



## **CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT**

**MEETING DATE:** March 27, 2023

**ITEM TITLE:** Adopt a Resolution Proclaiming the Termination of the Declaration of Local Emergency Dated January 5, 2023 Arising out of the December 2022 and January 2023 Atmospheric River Storms.

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends the City Council adopt a Resolution terminating the Proclamation of Local Emergency. The circumstances leading to the Proclamation have diminished to the point that the response to the emergency no longer requires emergency powers under State law. City staff is diligently prepared in the event emergency circumstances arise again this season.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There is no fiscal impact associated with terminating the local emergency. However, the City incurred financial costs associated with the emergency in an estimated amount of \$5.5 million. These costs are related to debris clearance, damage to buildings and equipment, damage to roads, and damages to public utility systems.

In addition to the City's local emergency, San Mateo County was included in the national and state disaster declarations. As such, the City is eligible for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Program and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services' California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) Program. Staff submitted a Request for Funding for FEMA's PA Program on March 9, and an application for CalOES' CDAA Program on March 15. In the coming weeks, staff will work with officials from CalOES to review potential eligible damages from the storm and flooding disaster.

### **BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS:**

Section 2.28.060 of the San Carlos Municipal Code empowers the Director of Emergency Services (the City Manager) to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when the City of San Carlos is affected or likely to be affected by a public disaster and the City Council is not in session.

On December 31, 2022, the City Manager, acting as Director of Emergency Services, determined that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons or property existed in the City, caused by the extreme atmospheric river rain event. The storm caused extensive flooding at Holly Street, along El Camino Real, Brittan Avenue, and other areas throughout the city. Concerned that the forecast called for additional storms of unknown strength and potential for additional flooding that could cause further property damage and displacement of businesses and residents, the Council on January 5, 2023 extended the Local Emergency, as provided by law, for sixty days via Resolution 2023-001.

Since January 6, local conditions have stabilized. The threatened storms occurring after the City Council decision were not as severe as the first wave and no significant additional flooding or other damage occurred in the city.

CONCLUSION:

There is no longer a need to continue the Local Emergency for the period of December 2022 and January 2023.

Government Code Section 8630 provides that the governing body of the local agency shall proclaim the termination of the local emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant. Therefore, staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution proclaiming the end of the local emergency related to the December 2022 and January 2023 Atmospheric River Storms.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternatives available to the City Council include:

1. Adopt a Resolution proclaiming the termination of the Declaration of Local Emergency dated January 5, 2023 arising out of the December 2022 and January 2023 atmospheric river storms; or
2. Do not terminate the local emergency; or
3. Provide staff with alternative direction.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Gregory Rubens, City Attorney

Approved for submission by:



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Jeff Maltbie, City Manager

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Resolution