

**CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA**  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**  
**EMERGENCY ORDER 24-01**  
**TROPICAL STORM HELENE**

**WHEREAS**, as of 12:00 p.m. CDT, on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, a storm system located in the northwestern Caribbean Sea now identified as Tropical Storm Helene is forecast to impact Bay County and the City of Panama City Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 23, 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 24-208 declaring a state of emergency in the Florida counties affected by Tropical Storm Helene including Bay County; and

**WHEREAS**, Tropical Storm Helene creates a significant risk of storm surge, coastal flooding, heavy rainfall, flash flooding, and damaging winds in the City limits and in the neighboring areas in Bay County; and

**WHEREAS**, based on current forecasting provided by the National Hurricane Center, the area of impact and potential severity of Tropical Storm Helene presents an imminent threat to the citizens of the City of Panama City Beach and a significant risk of substantial damage to public utilities, public buildings, public communication systems, public streets and roads, public drainage systems, commercial and residential buildings and areas; and

**WHEREAS**, this emergency requires the implementation of emergency measures to protect the public health, safety and welfare and the assistance of municipal, state, and federal aid, without delay to repair and effect an immediate recovery of said emergency impact on the citizens of the City of Panama City Beach and surrounding areas.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, DREW WHITMAN, CITY MANAGER OF THE CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH**, in accordance with the provisions of the State of Florida Office of the Governor Executive Order 24-208, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 29 of the City's Code of Ordinances promulgate the following Executive Order to take effect as provided herein:

1. **Declaration of Local Emergency.** A state of local emergency exists within the City of Panama City Beach and its extraterritorial franchise areas due to the effects of Tropical Storm Helene.
2. **Activation of Emergency Management Plan.** The Panama City Beach Emergency Management Plan as adopted by Resolution 21-47 is hereby activated and the appropriate officers of the City shall have the power, authority and duty to take any and all action under the plan necessary for the preservation of the health,

welfare and safety of the people of the City of Panama City Beach, specifically need not comply with adopted procurement and purchasing policies during this emergency.

3. Authorization of Emergency Pay. Commencing at 5:00 pm CDT, Wednesday, September 25, 2024, and until such time as this designation is revoked or modified, I hereby activate the City's Authorized Emergency Pay Policy.
4. The provision of this Executive Order shall take immediately upon issuance and shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days, unless otherwise revoked, extended or modified by the City Council of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida.

**THIS ORDER** shall be effective immediately upon execution.

**ORDERED** this 24<sup>th</sup> day of SEPTEMBER, 2024.

**CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH**

By:   
Drew Whitman, City Manager

**ATTEST:**

  
City Clerk