

RESOLUTION NO. RES-2021-035

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA EXTENDING THE PROCLAMATION OF EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY DUE TO 2020 GLASS FIRE

WHEREAS, in the evening hours of September 27, 2020, the Shady Fire, a spot fire believed to have been triggered by embers from the larger Glass Fire burning in Napa County, began a rapid descent into Sonoma County from northeast of Santa Rosa near the Napa and Sonoma County line; and

WHEREAS, the Shady Fire entered into the city limits of the City of Santa Rosa within just a few hours, destroying numerous homes in eastern Santa Rosa, threatening hundreds of additional homes and business, and requiring the evacuation of tens of thousands of residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, for reference purposes, the Shady Fire is now included as a component of the larger Glass Fire; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-24.04 of the Santa Rosa City Code designates the City Manager as the Director of Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, as the Glass Fire began to threaten the City of Santa Rosa, the City Manager was outside the City jurisdiction and had appointed Assistant City Manager Jason Nutt to be Acting City Manager in his absence, an appointment that included full responsibility to serve as Acting Director of Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, ultimately, the Glass Fire raged for more than three weeks, burned 67,494 acres and, in Sonoma County alone, destroyed 235 single-family residences and damaged or destroyed 368 more structures, and for days posed an imminent threat to the health and safety of City residents and visitors and to the security of homes and business in the community; and

WHEREAS, emergency conditions continue to impact the community as recovery just gets underway, with the City fully engaged in supporting debris removal, taking actions to facilitate rebuilding, assisting impacted residents, and repairing and protecting public infrastructure, including protection against the on-going threats to the City's stormwater system from hillsides stripped of vegetation; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-24.04 of the Santa Rosa City Code designates the City Manager as the Director of Emergency Services; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-24.050 of the Santa Rosa City Code empowers the Director of Emergency Services to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when the City Council is not in session; and

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2020, Jason Nutt, Acting City Manager, in his capacity as Director of Emergency Services, proclaimed the existence of local emergency in the City of Santa Rosa; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-24.050 states that the City Council shall take action to ratify the proclamation of the Director of Emergency Services within seven days thereafter or the proclamation shall have no further force or effect; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Santa Rosa ratified the Proclamation of the Existence of a Local Emergency issued by the Director of Emergency Services, dated September 27, 2020, by Resolution RES-2020-157 on September 29, 2020; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code section 8630 requires that the Council review the need for continuing the local emergency at least once every 60 days until the governing body terminates the local emergency; and

WHEREAS, on November 10, 2020 (RES-2020-185), Council declared proclamation of existence of a local emergency due to 2020 Glass Fire, and

WHEREAS, on January 5, 2021 (RES-2021-012), Council extended the proclamation of existence of a local emergency due to 2020 Glass Fire.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to the authority set forth in California Government Code sections 8630 thru 8634, and Section 2-24.050 of the City Code, the Council hereby declares that the proclamation of a state of local emergency within the City of Santa Rosa remains in full force and effect without interruption in accordance with Resolution No. RES-2020-157.

IN COUNCIL DULY PASSED this 2nd day of March, 2021.

AYES: (7) Mayor C. Rogers, Vice Mayor N. Rogers, Council Members Alvarez, Fleming, Sawyer, Schwedhelm, Tibbetts

NOES: (0)

ABSENT: (0)

ABSTAIN: (0)

ATTEST: _____ APPROVED: _____
City Clerk Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM: _____
City Attorney