

**CONFIRMATION AND EXTENSION OF
DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY AND NATURAL DISASTER**

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Forks experienced extreme and unprecedented weather conditions, including excessive rainfall and blizzards in the Fall of 2019 which resulted in neighborhood flooding, overland flooding, and flooding of the Red River and its tributaries;

WHEREAS, the 2019 fall was one of the wettest falls of record resulting in saturated soils and high stream flows;

WHEREAS, such conditions have extended into the winter of 2019/2020;

WHEREAS, Mayor Michael R. Brown issued a Declaration of Emergency and Natural Disaster on September 26, 2019, which Declaration was confirmed, expanded and extended by the Grand Forks City Council on the 21st day of October, 2019;

WHEREAS, significant snowfall has subsequently occurred this winter in the Red River Basin;

WHEREAS, recent climate outlooks indicate an increased risk for cooler and wetter late winter/early spring periods which may increase the possibility of rapid and/or rainfall enhanced runoff;

WHEREAS, a recent spring flood outlook produced by the National Weather Service indicates that there is a threat for significant snow melt flooding;

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has concluded that the risk for significant snow melt flooding is substantial and above the long-term historic averages across the Red River Basin which could result in moderate to major flooding in and near the City of Grand Forks;

WHEREAS, any flooding of the Red River of the North and its tributaries may or will affect the health, safety, security and property of the City of Grand Forks and its residents;

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Forks must timely and effectively utilize its resources to prepare for and respond to such conditions;

WHEREAS, Mayor Michael R. Brown issued a Declaration of Emergency and Natural Disaster pursuant to Grand Forks City Code Section 2-0301 on the 18th day of February, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Grand Forks City Council seeks to rescind the Mayor's Declaration of Emergency and Natural Disaster of September 26, 2019, as confirmed, expanded and extended by the Grand Forks City Council on the 21st day of October, 2019;

WHEREAS, the Grand Forks City Council seeks to confirm, expand and extend the Mayor's emergency and natural disaster declaration of February 18, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Grand Forks City Council hereby finds, determines and declares that an emergency and natural disaster exists within the City of Grand Forks, and further directs the City to continue monitoring conditions within the City's jurisdiction, develop detailed damage assessments, take appropriate steps to alleviate hardship, initiate appropriate relief actions, and undertake mitigation measures to limit the hardships and impacts of the existing emergency and disaster upon the residents of the City of Grand Forks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Grand Forks its officers, employees and agents, are hereby authorized to take such actions and use such resources as are reasonably convenient and/or necessary to respond to the emergency and natural disaster conditions and to utilize the authority granted under Grand Forks City Code Section 2-0301 to the extent reasonably necessary and/or convenient;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Confirmation and Extension of Declaration of Emergency and Natural Disaster shall continue until the 15th day of June, 2020, unless otherwise extended by the Grand Forks City Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Declaration of Emergency and Natural Disaster issued by Mayor Michael R. Brown on September 26, 2019 and as confirmed, expanded and extended by action of the Grand Forks City Council on October 21, 2019 is hereby, in all things, rescinded and replaced hereby.

CITY OF GRAND FORKS

MICHAEL R. BROWN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MAUREEN STORSTAD, AUDITOR