

City of Saint Paul Emergency Declaration

4-12-2021

WHEREAS, on May 25, 2020, George Floyd died while in the custody of officers of the Minneapolis Police Department; and

WHEREAS, following the death of George Floyd, civil unrest erupted in Minneapolis including fires, looting and other criminal behavior; and

WHEREAS, on May 28 - 31, 2020, the civil unrest in Minneapolis spread to Saint Paul and included fires, looting and other criminal behavior causing significant damage; and

WHEREAS, along University Avenue between Snelling Avenue and Lexington Parkway, more than 70 businesses were hit, with more than a dozen sustaining serious fire damage; and

WHEREAS, four Minneapolis Police Officers were charged with murder and manslaughter for causing Mr. Floyd's death; and

WHEREAS, the first of those jury trials, Derek Chauvin is the defendant, is underway in Minneapolis causing heightened tension in the metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, on the afternoon of Sunday, April 11, 2021, a Brooklyn Center police officer fatally shot Daunte Wright, a 20- year- old black man, during a traffic stop, inflaming already raw tensions between police and community members in the midst of the Derek Chauvin trial; and

WHEREAS, approximately 500 protesters later walked to the Brooklyn Center police headquarters where protesters chanted Wright's name and climbed atop the police headquarters sign; and

WHEREAS, late Sunday night Brooklyn Center police in riot gear used tear gas, flash bangs and rubber bullets on the crowd; and

WHEREAS, National Guard troops arrived just before midnight as looters targeted the Brooklyn Center Walmart; and several businesses around the Walmart were completely destroyed, including Foot Locker, T Mobile, and a To New York men's clothing store; and

WHEREAS, looting was widespread late Sunday into early Monday, spilling into north and south Minneapolis including looting of stores in Uptown and along Lake Street; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Center police were assisted by the National Guard and State Patrol to gain control over the civil unrest; and

WHEREAS, overnight on, April 11 and into April 12, 2021, there were arson fires, seven Saint Paul businesses were vandalized and/or looted, and four individuals were arrested; and


WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute Section 12.29 and Saint Paul Legislative Code Chapter 13.06 (a) authorize the Mayor to declare a local emergency “when necessary to prevent or respond to emergencies;” and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned civil unrest constitutes a local emergency as defined by Minnesota Statute Section 12.03, subd. 3 and Saint Paul Legislative Code 13.02; now,

THEREFORE, MAYOR MELVIN CARTER III, OF THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL
DECLARES, REQUESTS, AND DIRECTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Under the authority given in Minnesota Statutes 12.29 and Saint Paul Legislative Code 13.06, declares that a local emergency exists within Saint Paul, effective April 12, 2021, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided by Minnesota Statute, Chapter 12, and Saint Paul Legislative Code, Chapter 13.
2. Directs City departments to review ordinance and regulatory requirements, operations, civil and legal proceedings, events, and resources that can and should be adjusted or suspended, or emergency regulations that should be enacted to support and protect the residents and visitors of Saint Paul and public and private property in Saint Paul.
3. Directs the Saint Paul Director of Emergency Management to request and coordinate appropriate aid and resources from surrounding jurisdictions, the Ramsey County Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, and the State of Minnesota, as needed.
4. Requests the City Council convene an emergency session at its earliest convenience to consent to this declaration. This state of local emergency may not be continued for a period in excess of three days except by or with the consent of the Council of the City of Saint Paul.
5. Orders that this declaration be given prompt and general publicity and that it be filed promptly by the City Clerk.

Dated this 12th day of April, 2021.



Mayor Melvin Carter
City of Saint Paul