

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 316973

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE OCT 16 2026

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
SAN DIEGO RATIFYING THE MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION OF
A LOCAL EMERGENCY REGARDING THE HISTORIC EL NINO
SEASON.

RECITALS

The Council of the City of San Diego (Council) adopts this Resolution based on the following:

A. In the past several years, San Diego has experienced increasingly severe and destructive storms that have caused widespread flooding, mud and debris flows, landslides, high winds, power outages, road and highway closures, evacuation orders, damage to homes and critical infrastructure, and disruption of essential services.

B. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center (Climate Prediction Center), in its August 13, 2026, diagnostic report, found that the El Niño event is strengthening, with a greater than 90% chance of a very strong event during the winter of 2026–2027.

C. The Climate Prediction Center projected a 69% chance that the event will reach historic strength in the 2026-2027 winter season, exceeding the strength of all prior El Niño events in the historical record beginning in 1950.

D. Since Summer 2026, the City's Office of Emergency Services has coordinated a Citywide El Niño Preparedness Working Group (Working Group), an interdepartmental body comprised of numerous operational teams, focused on identifying and analyzing gaps in current capabilities, coordinating across City departments to develop integrated plans and procedures, enhancing interagency collaboration by strengthening coordination with external partners, and

designing and implementing a comprehensive public communications campaign that promotes personal preparedness and informs the community of the City's readiness efforts.

E. The Working Group has focused on key objectives and actions such as public sandbag distribution, evacuation routes, emergency access points, extreme temperature response and planning, debris removal, shoreline and bay protective berms, Emergency Operations Center responder trainings, and critical vendor and contract readiness assessments, amongst other key projects.

F. Conditions of disaster and extreme peril to the safety of persons and property are anticipated to arise within the City of San Diego as a result of the historic El Niño season, which are expected to continue until early 2027, directly affecting the safety of persons and property within this City.

G. On September 21, 2026, the Governor of California, Gavin Newsom, declared a statewide emergency due to the historic El Niño season.

H. On September 30, 2026, San Diego's Chief Administrative Officer Ebony Shelton proclaimed a state of emergency on behalf of the County Board of Supervisors to allow the county to deploy all available responses, actions, and measures deemed necessary to ensure the safety of residents and property.

I. On October 2, 2026, pursuant to San Diego Municipal Code section 51.0105(a)(1), the Mayor of the City of San Diego (Mayor) proclaimed the existence of a local emergency due to the historic El Niño season.

J. The state and local declared emergencies will enable the City to apply for state financial assistance through the California Disaster Assistance Act, potentially covering 75% of the City's cost eligible damages and activities.

K. The City Council is committed to working with the Mayor to develop recommendations for any necessary emergency and mutual aid plans and agreements and such ordinances, resolutions, rules, and regulations necessary to implement such plans and agreements.

L. San Diego Municipal Code section 51.0105(a)(1) and California Government Code section 8630(b) requires that the City Council ratify the proclamation within seven days thereafter or the proclamation shall have no further force or effect.

M. California Government Code section 8630 authorizes local governing bodies to proclaim local emergencies when such events occur as are defined by California Government Code section 8558(c), provided further by section 8630 that the local governing body must review the state of emergency at least every 60 days until the emergency is declared to be terminated and shall proclaim the termination of the local emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

N. The Office of the City Attorney prepared this Resolution based on the information provided by City staff, with the understanding that this information is complete and accurate.

ACTION ITEMS

Be it resolved by the Council of the City of San Diego:

1. The City Council of the City of San Diego, that pursuant to California Government Code section 8630, a state of local emergency due to the historic El Niño season is declared to exist in the City of San Diego, and the proclamation of the local emergency declared by the Mayor on October 2, 2026, is hereby ratified.

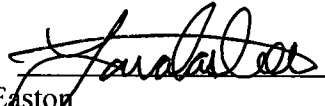
2. The City Council hereby ratifies and approves, in accordance with the police powers vested in City Officials under the Constitution of the State of California, the City Charter, and the laws of this State, including the aforementioned Government Code provisions, and the San Diego Municipal Code, all orders and regulations promulgated, issued and carried out by City officers and

City officials from October 2, 2026, until the passage of this resolution, which were necessary to provide for the protection of life and property.

3. During the existence of this local emergency, the powers, functions and duties of the Mayor of this City shall be those prescribed by state law and the Charter, ordinances, resolutions and approved plans of the City of San Diego in order to mitigate the effects of this local emergency, including the receipt, processing, and coordination of all inquiries and requirements necessary to obtain available state and federal assistance.

4. The state of local emergency shall be deemed to continue until its termination is proclaimed by the City Council.

APPROVED: HEATHER FERBERT, City Attorney

By 
Lara Easton
Chief Deputy City Attorney

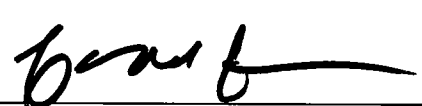
LEE:ddr
October 1, 2026
Or.Dept: PSE

I certify that the Council of the City of San Diego adopted this Resolution at a meeting held on
OCT 06 2026

DIANA J.S. FUENTES
City Clerk

By 
Deputy City Clerk

Approved: 10/15/26
(date)


TODD GLORIA, Mayor

Vetoed: _____
(date)

TODD GLORIA, Mayor

Passed by the Council of The City of San Diego on October 6, 2026, by the following vote:

Councilmembers	Yeas	Nays	Not Present	Recused
Joe LaCava	☒	☐	☐	☐
Jennifer Campbell	☒	☐	☐	☐
Stephen Whitburn	☐	☐	☒	☐
Henry L. Foster III	☒	☐	☐	☐
Marni von Wilpert	☒	☐	☐	☐
Kent Lee	☒	☐	☐	☐
Raul A. Campillo	☐	☐	☒	☐
Vivian Moreno	☒	☐	☐	☐
Sean Elo-Rivera	☐	☐	☒	☐

Date of final passage OCT 16 2026.

(Please note: When a resolution is approved by the Mayor, the date of final passage is the date the approved resolution was returned to the Office of the City Clerk.)

AUTHENTICATED BY:

TODD GLORIA
Mayor of The City of San Diego, California.

(Seal)

DIANA J.S. FUENTES
City Clerk of The City of San Diego, California.

By , Deputy

Office of the City Clerk, San Diego, California

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