

**CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER  
STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION**

**Date/Time Initiated: July 18, 2023 at 11:29 [am/pm]**

WHEREAS, the City and County of Denver has experienced year over year increases in the number of people experiencing homelessness, an increase in those experiencing first time homelessness, and a tripling in the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness since 2019;

AND WHEREAS, the 2022 Point in Time Count, an annual survey of the number of people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January, counted over 1,300 City residents who were unsheltered and living outdoors;

AND WHEREAS, the number of people living unsheltered in 2022 was the highest number ever recorded in the City and all indications point to these numbers expanding again in 2023;

AND WHEREAS, individuals who are living unsheltered and outdoors lack access to housing and basic services that all individuals need in order to live and thrive;

AND WHEREAS, the large number of people living unsheltered in the City creates significant public health and safety risks due to the lack of available services and the associated impacts of encampments created in spaces that are not safe for habitation;

AND WHEREAS, people who live unsheltered have higher rates of illness and shorter life spans and living unsheltered is a dangerous health condition for individuals;

AND WHEREAS, incremental approaches to addressing the challenge of homelessness have not effectively reduced the number of residents experiencing homelessness in the City;

AND WHEREAS, the need to provide shelter, physical and behavioral health care services, and other supportive services to people living unsheltered is straining current City resources;

AND WHEREAS, if the number of people living unsheltered continues to increase, the City's capacity to shelter and care for homeless residents will additionally strain and will continue to exceed the City's capacity;

AND WHEREAS, the City now faces an unprecedented humanitarian crisis that requires it to take extraordinary measures to meet the immediate needs of City residents living unsheltered;

AND WHEREAS, the City has requested financial and other assistance from the state government as well as nonprofits and other community resources, including additional sheltering, physical and behavioral health care services, and other supportive services;

AND WHEREAS, the City anticipates requesting financial and other assistance from the federal government;

AND WHEREAS, people and property are at risk based on the number of individuals living unsheltered and outdoors in the City, as described in the above paragraphs;

AND WHEREAS the risks posed as described herein require preparation and arrangements for housing, shelter, infrastructure, and other supportive services to protect the health, safety, or welfare of people within the City described herein.

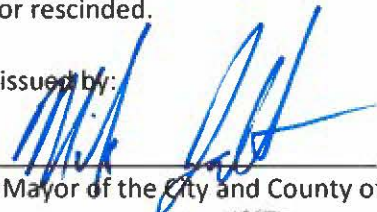
I HEREBY DECLARE, pursuant to the State Constitution, the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act (C.R.S. 24-33.5-701, *et seq.*), and the Charter and Ordinances of the City and County of Denver that a STATE OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY in and for the City and County of Denver now exists and is so ordered, authorized, and approved.

BE IT KNOWN THAT the geographic area affected and to which this DECLARATION applies is known as the City and County of Denver, Colorado.

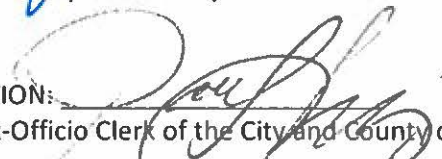
AND BE IT ALSO KNOWN THAT, I, the Mayor of the City and County of Denver, hereby advise the Governor of the State of Colorado and the population within the aforementioned described area that a STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY exists and that the Mayor of the City and County of Denver may exercise some or all of the powers allowed by the State Constitution, the Colorado Disaster Emergency Act (C.R.S. 24-33.5-701, *et seq.*), and the Charter and Ordinances of the City and County of Denver during this STATE OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY.


AND BE IT ALSO KNOWN THAT this DECLARATION authorizes the City and County of Denver, its residents, and its businesses to apply for assistance from the State of Colorado, the Federal Government, or other available resources.

AND BE IT ALSO KNOWN THAT this DECLARATION and STATE OF LOCAL DISASTER EMERGENCY will remain in force from July 18, 2023, to July 25, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. This DECLARATION will remain in effect for 7 days unless renewed or rescinded.

This DECLARATION is issued by:   
BY ORDER OF \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of the City and County of Denver

Time: 11:29 Date: 7/18/23

ATTEST:  
I hereby attest to this DECLARATION:   
Clerk and Recorder, Ex-Officio Clerk of the City and County of Denver

Time: 12:48 Date: 7/18/2023  
2023  


COUNTY SEAL:



**FILED**

JUN 18 2023

CLERK & RECORDER  
CITY & COUNTY OF DENVER