



DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER

WHEREAS, the State of Texas Declared a State of Disaster in Texas on May 31, 2021, certifying under Section 418.04 of the Texas Government Code that the surge of individuals unlawfully crossing the Texas-Mexico Broder posed an ongoing and imminent threat of disaster for a number of Texas Counties and for all state agencies, including the City of McAllen, affected by this disaster; and

WHEREAS, the City of McAllen declared a State of Local Disaster in McAllen, Texas on August 2, 2021, finding that among other things, U.S. Customs and Border Protection is releasing an alarmingly substantial number of immigrants into the City of McAllen, Texas, and

WHEREAS, local Non-Governmental Organizations, including the Catholic Charities' Humanitarian Respite Center (HRC) have limited resources from which to provide humanitarian aid to the influx of individuals and can no longer without additional support adequately feed, house, provide medical attention or otherwise accommodate the individuals being released into the City of McAllen; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Texas has renewed and amended the original declaration in subsequent proclamations, most recently on April 21, 2023; and

WHEREAS, based upon changes in Federal law and policies related to immigration to the United States, there is a massive increase in the number of immigrants crossing the international border and enter the City of McAllen, Texas, and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that approximately tens of thousands of immigrants are now camped directly across in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico with the intention of crossing the border into the McAllen, Texas, and

WHEREAS, more than 1000 immigrants have crossed the border into the City of McAllen Texas in the preceding twenty-four hours and it is anticipated that a like number or more will continue to cross the border on a daily basis, and

WHEREAS, due to recent increases in immigrants being released into the City of McAllen, Texas, it may face inadequate access to medical care, shelter and other humanitarian necessities including food and water; and

WHEREAS, the surge in immigrant crossings is a significant public safety and security concern, including but not limited to the increased risk of injury or loss of life and property, and

WHEREAS, the City of McAllen may need to take measures to preserve the health and safety of its residents, employees and the public, and

WHEREAS, immigration is under the purview of the federal government and is not under state, county or municipal jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, McAllen, Texas is consistently ranked the safest city in Texas and third safest city in the country, and endeavors to maintain its exceptional level of safety; and

WHEREAS, mass migration events pose security and delay lawful crossings at the City of McAllen's international ports-of-entry and interfere with international trade, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE MAYOR OF McALLEN, TEXAS:

1. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for the City of McAllen, Texas pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. Pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Government Code, the local state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the City Commission of McAllen, Texas.
3. Pursuant to §418.018(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 City Secretary.
4. Pursuant to §418.018(d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the city emergency management plan and all procedures and authority vested in the Emergency Management Office are invoked.
5. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this the 12th day of May 2023.



JAVIER VILLALOBOS
Mayor of McAllen, Texas

ATTEST:



Perla Lara, TRMC/CMC, CPM
City Secretary