

**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK
JULY 7, 2022**

I, Mayor Nancy R. Rotering, do hereby issue this Declaration of Emergency for the City of Highland Park, this 7th day of July, 2022 (“Declaration”).

Introduction

On the morning of July 4th, 2022, a gunman opened fire on spectators and participants of the City’s Independence Day Parade, killing seven people, wounding more than three dozen others, and causing hundreds of terrified people to flee for their safety.

The Highland Park Police Department immediately responded to the scene, provided protection and emergency aid, searched for the shooter, and began to coordinate all available law enforcement and emergency medical resources toward this effort.

Law enforcement officers and emergency response personnel from surrounding communities, the Illinois State Police, the Lake County Sheriff’s Office, and the Federal Bureau of Investigations worked together in a coordinated effort to secure the scene, treat the wounded, and identify a suspected shooter. Although the suspected shooter has now been apprehended, the mass shooting remains under active investigation.

Immediately following the shooting, members of the City Council and I convened an emergency meeting of the City Council during which the City Council approved a declaration of emergency.

Dozens of Highland Park residents and their friends and neighbors are recovering from horrific injuries. The families, friends, and loved ones of the seven people who died are grieving and will never be whole. Hundreds of parade participants and attendees are traumatized, having been witness to a horrendous act of violence and having been in fear for their own lives and the lives of their friends and family members.

The City and all those affected by the mass shooting are only beginning to ^{to} evaluate and process how they might begin to heal from such trauma. State, federal, and local resources have been mobilized to provide mental health counseling and other support for the victims, their loved ones, and the many others who have been affected by this tragedy – including first responders and medical professionals who bravely risked their lives to provide emergency aid the injured. City personnel has been working, and will continue to work, overtime and will need resources and incur expenses.

Based on the foregoing facts and the current circumstances in the City, and in order to activate all additional resources available to efficiently and proactively address the needs of the City and those affected by the mass shooting, I find that it is necessary to issue this Declaration, all as set forth in this Declaration.

Statement of Authority

This Declaration is issued pursuant to the authority granted to me by: Section 92.105 of “The Highland Park Code of 1968,” as amended; Section 11-1-6 of the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/11-1-

**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK
JULY __, 2022**

6; and Section 11 of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/11, and the home rule powers of the City.

Declaration

I hereby declare that a state of emergency exists in the City of Highland Park, for the reasons set forth in this Declaration.

Emergency Regulations and Orders

Pursuant to the authority vested in me pursuant to Section 92.110 of the City Code, I reserve the right to issue emergency orders in furtherance of this Declaration; provided, however, I have determined that I will not issue any emergency order unless a draft of such order is first presented to the Corporate Authorities of the City for their consideration at a regular, special, or emergency meeting of the City Council. Further, no such emergency order will take effect unless it has first been approved by a majority vote of the Corporate Authorities at a regular, special, or emergency meeting of the City Council.

Notice of any emergency order that has been approved and issued will be provided to the City Clerk, posted on the City website, and otherwise provided to the general public as quickly as practicable.

Effective Date and Period of Emergency

This Declaration shall take effect immediately, and shall be expire automatically upon the first to occur of: (i) the adjournment of the next regular or special meeting of the corporate authorities of the City; and (ii) 11:59 p.m. on the date that is seven days after the date of this Declaration; provided, however, that corporate authorities, in their discretion, may extend the duration of this Declaration by a majority vote at any regular, special, or emergency meeting of the corporate authorities.

Signed and sealed with the official seal of the City of Highland Park on this 7th day of July, 2022.

By:



Nancy R. Rotering
Mayor
City of Highland Park

