with the City, as a result of:

- 1) The emergence and spread of flooding beginning on February 26, 2019 and ongoing through the City of Sebastopol; and
- 2) The resulting destruction of public facilities and infrastructure, commercial buildings, and open space within the City of Sebastopol; and
- 3) The displacement and required evacuation of more than 30 residents of the City of Sebastopol as well as surrounding areas of Sebastopol to shelters within the City of Sebastopol and County of Sonoma shelter (Santa Rosa Fairgrounds); and
- 4) The required evacuation of over 50 residents and families, some of which are of limited means and disabilities from Park Village to shelters within the City of Sebastopol and County of Sonoma shelter (Santa Rosa Fairgrounds), including some residents that had to be evacuated by City personnel and vehicles/boats; and
- 5) The closure of major roads and highways providing access to, from, and within the City of Sebastopol and surrounding areas; and
- 6) The ongoing loss of electrical power within the City of Sebastopol due to the flooding; and
- 7) The necessity of providing fire, police and City personnel that will exceed the capacity of our local agency for an unknown but extended period of time; and

- 8) The necessity of providing shelter, food, and medical care to displaced persons and support personnel and volunteers for an unknown but extended period of time; and
- 9) The necessity of coordinating with the Sonoma County Office of Emergency Services and other agencies to secure and provide necessary services and supplies; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Emergency Services of the City of Sebastopol does hereby find:

1. That conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within the City, caused by the "February 2019 atmospheric river rain events and subsequent flooding" which began at approximately 12:00 am on the 26th day of February and persisted through February 27, 2019 and is ongoing; and
2. That these conditions are, or are likely to be, beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of the City of Sebastopol; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Sebastopol is not in session and cannot immediately be called into session.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that a local emergency now exists throughout the City; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that a copy of this declaration be forwarded to the Governor of California with a request that he proclaim a state of emergency for Sebastopol, and that the aforesaid conditions of extreme peril warrant and necessitate the Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency, and further that the Governor request a Presidential Proclamation; and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said local emergency the powers, functions, and duties of the emergency services organization of this City shall be those proscribed by law, by ordinances, and resolutions of this City and by the Sebastopol Emergency Operations Plan, and

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that this proclamation shall remain in effect for seven (7) days, or until ratified by the City Council, whichever first occurs.

BY:



Bill Braga (Fire Chief), Director of Emergency Services

Date: 02/27/19