

**ORDINANCE NO. 735**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MANOR, TEXAS, CONTINUING A DISASTER DECLARATION DECLARED ON MARCH 14, 2024, FOR THE APRIL 8, 2024, SOLAR ECLIPSE PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.**

**WHEREAS**, On April 8, 2024, the City of Manor, Travis County will be in the path of totality of a total solar eclipse that will occur across North America, passing over Mexico, the United States, and Canada;

**WHEREAS**, this solar eclipse event is expected to significantly increase, and potentially double the population of Manor in Travis County throughout the days leading up to and including the day of the solar eclipse event on April 8, 2024, leading to extreme traffic congestion, enormous strains on the first responders, law enforcement, hospitals, food, grocery and fuel shortages, telephone service disruption, along with strains on the city infrastructure, thereby threatening the safety of City residents;

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 418, on March 14, 2024, the Mayor declared a local state of disaster;

**WHEREAS**, Texas Government Code Chapter 418 allows the City Council to extend the disaster declaration to thirty (30) days from the date of issuance;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council for the City of Manor desires to extend the disaster declaration for thirty (30) days to implement emergency management procedures for the April 8, 2024, solar eclipse.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MANOR, TEXAS, THAT:**

**Section 1. Findings.** The above and foregoing recitals are hereby found to be true and correct and are incorporated herein as findings of fact.

**Section 2. Disaster Declaration Extended.**

**1.** A local state of disaster is hereby declared for Manor, Texas pursuant to section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code due to the April 8, 2024, Solar Eclipse Event.

**2.** Pursuant to section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster declared on March 14, 2024, shall be continued and effective for thirty (30) days on and from its date of issuance, provided however that this declaration may be terminated before the expiration of 30 days by subsequent order of the Mayor.

3. Pursuant to 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the appropriate response recovery and rehabilitation aspects of the City of Manor under Travis County Emergency Management plan and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under this Declaration and order.

4. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas and the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 (Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code), the City may take actions necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of persons in the City and critical infrastructure protection in response to this local state of disaster, including providing disaster relief, emergency response, and services, including services to assist with roadways and vehicles, and facilities access to food, water, shelter and to protect and rehabilitate property due to this disaster and to require private property owners in areas of the City who intend to allow their property to be used for solar eclipse viewing, including watch parties, camping and parking on their property, and that will involve or result in over (50) people being on their property on April 8, 2024, to register with the county; and

5. To register with the county as specified in paragraph number 4 above, property owners must complete an application using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/g/sgDAdjE4C9> (or QR Code at the end of the order), providing their name, address, contact information and detailing the number of people who will be present on their property on April 8, 2024, for emergency preparations and response. This registration requirement will allow officials and emergency responders to better prepare for traffic congestion, roadway conditions, emergency response, and related issues. Failure to provide registration may result in visitors not being able to access neighborhoods and private property throughout the City due to traffic conditions and the influx of people due to the solar eclipse event: and

6. Pursuant to section 418.108 of the Government Code, this Declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.

**Section 3. Severability.** If any provision of this Ordinance or the application of any provision to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications hereof which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

**Section 4. Open Meetings.** It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was considered and passed was open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.

**Section 5. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and publication in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Local Government Code.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024.

**THE CITY OF MANOR, TEXAS**

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Dr. Christopher Harvey, Mayor

**Filed with me, the City Secretary of the City of Manor, this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024, by Mayor Christopher Harvey, whose signature I hereby attest under my hand and seal of the City of Manor.**

**ATTEST:**

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Lluvia T. Almaraz, City Secretary