



**Bessemer City**  
HEARTFELT LIVING

ESTD  1893

**PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY  
CITY OF BESSEMER CITY, NORTH CAROLINA  
WINTER STORM: 01.31.2026**

*The following Proclamation is issued by the Mayor of the City of Bessemer City:*

**WHEREAS**, information from the National Weather Service, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and other reliable sources indicates that a significant winter weather storm is approaching the Bessemer City area and is likely to impact the community; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a high probability that the projected path of this winter storm will cause severe disruption within Gaston County and the City of Bessemer City; and

**WHEREAS**, the winter storm is expected to be preceded, accompanied, and followed by high snow accumulations and low temperatures; and

**WHEREAS**, the weather conditions associated with this winter storm constitute an imminent threat of widespread or severe damage to property and infrastructure, as well as injury or loss of life;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me under Article 1 of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes, Article 36A of Chapter 14 of the North Carolina General Statutes, and Chapter 35 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bessemer City, I, Becky S. Smith, Mayor of the City of Bessemer City, do hereby proclaim that a State of Emergency exists within the City of Bessemer City.

I further proclaim that the emergency ordinances set forth below, contained in Chapter 35 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bessemer City, are necessary to maintain public order and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of residents during this emergency. These provisions shall remain in effect within the City of Bessemer City until this Proclamation expires or is rescinded. I hereby direct all City law enforcement officers, City employees, and all emergency management personnel subject to my authority to cooperate fully in the enforcement and implementation of these emergency measures.

**A. Access to Restricted Areas**

1. The City Manager, or his or her designees, is authorized to restrict or deny access to any area, location, or street within the City when such action is necessary to respond to this emergency or to prevent conditions from worsening. Such restrictions shall be indicated through barricades, posted notices, verbal directives, or other appropriate means.

2. No person shall enter or attempt to enter any area, location, or street where access has been restricted pursuant to this directive.

I further proclaim that the Emergency Management Plan adopted by the City of Bessemer City, along with all applicable mutual aid and assistance agreements, is hereby activated and shall remain in effect until this Proclamation expires or is rescinded. All emergency management personnel are ordered to cooperate fully in the execution of the Emergency Management Plan and to provide assistance as required under applicable mutual aid agreements.

I direct that copies of this Proclamation be provided to the news media for publication and broadcast and that copies be posted at City Hall and other public buildings as appropriate.

This Proclamation shall become effective immediately and shall remain in effect for a period of seven (7) days, unless sooner rescinded or extended pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 14-288.16.

Proclaimed this the 30th day of January 2026.

  
Becky S. Smith, Mayor



  
Hayeia Y. Hayes, City Clerk