

**CITY OF FLORENCE, KENTUCKY  
ORDINANCE O-4-2025**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FLORENCE, KENTUCKY, ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS FOR DECLARING AND MANAGING SNOW EMERGENCIES WITHIN THE CITY.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Florence recognizes the need for effective management of severe winter weather to ensure public safety, maintain traffic flow, and facilitate efficient snow removal; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the public interest to establish clear guidelines for the declaration of snow emergencies and related parking restrictions;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF FLORENCE, KENTUCKY, AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION I: AUTHORITY TO DECLARE A SNOW EMERGENCY**

During periods of significant snowfall, when the Mayor or their designated representative determines that an emergency situation exists requiring immediate action for plowing, salting, sanding, or otherwise clearing snow from the city's public streets, the Mayor or designee is hereby vested with the authority to declare a snow emergency.

**SECTION II: DECLARATION OF A SNOW EMERGENCY**

A snow emergency shall be declared by the Mayor through oral, written, or telephone communication to the City Clerk's Office. The City Clerk is responsible for recording the date and time of the declaration on the official "Snow Emergency Form" (Exhibit A).

**SECTION III: PUBLIC NOTIFICATION**

Upon the declaration of a snow emergency, the City Clerk shall notify local media outlets, including radio stations, television networks, newspapers, and other relevant news platforms, to facilitate timely and widespread dissemination of the declaration. The City Clerk shall further ensure that notice of the snow emergency, including any parking or travel restrictions, is published on the City's official website and its designated social media channels. Such notification shall serve as sufficient public notice of the snow emergency. No additional formal notice to the public shall be required beyond the provisions outlined in this section.

**SECTION IV: SNOW EMERGENCY CLASSIFICATIONS**

Snow emergencies shall be defined at one of the following levels:

1. **Level One:** Roadways are hazardous with blowing and/or drifting snow, roadways may be icy. Motorists are advised to use caution due to hazardous road conditions resulting from these conditions and possible accumulations of snow and/or ice.

2. **Level Two:** Roadways are extremely hazardous due to accumulated or blowing snow, and roadways may be icy. Only essential travel is advised. Essential travel includes, but is not limited to, travel for public safety and emergency purposes, travel to and from work if required by the employer, travel for medical reasons, and travel to obtain necessary provisions such as food, medicine, or fuel.
3. **Level Three:** Roadways are extremely dangerous and travel is restricted to the following: public safety and emergency personnel, travel to and from work if attendance is required by the employer and travel for medical purposes or to obtain necessary provisions. Travel for any other purposes is considered to be non-essential and violations may be enforced by law enforcement personnel. Violators are subject to prosecution.

The declaration of a snow emergency, at any level, shall not prohibit travel to and from work. Citizens are urged to contact their employer to determine whether they should report to work.

#### **SECTION V: DURATION AND RENEWAL OF SNOW EMERGENCY**

A snow emergency shall remain in effect until rescinded by the Mayor. The Mayor may issue a formal rescission of the snow emergency by providing notice consistent with the procedure outlined in Section II and Section III. If conditions warrant, the Mayor may extend or modify the snow emergency declaration without interruption, provided such extensions or modifications are communicated in accordance with the notification requirements established in this ordinance.

#### **SECTION VI: PARKING RESTRICTIONS DURING SNOW EMERGENCY**

During snow emergencies, where snowfall accumulation is 2 inches or greater, no vehicle may be parked, and no person, corporation, partnership, joint venture, unincorporated association, or any combination thereof may park or permit any vehicle to be parked upon any public road right-of-way.

Any violation of this provision constitutes a breach of municipal regulations as outlined in Chapter 70 of the City of Florence Code of Ordinances. Violators may be subject to fines, towing, or other enforcement actions deemed necessary to ensure public safety and effective snow management.

#### **SECTION VII: EFFECTIVE DATE**

This ordinance shall become effective upon its passage, approval, and publication as required by law.

#### **SECTION VIII**

By enactment of this Ordinance O-4-2025 it is the purpose and intent of City Council to repeal sections of Ordinance No. O-4-85 adopted on February 26, 1985, and sections of Ordinance No. O-37-93 adopted on November 23, 1993, which regulate declaration of Snow Emergencies within the City. All other sections of Ordinance No. O-4-85 and Ordinance No. O-37-93 shall and do remain in full force and effect.

## SECTION IX

If any section, paragraph, clause, provision or portion of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, sentences, clauses and provisions set forth in this Ordinance, or this Ordinance as an entirety, it being the legislative intent that this Ordinance shall be valid notwithstanding the invalidity of any section, clause, or provision hereof.

## SECTION X

This Ordinance shall be published by posting on the City's internet website.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON FIRST READING THIS 11<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON SECOND READING AND PUBLICATION ORDERED THIS 25<sup>th</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025.

### APPROVED:

/s/ Julie M. Aubuchon  
Julie M. Aubuchon, Mayor

### ATTEST:

/s/ Melissa Kramer  
Melissa Kramer, City Clerk