




CITY OF PITTSBURGH
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MAYOR ED GAINEY
He/Him/His

Executive Order City of Pittsburgh Office of the Mayor	
Subject: Severe Storm Response Assessment & Planning	Number: 2025-03
By Direction of:  Ed Gaaney, Mayor	Date: May 8 th , 2025

WHEREAS, On Tuesday, April 29th, 2025, the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County endured a powerful line of thunderstorms that caused widespread and unprecedented damage; and

WHEREAS, At the peak of the event, more than half of our region’s electricity customers were without power; and

WHEREAS, Climate scientists have long warned that extreme and unpredictable weather events like these are becoming more frequent and severe; and

WHEREAS, This most recent storm, with its intense winds and heavy rainfall, not only overwhelmed our infrastructure but also revealed deeper vulnerabilities; and

WHEREAS, Climate resilience requires us to assess and invest across all systems—infrastructure, public health, housing, food, energy, communications and emergency response—through an integrated, equity-driven lens; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to protecting the safety and welfare of the public that we institute proactive measures to mitigate the risks posed by future severe storms;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ed Gaaney, Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh, by the virtue of the authority vested in me by the Home Rule Charter of the City of Pittsburgh, the Ordinances of the City of Pittsburgh, and the Statutes of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby order and establish:

Section 1. - ASSESSMENT

- (A) The Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security is hereby directed to compile a Natural Disaster Response & Recovery Report documenting all relevant information regarding the storm, it’s effects, and the response and recovery efforts of all organizations and entities involved, and shall make recommendations to address significant vulnerabilities identified as part of the assessment.
- (B) The Natural Disaster Response & Recovery Report shall be completed within 90 days of the effective date of this Executive Order, and shall be submitted to the Mayor and communicated to City Council.

Section 2. – ALL-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

- (A) The Director of Department of City Planning and the Emergency Management Coordinator are hereby directed to develop an All-Hazard Mitigation Plan to identify and enhance the preparedness of the City of Pittsburgh and its Departments and agencies to effectively and efficiently respond to and recover from serious hazards and risks to the health and safety of the public.
- (B) The All-Hazard Mitigation Plan shall include robust analysis and recommendations on how to prepare for and respond to climate-induced severe storms. The Natural Disaster Response & Recovery Report for the April 28th storms shall be utilized as a foundational document in the development of the severe storm section of the All-Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- (C) In preparation for the completion of the severe storm section of the All-Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Director of the Department of City Planning and the Emergency Management Coordinator shall consult with experts within and outside of City government, including but not limited to:
 - a. Staff of the Department of Public Safety
 - b. Staff of the Department of Public Works
 - c. Staff of the Department of Mobility & Infrastructure
 - d. Staff of the Department of Permits, Licenses, & Inspections
 - e. Representatives of Commonwealth, County, and Federal agencies that have a role in severe storm disaster response
 - f. Representatives of the public utilities serving the City of Pittsburgh
 - g. Academics and researchers in meteorology, atmospheric science, and related fields
 - h. Community representatives & advocates on issues related to climate change and its impacts on communities

Section 3. - EFFECTIVE DATE

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.