



OFFICE OF TRAVIS COUNTY JUDGE SARAH ECKHARDT

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18 October 2018

The Honorable Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas  
c/o State Coordinator  
Division of Emergency Management  
PO Box 4087  
Austin, Texas 78773-001

Dear Governor Abbott:

On October 16, 2018, the County of Travis began suffering severe damage and loss of property resulting from rising flood waters adjacent to the Colorado River, Lake Travis and other watersheds. Numerous homes around Lake Travis have flooded or are expected to flood as the water continues to rise while the Lower Colorado River Authority moves record amounts of water through the highland lakes of the Colorado River in Travis County. The National Weather Service forecasts additional rain in the Colorado River watershed for the next several days that will contribute to flood waters. County roadways have been closed near Lake Travis due to inundation from flood water. Additional impacts are being studied at this time as the incident continues to develop. Travis County and jurisdictions within Travis County expect to incur significant costs associated with debris removal and road repair once the water begins to recede.

While response operations are still underway, it is my belief that damage to homes, businesses, public infrastructure and property due to rain and flood water constitutes a potential public health and safety hazard. I have declared a local disaster due to flooding. I have determined the incident will be of such severity that effective recovery will be beyond Travis County's capability without State and/or federal Assistance. Additionally, I certify that Travis County does not have local funding available to make the needed repairs and to provide these citizens effective relief.

Your assistance in this emergency, as it affects the safety and health of our citizens, would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Eckhardt", is written over a large, light-colored oval shape.

Sarah Eckhardt  
County Judge  
County of Travis, Texas