



DISASTER DECLARATION RELATING TO THE APRIL 8TH, 2024 SOLAR ECLIPSE

WHEREAS, on April 8th, 2024, Blanco County, Texas will be in the direct line of a total solar eclipse that will traverse across North America; and

WHEREAS, this event is expected to see the population of Blanco County, Texas, double, if not triple, in size throughout the days leading up to and including the day of the event, with the potential for extreme traffic congestion, strain on first responder organizations, along with city and county infrastructure and potential food, grocery and fuel shortages, threatening the safety of all residents; and

WHEREAS, the Blanco County Judge has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the health, safety and welfare of Blanco County residents and visitors that may be impacted as a result of the April 8th, 2024, solar eclipse; and

WHEREAS, the Blanco County Judge, in consultation with area emergency management coordinators, law enforcement officials, and fire and rescue officials, has determined that the potential exists for roads, streets and highways to be stressed to and above capacity during certain times of the event; and

WHEREAS, the potential stress and over-capacity of city, county, state, and federal streets, roads, and highways may create a public safety event whereby law enforcement and fire and rescue officers will be impeded from responding to calls for service; and

WHEREAS, the Blanco County Judge, asks residents of Blanco County to stay at home, if possible, ensure all vehicles are filled with fuel the week leading up to this event, ensure sufficient groceries and supplies are purchased well in advance, and to take all cautionary measures to ensure the safety of all persons and animals in their care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY BLANCO COUNTY, TEXAS:

1. That, pursuant to Section 418.108, Texas Government Code, a local state of emergency and disaster to be caused by the April 8th, 2024, solar eclipse event is hereby declared for Blanco County, Texas.

- 2. That pursuant to section 418.108(b) of the Government Code, this declaration of emergency for the April 8th, 2024, solar eclipse event shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from this date, unless extended by the Blanco County Commissioner's court of Blanco County, Texas.
- 3. That pursuant to section 418.108(d) of the Government Code, this declaration activates the Blanco County Emergency Management Plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under this declaration.
- 4. That this declaration authorizes Blanco County to take any actions necessary to promote life safety and critical infrastructure protection.
- 5. That this declaration shall take effect from March 20, 2024, and after its issuance, and upon approval of the Blanco County Commissioner's Court, shall continue in effect until terminated by the Blanco County Judge. Pursuant to this declaration, additional directives may be issued by the Blanco County Judge at any time deemed necessary.

DECLARED this the 21st day of March 2024.

Brett Bray

Blanco County Judge

Filed with me, the County Clerk of Blanco County, on this 21 day of March 2024, by Blanco County Judge Brett Bray.

Laura Walla

Blanco County Clerk