DECLARATION RELATING TO THE APRIL 8, 2024 SOLAR ECLIPSE

WHERE AS, on April 8, 2024, Navarro County, Texas will be in the direct line of a total solar eclipse that will traverse across North America; and

WHERE AS, this event is expected to see the population Navarro County, Texas which is approximately 100,000 double if not triple, in size throughout the days leading up to and including the day of the event, leading to extreme traffic congestion, enormous strain on first responders organizations, hospital systems, food, grocery and fuel shortages, along with city and county infrastructure, threatening the safety of all residents; and

WHERE AS, the Navarro County Judge has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the health, safety and welfare of Navarro County residents and visitors that may be impacted as a result of the April 8, 2024 solar eclipse; and

WHERE AS, the Navarro County Judge, in consultation with area emergency management coordinators, law enforcement officials, and fire and rescue officials, have determined that a potential exists for roads, streets and highways to be stressed to and above capacity during certain times of the event; and

WHERE AS, the potential stress and over-capacity of city, county, state, and federal streets, roads, and highways may create a public safety event whereby law enforcement and fire and rescue officers will be impeded from responding to calls for service; and

WHERE AS, the Navarro County Judge has determined that a registration process for property owners in the unincorporated areas of the County who intend to rent, lease, or otherwise allow their property to be used for the solar eclipse viewing is in the best interests of the public safety; and

WHERE AS, the Navarro County Judge, urges all residents of Navarro County to stay at home if they can, avoid driving, if possible, ensure all vehicles are filled with fuel the week leading up to this event, ensure sufficient groceries and supplies are purchased well in advance, and to take all cautionary measures to ensure the safety of all persons and animals in their care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY NAVARRO COUNTY, TEXAS:

- 1. That, pursuant to Section 418.108, Texas Government Code, a local state of emergency and disaster to be caused by the April 8, 2024, solar eclipse event is hereby declared for Navarro County, Texas.
- 2. That pursuant to Section 418. 1089(b) of the Government Code, this state of emergency for April 8, 2024, solar eclipse event shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this declaration, unless extended by Navarro County Commissioner's Court of Navarro County, Texas

- 3. That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of Government Code, this declaration activates the Navarro County Emergency Management Plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under this declaration.
- 4. That this declaration authorizes Navarro County to take any actions necessary to promote life safety and critical infrastructure protection, including but not limited to, requiring private property landowners in the unincorporated areas of Navarro County, Texas to register with Navarro County if that landowner plans to host watch parties, dry camping, or any other large event that exceeds a population of 50 or more people. These same private property land owners will provide Navarro County with site plans that describe the layout of the event, clearly marking number of spaces to be used for dry camping and parking areas, ingress and egress routes leading in and out of the private property, designated routes in and out of the private property for first responder emergency vehicles, and insuring compliance for those who do not comply with the Counties rules and directives.
- 5. That this declaration shall take effect from **March 11, 2024**, and after it's issuance, and upon approval of Navarro County Commissioner's Court, shall continue in effect until terminated by Navarro County Judge. Pursuant to this declaration, additional directives may be issued by Navarro County Judge at any time deemed necessary.

DECLARED this 11th day of March, 2024

H. M. Davenport, Jr, Navarro County Judge

Jason Grant

dmmissioner Precinct 1

Eddie Moore.

Commissioner Precinct 3

Eddie Perry

Commissioner Precinct 2

David Brewer.

Commissioner Precinct 4

Attest:

Sherry Dowd

Navarro County, Clerk