

## RESOLUTION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2023 AS "PREPAREDNESS MONTH" IN DAVIDSON COUNTY

WHEREAS, National Preparedness Month (NPM) is an observance each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time; and

WHEREAS, Davidson County has been affected by a number of disasters and emergencies in recent years, including Hurricanes Hugo, Fran, Earl, Dennis, Jean, Ivan and most recently Andrea and the 69 tornados that affected the County since 1950; and

WHEREAS, Counties throughout North Carolina have been affected by a variety of emergencies, including mudslides, wildfires, flooding, earthquakes, and the recent COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS,** in July 2023 an EF3 tornado touched down in a nearby county causing significant damage in the area. While Davidson County did not encounter damage from this tornado, many severe thunderstorms have impacted Davidson County bringing 80+ mph straight-line winds to the area; and

WHEREAS, while North Carolina has not seen a hurricane make landfall in 2023, Hurricane season is in effect, with many tropical depression's forming off the coast of Africa. That may have potential to impact North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the peak period of hurricane season is historically mid-August through October, and September 10 marks the peak of hurricane season; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 theme of National Preparedness Month is "Preparing for Older Adults" as it is known that here are several factors that make older adults more vulnerable after disasters, including, but not limited to:

- a greater likelihood to suffer from chronic conditions and the need for associated medications; and
- a greater reliance on assistive devices such as walkers or glasses, as well as support from caregivers and others; and
- an increased likelihood of social isolation; and

**WHEREAS,** National Preparedness Month is aimed at encouraging citizens to develop an emergency plan, build an emergency kit, and take other proactive steps to prepare for potential emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the Davidson County Board of Commissioners desires that every household, property owner, and business in Davidson County be prepared for potential emergencies;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of Davidson County hereby declares September 2023 as Preparedness Month in Davidson County and encourages all citizens to Prepare to Protect their loved ones by developing an emergency plan, building an emergency kit, and communicating their emergency plan to all members of their household and/ or workplace.

Adopted this the 28th day of August, 2023.

Fred McClure, Chair

**Davidson County Board of Commissioners** 

Attest:

Deborah J. Harris Clerk to the Board