

Executive Order
Office of the Mayor
City of Atlanta

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 2024-06
BY THE MAYOR

DECLARING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 2-181 OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA CODE OF ORDINANCES, THAT THERE IS AN EMERGENCY IN EXISTENCE WITHIN THE JURISDICTIONAL LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA AS A RESULT OF THE DAMAGE FROM THE UNUSUAL OR EXTREME WEATHER CONDITION OF HURRICANE HELENE WHICH HAS MADE THE USE OF CITY STREETS AND AREAS WITHIN THE CITY OF ATLANTA DIFFICULT OR IMPOSSIBLE AND HAS CAUSED THE STOPPAGE OR LOSS OF ELECTRICAL POWER AFFECTING MAJOR PORTIONS OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA; AND EXERCISING MY EMERGENCY POWER TO USE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY AND TO DEVOTE ADDITIONAL CITY RESOURCES TO ASSIST IN MITIGATION OF THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY HELENE AS CIRCUMSTANCES DEMAND.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-181(a) of the Code of the City of Atlanta (“City”), the Mayor, as chief executive of the City, shall have the power to declare an emergency to exist when, in the mayor’s opinion, there is an unusual or extreme weather condition which has made the use of city streets or areas difficult or impossible; and there is a stoppage or loss of electrical power affecting a major portion of the city; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-181(b) of the Code of the City of Atlanta, the Mayor, as chief executive of the City, shall have the right to exercise any or all of the following emergency powers after such declaration of emergency:

- (1) To use employees of the city other than employees of the department of police to assist in the safety and preservation of life, limb and property of the citizenry of the city;
- (2) To close streets and sidewalks and to delineate areas within the city wherein an emergency exists;
- (3) To impose emergency curfew regulations;
- (4) To close business establishments within the affected area;
- (5) To close any and all city-owned buildings and other facilities to the use of the general public;
- (6) To do any and all acts necessary and incidental to the preservation of life, limb and property of the citizenry of the city; and

WHEREAS, no emergency power as set forth in this section may be effective for more than seventy-two (72) hours after the declaration of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, Tropical Storm Helene traveled into the eastern Gulf of Mexico and became Hurricane Helene the evening of Wednesday, September 25, 2024; and

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, Governor Brian P. Kemp directed the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS) to activate the State Operations Center (SOC) in preparation for Hurricane Helene, and declared a State of Emergency for the entire state of Georgia, including the City of Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, hurricane warnings were issued for much of southwest Georgia on Wednesday night as Hurricane Helene made its way through the Gulf of Mexico towards the Florida panhandle; and

WHEREAS, Hurricane Helene made landfall in the evening on Thursday, September 26, 2024, along areas of the Florida gulf coast and portions of the Florida panhandle and traveled northeast affecting areas across Georgia, particularly south-central Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Hurricane Helene moved into Georgia on the evening of Thursday, September 26, 2024, and into the morning of Friday, September 27, with tropical storm force winds and heavy rain possible throughout the state, and caused a need to prepare for spin-off tornadoes, downed trees and power lines, flooding, and other major impacts; and

WHEREAS, the City of Atlanta has suffered from a loss of power, downed trees, and flooding resulting from Hurricane Helene; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the damage from the unusual or extreme weather condition of Hurricane Helene, the use of city streets and areas within the City of Atlanta has been made difficult or impossible; and

WHEREAS, the damage from Hurricane Helene and has caused the stoppage or loss of electrical power affecting major portions of the City of Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, therefore, and in accordance with Section 2-181(a) of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, I have determined that there exists an emergency within the jurisdictional limits of the City of Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this declared emergency and each day during the duration thereof, I have the authority to use employees of the City and to devote additional City resources to assist in mitigation of the damage caused by Hurricane Helene as circumstances demand; and

WHEREAS, the surge in City resources necessary to address this emergency shall include but shall not be limited to the assignment of additional employees of the City of Atlanta Departments of Watershed Management, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and Transportation, and the devotion of additional resources and funding for contractors which aid these departments in their efforts to clear the roadways and other property within the City of Atlanta of downed trees and other debris resulting from Hurricane Helene; and

WHEREAS, this surge of City resources necessary to address this emergency shall also include the assignment of additional employees of the City of Atlanta Department of Customer Service (ATL311) to ensure that residents shall have the ability to efficiently report damage resulting from Hurricane Helene and the City shall be able to ensure that all such reports are swiftly addressed; and

WHEREAS, this emergency declaration shall remain in effect for 72 hours after the date of execution or through the time of the next regular or special meeting of the Atlanta City Council.

NOW THEREFORE, I, ANDRE DICKENS, AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, NOW HEREBY AUTHORIZE, ORDER AND DIRECT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. I have determined that in accordance with Section 2-181(a) of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, there exists an emergency within the jurisdictional limits of the City of Atlanta as a result of the damage from the unusual or extreme weather condition of Hurricane Helene which has made the use of city streets and areas within the City of Atlanta difficult or impossible; and has caused the stoppage or loss of electrical power affecting major portions of the City of Atlanta.

SECTION 2. In accordance with this determination, and in accordance with Section 2-181(a) of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, I hereby declare there to be an emergency in existence within the territorial jurisdictional limits of the City of Atlanta.

SECTION 3. In accordance with this declaration, I am exercising my emergency powers in accordance with Section 2-181(b) of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances within the jurisdictional limits of the City of Atlanta as shall be necessary to address the damage within the City of Atlanta caused by Hurricane Helene which shall include but shall not be limited to the use of additional employees of the City and the devotion of additional City resources as circumstances demand.

SECTION 4. The surge in City resources necessary to address this emergency shall include but shall not be limited to the assignment of additional employees of the City of Atlanta Departments of Watershed Management, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, and Transportation, and the devotion of additional resources and funding for contractors which aid these departments in their efforts to clear the roadways and other property within the City of Atlanta of downed trees and other debris resulting from Hurricane Helene.

SECTION 5. The surge of City resources necessary to address this emergency shall also include the assignment of additional employees of the City of Atlanta Department of Customer Service (ATL311) to ensure that residents shall have the ability to efficiently report damage resulting from Hurricane Helene and the City shall be able to ensure that all such reports are swiftly addressed.

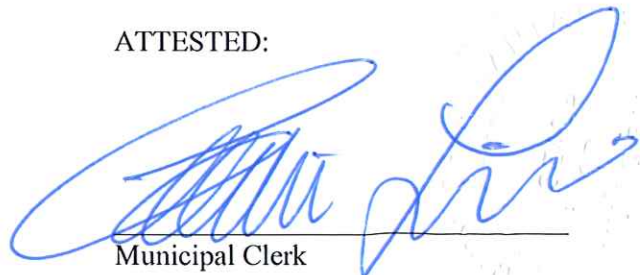
SECTION 6. If one or more of the provisions contained in the Order shall be held to be invalid, in violation of the Constitution of the United States, the Georgia Constitution, in violation of Georgia law, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, violation, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions herein, but in such case, this Order shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained with this Order.

This 27 day of September, 2024.



Andre Dickens, Mayor

ATTESTED:



Municipal Clerk