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Issuer: City of Saint Paul, Minnesota (Office of the Mayor; Emergency Management)

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Text captured from the City page on 2026-09-26 (the City page carries the full text of each Emergency Executive Order); the complete page capture is filed as the companion compendium exhibit in this folder.

City of Saint Paul Emergency Executive Order 2021-23 (May 27, 2021; effective May 31, 2021)

Executive Order May 27, 2021-23

EMERGENCY EXECUTIVE ORDER 2021-23

I, Melvin Carter III, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, on May 27, 2021, pursuant to Saint Paul Legislative Code Section 13.06, do hereby issue the following Executive Order:

On March 13, 2020, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz issued Executive Order 20-01 declaring a Peacetime Emergency and coordinating Minnesota's strategy to protect Minnesotans from COVID- 19" pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.31, Subd. 2. This Declaration has been extended and remains in effect.

On March 15, 2020, I issued an Emergency Declaration in response to the COVID-19 pandemic" pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 12.29; which the City Council consented to on March 17, 2020, and which has been extended and remains in effect.

Saint Paul Leg. Code Chapter 13.06(b) provides that, "whenever necessary to meet an emergency ... the mayor may by executive order promulgate regulations ... for which adequate regulations have not been adopted ... respecting the conduct of persons and the use of property during emergencies; the repair, maintenance and safeguarding of essential public services; emergency health, fire and safety regulations; and all other matters which are required to protect public safety, health and welfare in emergencies.

Buildings and residences in downtown Saint Paul are connected by a robust skyway system which allows downtown residents to move between buildings and provides downtown residents with access to essential businesses.

The hours of the skyway system are governed by Saint Paul Legislative Code §140.10 which sets the General Hours of Operation and requires that "all parts of the skyway system shall be open to the public every day between the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m."

Compliance with the skyway hours of operation requires monitoring by both Saint Paul Police and building owners. Allowing Downtown building owners to close their area of the skyway at 7p.m. seven days a week will increase the number of officers available to patrol the streets, provide relief by reducing financial and staffing burdens on building owners, and assist in reducing the incidents of vandalism in the skyway system that are believed to be attributed to the decrease in use by the general population.

On April 9, 2020 I issued Emergency Executive Order 2020-5 to allow an individual with responsibility for a portion of the skyway system to close their portion of the skyway for which they are responsible at 7 p.m. provided that notice of the revised skyway hours are posted in conspicuous locations. That order has been extended and was last extended on April 30, 2021 by Emergency Executive order 2021-20 extending Executive Order 2020-5 without amendment.

Based on the easing of COVID restrictions statewide, the fact that the spread of COVID-19 has slowed, and the wide availability of vaccines it is now time to consider easing back to regular skyway hours. I received input from the City's Department of Safety and Inspections and a request from the Skyway Governance Advisory Committee that the skyway closure time remain at 7:00 p.m. until Memorial Day, May 31, 2021, and then be extended to a 10:00 pm until Labor Day or the end of the stated emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Melvin Carter III, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, do hereby issue the following Emergency Executive Order, which will take effect on May 31, 2021:

Executive Order is amended to adjust the skyway closure hours as follows:

Executive Order 2020-5 is rescinded and replaced with this order.

An individual with responsibility for a portion of the skyway system is permitted to close their portion of the skyway for which they are responsible no earlier than 10:00 p.m. provided that notice of the revised skyway hours are posted in conspicuous locations.

Pursuant to Chapter 13 of the Saint Paul Legislative Code, this Executive Order is effective on May 31, 2021 and, if not sooner rescinded or later extended, shall expire at the end of forty (40) days after its effective date or at the end of the declared local emergency to which it relates, whichever occurs first.

June 2021 (2021-24 through 2021-27)

Extending City of Saint Paul Emergency Declaration COVID-19 June 1, 2021

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019, commonly known as COVID-19, a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death, is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which is a new strain of coronavirus that had not been previously identified in humans and can easily spread from person to person; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, I declared under the authority given in Minnesota Statutes §12.29, that a local emergency existed within Saint Paul, effective March 15, 2020, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided by Chapter 12, Minnesota Statute, and Saint Paul Legislative Code, Chapter 13; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Saint Paul City Council, in Res 20-550 approved that declaration and extended the emergency for ninety days, until June 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on June 8, 2020, I declared under the authority given in Minnesota Statutes §12.29, that the local emergency continued to exist within Saint Paul, effective June 8, 2020, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided by Chapter 12, Minnesota Statute, and Saint Paul Legislative Code, Chapter 13; and

