

# COUNTY OF ORANGE

## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 5 OF 2023

I, **Steven M. Neuhaus**, duly elected County Executive and chief executive of the County of Orange, New York, do hereby declare as an **EXECUTIVE ORDER** the following:

**WHEREAS**, the County of Orange has experienced severe flooding conditions in connection with severe rain and thunderstorm, causing damage to property, and otherwise threatening the lives and safety of the inhabitants of the County of Orange, and

**WHEREAS**, the existence of this severe flooding pose(s) a real, immediate, and continued danger of flooding, downed trees, unsafe roadways and their concomitant perilous effect on the lives and safety of the inhabitants throughout the County and which requires immediate measures to protect the lives, health, and safety of the people in the County, and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 24 of the Executive Law of the State of New York, the County Executive of Orange County, as its Chief Executive, is authorized to proclaim a local state of emergency within any part or all of the territorial limits of the County of Orange, and in connection therewith the County Executive may promulgate local emergency orders to protect life and property or to bring the emergency situation under control, and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 103(4) of the General Municipal Law, the County of Orange, and all Towns, Cites and Villages therein are authorized to forego the competitive bidding process when conditions exist whereby circumstances affecting public buildings, public property or the life, health, or safety of the inhabitants of any such municipality require immediate action which cannot await the competitive bidding process to take place,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Steven M. Neuhaus, as County Executive and Chief Executive of the County of Orange, New York do hereby find the public safety to be imperiled by the present and imminent conditions created by the above-referenced storm and the resulting risk to the lives of residents, officials, rescue workers and others in the County of Orange and, consequently, to safeguard the lives, health, safety, and property of the public, I do hereby declare a **STATE OF EMERGENCY** for the entire County of Orange pursuant to, *inter alia*, New York State Executive Law Sections 24 and 25, beginning at 7:30 p.m. this date, July 9, 2023, and continuing until such time that I declare the State of Emergency is no longer necessary, or until August 8, 2023, whichever shall come first; and

**I FURTHER FIND**, that since conditions exist that pose a threat to the public health, safety, and environment and, due to the fact that immediate action may be required to perform emergency repairs and services, and procure goods and services to prevent loss of life, protect the public health and safety, such that the County of Orange, and each of the Towns, Cities and Villages therein, cannot wait for the competitive bidding process to take place; and

**AS A RESULT OF MY DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY, I HEREBY ORDER FOR THE NEXT FIVE (5) DAYS, SUBJECT TO EXTENSIONS, IF NECESSARY, THE FOLLOWING AS CHECKED BELOW:**

That all vehicular and pedestrian traffic, not related to emergency service personnel and other officials and employees assisting in the effort to abate this emergency, are prohibited from entering upon any roadway in the Town of Highlands and/or within such area or areas as determined by emergency service personnel and County of Orange and municipal officials, including all law enforcement personnel, until 7:30 p.m. on July 10, 2023.

That the County of Orange and each of the Towns, Cities and Villages therein, through any officials designated by the chief executive order of each municipality, are hereby authorized to immediately take whatever actions that are necessary for the procurement of goods and services to build, construct, repair and replace structures and facilities necessary to control and prevent flooding, property damage, or otherwise protect the public health and safety during this emergency, without compliance with public procurement laws and regulations.

The suspensions of the following laws that may prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this emergency, but only to the minimum deviation extent necessary:

\* All local weight restrictions on any County, Town, City and Village roadways in the County of Orange in order to allow heavy vehicles and equipment needed in furtherance of the emergency.

This Executive Order does not affect any County of Orange operations for purposes of any County of Orange employees.

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and, pursuant to New York Executive Law § 24, shall be (i) published as soon as practicable in a newspaper of general circulation in the area and transmitted to the radio and television media for publication and broadcast, and (ii) signed in triplicate and filed within seventy-two hours or as soon thereafter as practicable in accordance with law.

ORDERED this 9th day of July 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

  
Steven Neuhaus, Orange County Executive