

**PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM
SEVERE WINTER STORMS OF MARCH 2023**

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 8630 and Chapter 2.46 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code (“Ordinance Code”) authorize the Director of Emergency Services (“Director”) of the County of San Mateo (“County”) to proclaim a local emergency when the County is threatened by conditions of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the County that 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 the Board of Supervisors is not in session; and

WHEREAS, pursuant Section 2.46.060(a) of the Ordinance Code, whenever a local emergency is proclaimed by the Director, the local emergency shall not remain in effect for a period in excess of seven (7) days thereafter unless the proclamation has been ratified by the Board of Supervisors within that seven (7) day period; and

WHEREAS, on January 2, 2023, the Director proclaimed a local emergency based on conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within San Mateo County due to the damage and impacts resulting from the extreme and unprecedented levels of rainfall and associated severe weather that began on December 27, 2023, which proclamation was ratified and extended by the Board of Supervisors and currently remains in place; and

WHEREAS, on January 4, 2023, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency throughout California related to the severe weather that began on December 27, 2023; and

WHEREAS, on January 14, 2023, President Biden issued a Major Disaster Declaration, which provided for individual assistance and public assistance in debris removal and emergency protective measures under the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. § 5121) in numerous counties in California and, on January 26, 2023, San Mateo County was included in the declaration as eligible for individual assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and

WHEREAS, on March 8, 2023, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in San Mateo County as a result of winter storms that struck California beginning in late February 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Director does hereby find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within both the incorporated and unincorporated areas of San Mateo County due to damage and impacts resulting from additional extreme and unprecedented levels of rainfall and associated severe weather events that began on March 8, 2023 which have threatened, caused, and/or exacerbated severe flooding, traffic disruptions and road closures, downed trees and power lines, falling debris, power outages, displacement of residents, extraordinary stress upon public service delivery, and other impacts to public and private property, infrastructure, equipment, and facilities; and

WHEREAS, in fact, at least one person was killed after a tree fell onto their vehicle in unincorporated San Mateo County; and

WHEREAS, these conditions are 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 Board of Supervisors is not currently in session, and cannot immediately be called into session; and

WHEREAS, during a local emergency, the Director is empowered by Chapter 2.46 of the Ordinance Code to issue rules and regulations on matters reasonably related to the protection of life and property as affected by such emergency; provided, however, that such rules and regulations must be confirmed at the earliest possible time by the Board of Supervisors.

NOW THEREFORE, the Director hereby takes the following actions:

1. Proclaims that a local emergency, as defined in Government Code Section 8558 and Chapter 2.46 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, now exists within the incorporated and unincorporated areas of San Mateo County; and

2. Directs 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 ordinance, and by resolution of this County; and


3. Proclaims that pursuant to Public Contract Code Sections 20134, 20395, 2035(b), and 22050, the County Purchasing Agent or designee is hereby authorized to engage independent contracts to complete all necessary work to mitigate the effects of said local emergency and contracts in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 per agreement for this work may be executed without prior Board of Supervisors approval of the plans, specifications, and working details, and without giving notice for bids to let contracts; and

4. Proclaims that all expenditures made in connection with this local emergency, including mutual aid activities, shall be deemed conclusively to be for the direct protection and benefit of the inhabitants and property of the County of San Mateo.

This proclamation of local emergency shall expire seven (7) days after issuance unless it has been ratified by the Board of Supervisors.

Dated: March 22, 2023

Time: 10:15 AM



Michael Callagy,
Director of Emergency Services