



# THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY SNOW STORM - JANUARY 26TH, 2026

Issued by the Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh in accordance with applicable law, including City of Pittsburgh Code §113.03 and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code, 35 Pa. C.S. §§7101 *et seq.*, as it pertains to the existing and imminent snow storm emergency.

**WHEREAS**, On January 24 and January 25, 2026, the City of Pittsburgh received an extreme amount of snowfall within a short period of time, with amounts over fifteen inches of snow in some locations; and

**WHEREAS**, these weather conditions created significant adverse impacts, including hazardous travel conditions, requiring mobilization of emergency resources and procurement of emergency contractors for snow removal; and

**WHEREAS**, in expectation of the weather event, Governor Josh Shapiro also declared a Commonwealth-wide proclamation of disaster emergency on January 23, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh is authorized, in accordance with applicable law, including the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code, 35 Pa. C.S. §7501, et.al, City Code §113.03(c), to declare a local disaster emergency subject to ratification by the Council of the City of Pittsburgh when the threat or actual occurrence of a disaster is or threatens to be of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant coordinated local government action to prevent or alleviate the damage, loss, hardship or suffering threatened or caused thereby, and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh has identified the hazardous conditions arising from the snow storm event as constituting a disaster emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor hereby will direct the City of Pittsburgh Department of Public Safety to coordinate the necessary activities for this emergency response, to take all appropriate action required to address hazardous conditions arising from the disaster, to aid in the maintenance of essential public services, and to take any other lawful emergency response or action deemed necessary to protect public health, safety and welfare in the City of Pittsburgh:

**THEREFORE**, the Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh makes the following Declaration:

**Section 1.** Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code, 35 Pa. C.S. §7501, et. al, and the City of Pittsburgh Code, Title One, Administrative, Subsection 113.03(c)(3), and other applicable law, this Declaration of Disaster Emergency is issued by the Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh in order to take all necessary actions and precautions to address the hazardous conditions arising from the snow storm on January 24 and January 25, 2026.

**Section 2.** The Declaration of Disaster Emergency as authorized herein shall not be of a duration longer for a time period not in excess of seven (7) days except by or with the consent of the Council of the City of Pittsburgh in accordance with 35 Pa. C.S. §7501 (b) and City Code §113.03(c)(3).

**Section 3.** Pursuant to 35 Pa. C.S. §7501(b), this Declaration shall activate the response, protection and recovery aspects of any and all applicable local emergency management plans including, but not limited to, those addressed in the 2001 Southwestern PA Emergency Response Group (“SWPERG”) agreement adopted by the City of Pittsburgh for mutual aid and intergovernmental cooperation as required by 35 Pa. C.S. §7503 and any other such intrastate or interstate mutual aid agreements entered into by the City of Pittsburgh pursuant to 35 Pa. C.S. §§7301 *et seq.*, 35 Pa. C.S. §7504, the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, 53 Pa. C.S. §§2301 *et seq.*, or any other applicable state or federal law, in order to furnish aid and assistance as provided therein.

**Section 4.** The Mayor and the Director of Public Safety shall be permitted to exercise all legal authority permitted by State Statute and City Code.

**Section 5.** Pursuant to this Declaration of Disaster Emergency, all City Departments are to work in coordination with the Director of Public Safety to implement and facilitate the provisions of this Declaration.

**Section 6.** In accordance with 35 Pa. C.S. §7501(b), this declaration or any related order, proclamation or statement shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.

**Section 7.** As provided in 35 Pa. C.S. §7501(d), the City of Pittsburgh is authorized by this Declaration to exercise the powers provided in the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services Code without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law, except for mandatory constitutional requirements, pertaining to the performance of public work, entering into contracts, the incurring of obligations, the employment of temporary workers, the rental of equipment, the purchase of supplies and materials, the levying of taxes and the appropriation and expenditure of public funds

**Section 8.** In accordance with 35 Pa. C.S. §7501(c), the City of Pittsburgh is authorized to enter into contracts and incur obligations necessary to disaster emergency management, response and recovery, including but not limited to agreements as needed to delegate municipal functions, powers, or responsibilities to the Commonwealth and its agencies.

**Section 9.** Any agreements entered into by the City of Pittsburgh as provided herein shall be approved as to form by the City Solicitor.



*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the  
City of Pittsburgh at the City-County  
Building in the First Ward of the City of  
Pittsburgh on this Twenty-Sixth Day of January  
in the year Two-Thousand & Twenty-Six.*



**COREY O'CONNOR**  
MAYOR OF PITTSBURGH