

**DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER BY
PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF WESTLAKE**

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2021, Governor Greg Abbott issued a Declaration of State of Disaster due to severe winter weather posing an imminent threat of widespread and severe property damage, injury, and loss of life due to prolonged freezing temperatures, heavy snow and freezing rain statewide and declaring a state of disaster in all 254 Texas counties pursuant to §418.017 of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, set forth in the Governor's February 12, 2021 Declaration of State Disaster, pursuant to Section 418.017 of the Texas Government Code, the Governor authorized the use of all available resources of state government and of the political subdivisions that are reasonably necessary to cope with this disaster, and

WHEREAS, set forth in the Governor's February 12, 2021 Declaration of State Disaster, pursuant to Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, any regulatory statute prescribing the procedure for conduct of state business or any order or rule of a state agency that would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this disaster shall be suspended upon written approval of the Office of the Governor. However, to the extent that the enforcement of any state statute or administrative rule regarding contracting or procurement would impede any state agency's emergency response that is necessary to protect life or property threatened by this declared disaster, the Governor ordered the suspension of such statutes and rules for the duration of the disaster; and

WHEREAS, set forth in the Governor's February 12, 2021 Declaration of State Disaster, and pursuant to Section 418.017 of the Government Code, Governor Abbott authorized the use of all available resources of state government and of political subdivisions that are reasonably necessary to cope with this disaster; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 (Chapter 418 of the Government Code) authorizes the declaration of a state of disaster if a threat of disaster is imminent, and,

WHEREAS, §418.109 and §418.020 of the Government Code authorizes a local government to provide mutual aid assistance in accordance with its policies and procedures and may make arrangements necessary to acquire, prepare, or equip sites for temporary housing and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Westlake is experiencing extreme cold temperatures not seen in decades which caused a loss of essential services such as electricity and water, and which may result in the imminent threat of widespread and severe property damage, injury, and loss of life to residents, and

WHEREAS, the extreme cold began on February 14, 2021, and is forecasted to last for several more days, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to issue this disaster declaration in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of our residents; strongly encourage people to stay off the streets, shelter in place, or seek shelter in an alternate location; take all cautionary measures to ensure the safety of all persons and animals in their care; turn off unnecessary electronic devices in order to conserve energy; and to conserve water to the fullest extent possible.

NOW THEREFORE, I, LAURA WHEAT, MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF WESTLAKE, HEREBY PROCLAIM AND DECLARE:

SECTION 1. That a state of disaster is declared for the Town of Westlake, pursuant to Section 418.108 of the Texas Government Code.

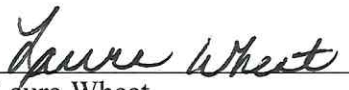
SECTION 2. That this declaration of local disaster shall be in effect for seven days from this date unless earlier terminated.

SECTION 3. That this declaration activates the recovery and rehabilitation aspects of all applicable local or interjurisdictional emergency management plans and authorizes the furnishing of all aid and assistance as deemed necessary or desirable by those administering such plans, and activates the preparedness and response aspects of such plans as provided therein.

SECTION 4. That this declaration shall be filed promptly with the Town Secretary, and shall be given prompt and general publicity.

SECTION 5. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

SO DECLARED AND ORDERED this the 18th day of February 2021



Laura Wheat
Mayor, Town of Westlake

ATTEST:



Todd Wood
Town Secretary