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2020, the Saint Paul City Council, in RES 20-874 approved that declaration and extended the emergency for ninety days, until September 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 2020, I declared under the authority given in Minnesota Statutes §12.29, that the local emergency continued to exist within Saint Paul, effective September 8, 2020, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided by Chapter 12, Minnesota Statute, and Saint Paul Legislative Code, Chapter 13; and

WHEREAS, on September 9, 2020 the Saint Paul City Council, in RES 20-1249 approved that declaration and extended the emergency for ninety days, until December 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on November 30, 2020, I declared under the authority given in Minnesota Statutes §12.29, that the local emergency continued to exist within Saint Paul, effective September 8, 2020, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided by Chapter 12, Minnesota Statute, and Saint Paul Legislative Code, Chapter 13; and

WHEREAS, on December 2, 2020 the Saint Paul City Council, in RES 20-1652 approved that declaration and extended the emergency for ninety days, until March 2, 2021; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2021, I declared under the authority given in Minnesota Statutes §12.29, that the local emergency continued to exist within Saint Paul, effective September 8, 2020, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided by Chapter 12, Minnesota Statute, and Saint Paul Legislative Code, Chapter 13; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2021, the Saint Paul City Council, in RES 21-326 approved that declaration and extended the emergency for ninety days, until June 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to present unprecedented and rapidly evolving challenge to our City. As of May 21, 2021, there were 51,795 reported cases of COVID-19 in Ramsey County, and 855 COVID-19 related deaths; and

WHEREAS, even though the spread of COVID-19 has slowed, and vaccinations are becoming widely available, serious threats to health and safety of persons and other impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to be felt in the City; and

WHEREAS, small businesses in metropolitan areas have been hit harder than those in rural areas. According to a report by the Office of Advocacy of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) The Effects Of The COVID-19 Pandemic On Small Businesses (released March 2, 2021), in April 2020, the number of people in metropolitan areas who were working and self-employed was 21 percent lower than in April 2019. Outside of those areas, the decline was only 13 percent. In subsequent months, the decline in metropolitan areas continued to exceed the decline outside of metropolitan areas; and

WHEREAS, according to the SBA report, supersectors with large shares of employment at small businesses before the pandemic experienced large decreases in employment. Leisure and hospitality had the largest decrease in employment, at 48 percent, and had the third largest small business share, at 61 percent; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, more than 2 in 3 small businesses in Minnesota report at least a moderate negative impact on their business from the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, more than 4 in 10 Minnesota small business owners presently expect that it will be six months or more before their business returns to its normal level of operations; and

WHEREAS, according to a Pew Center survey published March 5, 2021, among those who say their financial situation has gotten worse during the pandemic, 44% think it will take them three years or more to get back to where they were a year ago – including about one-in-ten who don't think their finances will ever recover. Also, about half of workers who personally lost wages during the pandemic (49%) are still earning less money than before the coronavirus outbreak started; and

WHEREAS, in addition to action necessary to safeguard the health and safety of Saint Paul citizens, it remains necessary for the City to provide support to individuals and businesses alike to ensure that Saint Paul recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic disaster; and

WHEREAS, during the COVID-19 peacetime emergency, I have exercised executive authority through more than 60 Executive Orders to provide relief and further prepare our City for the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, these Executive Orders remain in effect only as long as the emergency continues; and

WHEREAS, the necessary resources to respond to and recover from this pandemic will exceed those resources available within the City, and additional resources will be needed from Ramsey County, and state and federal sources;

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

Under the authority given in Minnesota Statutes §12.29, declares that a local emergency continues to exist within Saint Paul, on May 31, 2021, with all the powers and responsibilities attending thereto as provided by Chapter 12, Minnesota Statute, and Saint Paul Legislative Code, Chapter 13.

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 to enact emergency regulations to support the residents of Saint Paul during the pandemic.

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.

Declares, under Minn. Stat. § 13D.021, that in-person meetings of the City Council and other public bodies under the Mayor's jurisdiction are not practical or prudent because of the COVID-19 health pandemic and the emergency declared under Minn. Stat. Chapter 12 by Governor Walz.

Requests the City Council convene at its earliest convenience to discuss the situation and 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.

Orders that this declaration be given prompt and general publicity and that it be filed promptly by the City Clerk.