



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 1/17/2023

File #: 23-52

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Sheriff

Agenda Section: Departmental

SUBJECT:

Ratification of Local Emergency Proclamation Due to consecutive major winter storm events commencing on January 3, 2023, which have resulted in downed trees, disrupted utility services, damaged and flooded roadways, mudslides and damaged homes, such damages exceeding available county resources

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Ratify the proclamation declaring the existence of a local emergency due to consecutive major winter storm events commencing on January 3, 2023, which have resulted in downed trees, disrupted utility services, damaged and flooded roadways, mudslides and damaged homes, such damages exceeding available county resources.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

General Fund

DISCUSSION:

On January 12, 2023 Sheriff William Honsal declared the existence of a local emergency (per Ordinance 2447) due to an imminent threat to public safety and significant damages to public and private property caused by consecutive major winter storm events commencing on January 3, 2023, which have resulted in downed trees, disrupted utility services, damaged and flooded roadways, mudslides and damaged homes. This has required multiple state and local agencies to respond to and provide for public safety, emergency medical response, collapsed buildings, damaged roadways, damage assessment, vehicle access, mass care and sheltering, debris-roadway clearing and the provision of emergency services. The extent of the damages has exceeded the available resources of local jurisdictions.

Humboldt County Code section 2210-7 allows to proclaim the existence of a local emergency when the Board of Supervisors is not in session and requires that the Board take action to ratify the proclamation within seven (7) days thereafter.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The ratification of the proclamation declaring a local emergency allows for the county to seek state and federal funding that may be applicable, which may include funding from the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Disaster Assistance Act, and the Stafford Act.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

This action supports your Board's Strategic Framework by providing community-appropriate levels of service.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

State of California, United States Federal Government.

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board of Supervisors may choose not to ratify the proclamation, however, that would preclude the county from seeking outside assistance emergency programs to provide funding for storm damage response efforts.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proclamation declaring the existence of a Local Emergency due to major winter storm events commencing on January 3, 2023, as executed by Sheriff William F. Honsal on January 12, 2023.

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A