



**CITY OF GRAHAM, NORTH CAROLINA  
DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY  
JANUARY 2026**

**WHEREAS, a Winter Storm Warning** is anticipated to impact Alamance County with dangerous travel and power outages; and

**WHEREAS,** North Carolina Governor Josh Stein issued Executive Order No. 31, January 21, 2026, declaring a state of emergency for the entire State of North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS,** as a result of the above-described emergency, I have determined that there is an imminent threat of, or existing conditions have caused or will cause, widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property; and

**WHEREAS,** declaring a State of Emergency and imposing the restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein is necessary to maintain order and protect public health, safety, and welfare, and to secure property.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** pursuant to the authority vested in me, Chelsea Dickey, as Mayor of the City of Graham, that I hereby declare that a state of emergency exists as defined in N.C.G.S 166A-19.3(6) and (19) and under City of Graham Code of Ordinances Section 2-52.

**Section 1.**

- (a) The proclamation may prohibit obtaining access or attempting to gain access to any area designated in the manner described in this section in violation of any order, clearly posted notice, or barricade indicating that access is denied or restricted.
- (b) When acting under this authority, the Chief of Police, Fire Chief and their subordinates may restrict or deny access to any area, street, highway, or location within the City if that restriction or denial of access or use is reasonably necessary to promote efforts being made to overcome the emergency or to prevent further aggravation of the emergency.

**Section 2.**

The emergency area covered by this state of emergency shall be all areas within the jurisdiction of the City of Graham.

**Section 3.**

All civilian and emergency management personnel are ordered to comply with all emergency response plans:

- (a) Citizens are encouraged to stay off all roads if reasonably possible and to limit travel so as not to interfere with the efforts of emergency and repair crews and because traffic signals may not be operating at some intersections.

(b) As part of the emergency efforts, City crews will be placing priority on clearing City streets and ask citizens not to place debris in the roadway. Debris removal will begin as soon as possible following the storm. Please refer to [www.cityofgraham.com](http://www.cityofgraham.com) for proper placement of debris.

**Section 4.**

I hereby order all City of Graham law enforcement officers, employees, and all other emergency management personnel subject to my control to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the City's emergency operational procedures.

**Section 5.**

I hereby order this declaration: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with the City Clerk of the City of Graham City Council; and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.


**Section 6.**

This declaration shall become effective immediately and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded.

**DECLARED this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2026, at 11:00 a.m.**

  
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**Chelsea Dickey, Mayor**  
**City of Graham, NC**

**Attest:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Renee M. Ward, CMC**  
**City Clerk,**  
**City of Graham, NC**

