AN EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLOWS PROCLAIMING A PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the City of Willows and the Glenn County Sheriff's Office have been unable to negotiate a new contract for law enforcement services, including dispatch and animal services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Willows disbanded its police department in 2017 and entered into a Law Enforcement Services Agreement with the Glenn County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, the City of Willows and the Glenn County Sheriff's Office have operated under Law Enforcement Services Agreements since 2017 in which the Glenn County Sheriff's Office has provided all law enforcement services to the City of Willows; and

WHEREAS, the current Law Enforcement Services Agreement between the City of Willows and the Glenn County Sheriff's Office expires on June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City of Willows and Glenn County Sheriff's Office have been unable to reach an agreement on new terms for a law enforcement contract beginning July 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City of Willows has requested assistance from other law enforcement agencies in the region, and to date, no other agencies have agreed to provide law enforcement services to the City; and

WHEREAS, the City needs to provide for the safety and protection of its citizens within the city limits; and

WHEREAS, the California Emergency Services Act, Chapter 7, commencing with Government Code section 8550 confers upon the governing bodies of California cities the emergency powers necessary to protect health and safety and preserve lives and property; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8630 states that a Local Emergency may only be proclaimed by the governing body of a City or by a designated official; and

WHEREAS, City of Willows Municipal Code ("WMC") section 2.55.050(1) appoints the City Manager as the director of emergency services; and

WHEREAS, "emergency" is defined in WMC section 2.55.020 as the "actual or threatened existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within this city ..."; and

WHEREAS, section 2.55.060 empowers the director of emergency services to request the City Council to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City will be without adequate law enforcement presence within the City limits beginning at 12:00 a.m. July 1, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the lack of law enforcement presence in the City represents a circumstance of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the City.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND PROCLAIMED that a Local Public Safety Emergency now exists and shall continue throughout this City until terminated by the City Council, and shall be reviewed by the City Council every sixty (60) days to ensure that the need for the emergency still exists.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said Local Emergency, the powers, functions, and duties of the Director of Emergency Services and the emergency organization of the City shall be those prescribed by law, ordinance, and resolution, and by the City's Emergency Operations Plan, as approved by the Council.

IT IS FURTHER PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED that during the existence of said Local Emergency, the City Manager, as the Director of Emergency Services, shall take all reasonable and legal steps to mitigate the increased peril to the public health, safety, and welfare of the persons and property within the City, including working with state and other local agencies to secure law enforcement services to the City.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Proclamation was resolved, proclaimed and adopted at a Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Willows on the 29th day of June, 2026, by the following votes:

AYES: Mayor Hutson, Vice Mayor Thomas, Council Member Hansen, Council Member Busby
NOES: None
ABSENT: Council Member Pride
ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED:

Evan Hutson, Mayor

ATTESTED:

Karleen Price, City Clerk

FORM APPROVED:

Gretchen Stuhr, City Attorney