



STAFF REPORT
City of Dripping Springs
PO Box 384
511 Mercer Street
Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Submitted By: Laura Mueller, City Attorney

Council Meeting Date: August 9, 2022

Agenda Item Wording: Discussion and possible approval of Declaration No. 2022-D02: A declaration of the City of Dripping Springs, Texas, declaring a disaster for the City of Dripping Springs due to public emergency. *Sponsor: Mayor Bill Foulds, Jr.*

Agenda Item Requestor: Mayor Bill Foulds, Jr.

Summary/Background: The City may declare a local state of disaster if the disaster has occurred or is imminent. TEX. GOV'T CODE § 418.108. If declared, the order must be publicized and filed with the City Secretary. The purpose of declaring a disaster is to activate emergency management plans and to authorize the use and request of aid and assistance.

Currently Hays County is under a burn ban, stage 3 water restrictions, and a critical danger of wildfires. While the recent fires have not been in the city limits of the City, the fires have already impacted the City as the City has been used as an animal shelter. The animals on Tuesday came from Blanco due to the Smoke Rider fire. The animals from Wednesday came from Wimberley due to the Hermosa fire.

If the City were to issue a local disaster declaration it would be due to the imminent threat of wildfire. If the City does not make a declaration at this time, the Mayor could later do so at any time.

Hay County Judge Ruben Becerra has been considering issuing a declaration disaster as well.

Commission Recommendations: N/A

Recommended Council Actions: Review the current situation and respond accordingly.

Attachments: Draft declaration.

Next Steps/Schedule: If approved, the declaration would need to be renewed every thirty days if the City wishes to extend it past the 30 day time frame.