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TOWN OF SUNSET BEACH, NORTH CAROLINA

DECLARATION OF A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

**WHEREAS**, the National Weather Service in Wilmington, North Carolina issued a Winter Weather Decision Support Briefing on January 30, 2026, indicating high confidence in a significant and potentially dangerous winter weather event impacting southeastern North Carolina, including Brunswick County; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Warning for Brunswick County, along with a Cold Weather Advisory and an Extreme Cold Watch, citing increasing confidence in significant snowfall, dangerously cold temperatures, strong winds, and hazardous travel conditions beginning late Friday night and continuing through the weekend and into early next week; and

**WHEREAS**, forecast conditions include the potential for accumulating snow, blowing snow, reduced visibility, wind gusts of 25 to 35 miles per hour with higher gusts possible, scattered power outages, and wind chill values dropping into the single digits or below zero, creating a heightened risk of frostbite, hypothermia, and prolonged infrastructure disruptions; and

**WHEREAS**, hazardous road conditions are expected throughout the region, including bridges, overpasses, and secondary roads, which may make travel dangerous or impossible and impede emergency response, public safety operations, and access to essential services within the Town of Sunset Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, marine and coastal conditions are expected to deteriorate significantly, with gale-force winds and hazardous seas anticipated along the Brunswick County coastline, posing risks to mariners, coastal infrastructure, and public safety; and

**WHEREAS**, these conditions constitute a clear and present danger to the life, safety, health, and welfare of the residents, visitors, and property of the Town of Sunset Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina General Statute § 166A-19.22 authorizes the Mayor of a municipality to declare a State of Emergency when conditions exist that pose an imminent or existing threat to public safety and to exercise the powers necessary to protect life and property;


**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Mayor of the Town of Sunset Beach under N.C. General Statute § 166A-19.22, I hereby declare that a Local State of Emergency exists in the Town of Sunset Beach, North Carolina, effective January 31, 2026 at 9:00 PM.

This declaration is issued as a precautionary and preparedness measure and authorizes the Town of Sunset Beach to take all actions deemed necessary and appropriate to protect life and property, including but not limited to:

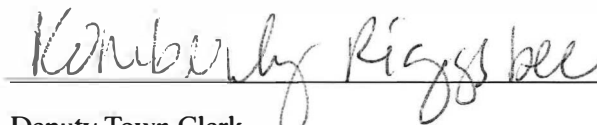
- Activation of applicable local emergency operations, continuity of operations, and emergency communications plans;
- Coordination with Brunswick County Emergency Management, state agencies, utility providers, and emergency response partners;
- Regulation, restriction, or prohibition of travel on public streets, roads, bridges, and rights-of-way as conditions warrant;
- Closure of Town facilities, parks, beach access points, parking areas, and other public spaces when necessary to protect public safety;
- Suspension or modification of parking regulations, including paid parking operations and enforcement, to facilitate emergency response, snow removal, or public safety needs;
- Imposition of curfews or restrictions on movement within the Town if deemed necessary to protect life, property, and emergency personnel;
- Limiting or prohibiting access to hazardous areas, including coastal, marine, and flood-prone locations;
- Implementation of emergency protective measures related to utilities, critical infrastructure, and essential services;
- Requesting mutual aid and assistance from county, state, or federal resources; and
- Taking any other lawful actions authorized under Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes necessary to respond to the emergency.

This State of Emergency shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded by subsequent declaration.

**DECLARED this the 31st day of January, 2026, at 9:00 PM.**

  
Shannon D. Phillips  
Mayor, Town of Sunset Beach

Attest:

  
Deputy Town Clerk  
Town of Sunset Beach, North Carolina