



City of Raleigh North Carolina

EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION

City of Raleigh

WHEREAS, current weather projections indicate that a winter storm is anticipated to impact the State of North Carolina beginning on or about January 30, 2026, with effects expected to include the City of Raleigh; and,

WHEREAS, the City recently experienced freezing rain, damaging wind and sustained below average temperatures which created hazardous travel conditions; and

WHEREAS, the projected winter storm is expected to bring hazardous conditions, which could further disrupt transportation, damage public and private property, interrupt utility services, and pose additional risks to public health and safety within the City of Raleigh; and

WHEREAS, immediate attention is required to protect public health, reduce further damage, ensure public safety, and render emergency relief; and

WHEREAS, I, Janet Cowell, Mayor of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, do find that the aforementioned conditions constitute an imminent threat to the safety and welfare of the city, that existing or threatened conditions will cause widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property, and public safety authorities will be unable to maintain public order or afford adequate protection for lives or property, and thus, constitute a State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, declaring a State of Emergency and imposing the restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein is necessary to maintain order and protect public health, safety, and welfare, and to secure property.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the City of Raleigh, under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and section 1-1051 of the City of Raleigh Code of Ordinances, I, Janet Cowell, Mayor of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, hereby proclaim and declare that a State of Emergency exists within the City.

Section 1. Emergency Area Established. The emergency area covered by this State of Emergency shall be the entire municipal limits of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina.

Section 2. Emergency Regulations. The following restrictions and prohibitions shall be in full force and effect during the State of Emergency:

- 1) All law enforcement officers shall be fully empowered to enforce all emergency laws and ordinances including but not limited to those found in N.C.G.S. 166A.
- 2) All law enforcement officers are empowered to redirect, detour or stop traffic as may be required by the needs of safety and the convenience of cleanup, rescue and other emergency workers. Law enforcement officers may prohibit travel upon any public street, alley or way or other public property unless the travel is for the express purpose of seeking medical aid, food or other necessary services. The closure within the emergency area may include any or all streets, roads, highways, bridges, public vehicular areas or other areas ordinarily used for vehicular travel, except for the movement of emergency responders and other persons necessary for recovery from the emergency.
- 3) Sale of alcoholic beverages and flammable liquids are not restricted at this time on a City-wide basis but may be restricted in smaller areas of the City upon a written finding by the Chief of Police that the public health, safety, and welfare demand such an action.
- 4) Any proclamation setting out the need for a curfew and the hours of the curfew shall be issued by subsequent amendment or separate proclamation.

Section 3. Enforcement and Cooperation. I hereby order all City of Raleigh law enforcement officers and employees and all other emergency management personnel subject to our control to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this Declaration, all applicable local ordinances, state and federal laws, and the City of Raleigh Emergency Operations Plan.

Section 4. Distribution. I hereby order this declaration: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with the City Clerk and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

Section 5. Modification, Removal and Termination. The Mayor may, by subsequent proclamation or amendment, modify, remove, or suspend any restriction imposed by this Emergency Proclamation when such action is no longer necessary to address the emergency. This State of Emergency shall take effect at 1:00 p.m. on January 30, 2026, and shall expire five (5) days after issuance unless renewed by the Mayor or terminated earlier by proclamation.

DECLARED this 30th day of January, 2026 at 11:30 a.m.

City of Raleigh, North Carolina

By:

Janet Cowell
Janet Cowell, Mayor

Attest:

Cassidy R. Pritchard
Cassidy Pritchard, Deputy City Clerk

Approved:

Karen M. McDonald
Karen M. McDonald, City Attorney

