

NIAGARA COUNTY LEGISLATURE
NIAGARA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
175 HAWLEY STREET
LOCKPORT, NY 14094-2470
(716) 439-7000

STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARATION

A State of Emergency is hereby declared in Niagara County effective at
1200 ***on May 18,***
2023.

This State of Emergency has been declared due to

The United States has experienced a dramatic increase in migration from or through Mexico and Canada, including a dramatic increase in the number of persons seeking asylum or who have illegally entered and remained in the United States (hereinafter "Migrants"), and in an effort to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued an order, effective August 2, 2021, widely known as "Title 42", which prohibited the introduction of noncitizens arriving from or through Mexico and Canada into congregate settings (hereinafter "COVID-19 Migration Order"), the COVID-19 Migration Order decreased, but did not eliminate, migration into the United States from or through Mexico and Canada, and the COVID-19 Migration Order expired on May 11, 2023, which will likely increase the migration and the relocation of Migrants within the United States and its cities, particularly the City of New York.

New York City, voluntarily proclaims itself a "sanctuary city" and provides services to Migrants and receives reimbursement for such services from the State of New York, and on May 5, 2023, as a result of the strain placed on the City of New York by Migrants already in the City, the Mayor of the City of New York announced plans to bus Migrants arriving in the City to counties outside of the City of New York, without assessing the capabilities of counties outside of the City of New York to house and feed and provide medical care to Migrant populations and lacking all authority or jurisdiction to require the same.

On May 9, 2023, the Governor of the State of New York, pursuant to Executive Order No. 28, declared a disaster emergency within the State of New York, finding and declaring that upon the expiration of the COVID-19 Migration Order, a humanitarian disaster is imminent.

The County of Niagara strives to be a welcoming community and recognizes the contributions of lawful migrants to the County's development, cultural and economic growth; however, unrestricted, unlawful migration poses a grave risk to the social, health, and emergency services resources of the County, particularly during a time when the County's inventory of housing

and emergency housing is at historic lows, and should the City of New York or State of New York abruptly transport large numbers of Migrants to Niagara County, the mass arrival of these Migrants will create a social, health, and emergency services crisis, causing an increase in homelessness, and will threaten the health and public safety of County residents and any relocated Migrants.

Pursuant to Article 2-B, Section 24 of the New York State Executive Law, the Chairman of the Legislature of Niagara County is empowered to proclaim and declare a local state of emergency upon a reasonable apprehension of a public emergency or an emergency affecting the life, health, and safety of inhabitants of the County.

As Chairman of the Niagara County Legislature, I, Rebecca Wydysch, exercise the authority given me under Article 2-B, Section 24 of the New York State Executive Law, to proclaim and declare a local state of emergency within the County of Niagara effective beginning May 18, 2023 and continuing until June 17, 2023, unless I rescind or extend such local state of emergency.

I hereby direct all departments and agencies of Niagara County to take the steps necessary to protect life and property, public infrastructure and provide such emergency assistance deemed necessary.

Local emergency orders may be enacted subsequent to this declaration to protect life and property or to bring the emergency situation under control.

This situation threatens the public safety.

This State of Emergency will remain in effect until rescinded by a subsequent order.

As the Chief Executive of Niagara County

I, Rebecca Wydysch, exercise the authority given me under Section 24 of the New York State Executive Law, to preserve the public safety and hereby render all required and available assistance vital to the security, well-being, and health of the citizens of this Municipality.

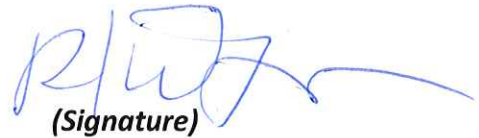
I hereby direct all departments and agencies of Niagara County to take whatever steps necessary to protect life and property, public infrastructure, and provide such emergency assistance deemed necessary.

Rebecca Wydysch

(Name)

Chairman Niagara County Legislature

(Title)



(Signature)

5/18/2023
(Date)