EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER 2022-15

I, Melvin Carter III, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, on February 28, 2022 pursuant to Saint Paul Legislative Code Section 13.06, do hereby issue the following Executive Order:

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Tim Walz issued Executive Order 20-1 declaring a Peacetime State of Emergency to authorize all necessary resources to be used in support of the COVID-19 response. This Executive Order has expired; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, I issued an Emergency Declaration in response to the COVID-19 pandemic pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 12.29 and Saint Paul Legislative Code section 13.06, which the City Council consented to on March 17, 2020. This Declaration has been extended and remains in effect; and

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

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

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; and

WHEREAS, Saint Paul Legislative 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"; and

WHEREAS, earlier this winter, the National Weather Service ("NWS") forecasted a potent storm system which was forecasted to entail multiple hazards, including but not limited to:

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

WHEREAS, these and similar hazards are likely to occur throughout the winter and will place individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness at extreme risk.

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 wind; and

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

WHEREAS, during the course of the Declared Emergency, I issued Executive Order 2022-7 (relating to extreme weather emergencies), and the original basis for this order has not changed;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Melvin Carter, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, do hereby extend Executive Order 2022-7 (relating to extreme weather emergencies) without amendment.

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: February 28, 2022

Mayor Melvin Carter III