

**AN ORDINANCE
DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR CHARLESTON COUNTY
DUE TO THE THREATS POSED BY HURRICANE IDALIA**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted to Charleston County Council (“County Council”) under S.C. Code Ann. § 4-9-130 and the provisions of the Code of Ordinances of Charleston County, South Carolina, Chapter 7, Emergency Preparedness, and the Charleston County Emergency Preparedness Plan, County Council finds it necessary to declare a State of Emergency for the reasons set forth below; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of South Carolina declared a state of emergency through the issuance of Executive Order 2023- 29, dated August 29, 2023, finding that Hurricane Idalia presents a threat to property, critical infrastructure, communities, and the general safety and welfare of the people of South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Charleston County Council finds that a State of Emergency exists due to the potential effects of high winds and flooding resulting from Hurricane Idalia. The high winds and flooding caused by the storm are likely to disrupt communications and interfere with the use of roadways, and there exists a continuing and substantial threat to public order, and a threat to the life, health and safety of the citizens of Charleston County;

NOW, THEREFORE, Charleston County Council hereby adopts the above-referenced recitals herein as findings of County Council by reference, declares that a State of Emergency exists as described below, and directs that the Administrator and County staff exercise the authority set forth below:

The areas of Charleston County affected by this Emergency Declaration include all portions of Charleston County.

This State of Emergency shall continue for a period of ten (10) days unless sooner terminated by act of Charleston County Council.

Pursuant to the powers provided in the Code of Ordinances of Charleston County, South Carolina, Chapter 7, Emergency Preparedness, the County Administrator and Director of Emergency Preparedness shall issue all such orders and directives as they deem necessary to protect public life, health and safety in carrying out the following duties and responsibilities:


1. Utilize all available resources of County Government as reasonably necessary to cope with a disaster emergency.
2. Direct the personnel and functions of County Departments and agencies or units thereof for purposes of facilitating or performing emergency services as reasonably necessary. Implement the duties and functions assigned in the County Emergency Operations Plan.
3. Implement the duties and functions assigned in the County Emergency Operations Plan.

4. Suspend the Charleston County Procurement Ordinance to allow for the immediate procurement of supplies, services and construction due to the threat to public health, welfare, and safety.
5. Implement the Order of the Governor of the State to evacuate all or part of the population from any stricken or threatened area within the County if such action is deemed necessary for preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response or recovery.
6. Prescribe routes, modes of transportation and destinations in connection with evacuation.
7. Control ingress and egress to and from a disaster area, the movement of persons within the area and the occupancy of premises therein.
8. Make provisions for the availability and use of temporary housing.
9. Suspend or limit non-emergency activities and public assemblies.
10. Authorize the establishment and extension, as necessary, of a curfew in the unincorporated areas of Charleston County at dates and times to be determined in consultation with the officials of municipalities in Charleston County and in coordination with the Chairman of Charleston County Council, during which the streets and all public rights-of-way and public property thereof shall be closed to the general public for travel, both vehicular and pedestrian. Violation of this ordinance shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars and/or 30 days in jail.

THIS DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY enacted this 29th day of August, 2023.

CHARLESTON COUNTY COUNCIL



By: 
Herbert R. Sass, III, Chairman
Charleston County Council