



Declaration of State of Disaster

WHEREAS, an ongoing and imminent threat of localized and severe damage, loss of life, property damage, human trafficking, violent crime, and threats to public health exists as a result of the Biden Administration's international border policies; and

WHEREAS, securing the international borders of this nation is the federal government's responsibility, but the State of Texas and its cities and counties have consistently taken action to ensure the safety of all Texans by augmenting federal border security efforts at the Texas-Mexico border; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the City of Junction in the county of Kimble has spent roughly \$100 thousand thus far this year to augment border security efforts and protect the safety of the public; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, 24 illegal migrants and human traffickers were pursued and 17 were apprehended who represent a clear and present danger to the public; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2021, 27 arrests were made of illegal migrants and human traffickers who represent a clear and present danger to the public; and

WHEREAS, the federal government used to take seriously its responsibility to enforce federal immigration laws and secure the international border, which allowed the City to direct valuable resources locally; and

WHEREAS, the influx of illegal migrants, coupled with the expected lifting of Title 42 to protect against the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and other unnamed and or unknown presents a threat to the health of the public; and

WHEREAS, the Biden Administration's open-border policies have enabled escalating violence and smuggling activity; and

WHEREAS, declaring a disaster also allows the City of Junction to request State funding for costs related to the disaster, and a number of counties have already declared a local disaster and started accounting for costs that can be made part of a request;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RUSSELL HAMMONDS, Mayor of the City of Junction, in accordance with the authority vested in me by section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government code and its amendments do hereby find and declare:

1. That the findings and recitations set out in the preamble to this Declaration are found to be true and correct; and
2. That a state of disaster exists for the City of Junction; and
3. That this declaration of local disaster take effect immediately and shall remain in effect for the next 7 days, unless terminated earlier or extended with the consent of the city council; and
4. That pursuant to §418.015 of the Texas Government Code and its amendments, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the City Emergency Management Plan; and
5. That this declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Secretary.
6. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of any and all lawfully available enforcement tools.

SO DECLARED AND ORDERED this the 18th day of June 2021.



Russell Hammonds, Mayor