

## EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-46

I, Melvin Carter III, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, on December 15, 2021, pursuant to Saint Paul Legislative Code Section 13.06, do hereby issue the following Executive Order:

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz issued Executive Order 20-10 Declaring a Peacetime Emergency and Coordinating Minnesota's Strategy to Protect Minnesotans from COVID-19" pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.31, Subd. 2. This Declaration has now expired.

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter issued an Emergency Declaration in response to the COVID-19 pandemic" pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.29; which the City Council consented to on March 17, 2020. This Declaration has been extended and remains in effect.

WHEREAS, serious threats to health and safety of persons and other impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to be felt in the City.

WHEREAS, businesses and individuals continue to suffer the economic impacts of the pandemic and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

WHEREAS, due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the City has increased its efforts to get individuals into shelter, which is putting a strain on shelter space.

WHEREAS, Saint Paul Leg. Code Chapter 13.06(b) provides that, "whenever necessary to meet an emergency ... the mayor may by executive order promulgate regulations ... for which adequate regulations have not been adopted ... respecting the conduct of persons and the use of property during emergencies; the repair, maintenance and safeguarding of essential public services; emergency health, fire and safety regulations; and all other matters which are required to protect public safety, health and welfare in emergencies".

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service (NWS) forecast shows an unprecedented outbreak of severe thunderstorms is likely this evening between 5pm and 9pm in our region. This potent storm system will move through eastern Minnesota into Wisconsin, and is forecasted to entail multiple hazards:

- Strong winds 30-40 mph, with gusts to 60 mph and tornadoes possible.
- Minor snow accumulation.
- Record warmth to sub-freezing temperatures - Wednesday through Wednesday night could result in flash freeze and icy spots on roads.

The impacted region includes Saint Paul and the Twin Cities. The NWS has identified a slight risk of severe thunderstorms for the Twin Cities with main hazards including damaging winds (15% probability), tornadoes (5% probability), and W to NW winds 30-40 mph with gusts to 60 mph possible this evening through Wednesday night.

WHEREAS, Ordinance 20-36, Section 2 allows "City officials authorized to arrange for the use of Freedom House as a temporary day-use service facility and winter weather sheltering facility for the unsheltered" but does not address severe weather such as tornadoes or high winds.

WHEREAS, the City has approved an expansion capacity for other shelters available to homeless individuals currently during cold weather emergencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Melvin Carter, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, do hereby issue the following Emergency Executive Order:

1. During any Extreme Weather Emergency, where there is an increased risk of harm due to weather conditions including heavy rainfall that may lead to general or localized flooding, tornadoes, blizzard conditions, high winds, or extreme cold or heat, shelters serving individuals or families are not required to seek permission from the City of Saint Paul to expand capacity to allow unsheltered or homeless individuals or families a safe place indoors during the described extreme weather emergency.
2. Ordinance 20-36 is amended to allow emergency overnight use of Freedom House for up to twenty (20) individuals overnight pursuant to the prior approval of the City during any Extreme Weather Emergency including but not limited to December 15 and 16, 2021.
3. The Mayor requests that all shelters serving unsheltered or homeless individuals or families expand their occupancy to the limits previously approved by the City to accommodate such above-described extreme weather emergencies.

Pursuant to Chapter 13 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code, this Executive Order is in immediate effect upon my signature and, if not sooner rescinded or later extended, shall expire at the end of forty (40) days after its effective date or at the end of the declared local emergency to which it relates, whichever occurs first.

Signed: December 15, 2021

  
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Mayor Melvin Carter III