

1 **BY AUTHORITY**

2
3 RESOLUTION NO. CR23-
4 SERIES OF 2023

COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE:
Direct File - Torres

5 **A RESOLUTION**

6
7 **Extending the declaration of local disaster emergency pertaining to sheltering**
8 **of migrants and asylum seekers filed with the clerk and recorder to August 21,**
9 **2023.**
10

11 **WHEREAS**, over the past seven months, the City and County of Denver ("City") has seen a
12 steady influx of over 11,200 migrants and asylum seekers arrive in the City without having any
13 immediate plans for shelter;

14 **WHEREAS**, this dramatic recent increase in the influx of migrants seeking shelter and asylum
15 from foreign countries has significantly increased the need to provide shelter, transportation, food
16 and services, basic health and first aid needs, COVID-19 testing and associated medical care
17 needed during quarantine and isolation and other supportive services within the State of Colorado
18 and specifically within the City;

19 **WHEREAS**, many of the migrants and asylum seekers are coping with the effects of trauma
20 and exhaustion, as well as other physical and mental health concerns;

21 **WHEREAS**, to accommodate the recent increase in migrants and asylum seekers arriving in
22 the City, the City is working with partner organizations to establish spaces to accommodate
23 migrants arriving in Denver in order to provide emergency shelter and other services;

24 **WHEREAS**, the sudden increase in need to provide shelter, transportation, food and services,
25 basic health and first aid needs, and other supportive services is straining and exceeding current
26 City resources;

27 **WHEREAS**, if migrants and asylum seekers continue to enter the City at, near, or more than
28 the current rate, the City's capacity to shelter and care for such persons will suffer additional strain
29 and continue to exceed the City's capacity;

30 **WHEREAS**, the City now faces a humanitarian crisis that requires it to take extraordinary
31 measures to meet the immediate needs of the asylum seekers;

32 **WHEREAS**, the City has requested financial and other assistance from the state government
33 as well as nonprofits and other community resources, including additional sheltering, food,
34 transportation, and services;

1 **WHEREAS**, the City has requested financial and other assistance from the federal
2 government;

3 **WHEREAS**, people and property are at risk based on the arrival of significant numbers of
4 migrants and individuals and families seeking asylum, as described in the above paragraphs;

5 **WHEREAS**, the risks posed as described herein require preparation and arrangements for
6 food, shelter, transportation, infrastructure, and other humanitarian aid to protect the health, safety,
7 or welfare of people within the City described herein.

8 **WHEREAS**, on December 15, 2022, Mayor Hancock filed with the City and County of Denver
9 Clerk and Recorder a State of Local Disaster Emergency Declaration (hereinafter "Declaration");

10 **WHEREAS**, the period of Declaration is currently in effect until Monday June 26, 2023;

11 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to state law, Colo. Rev. Stat. §24-33.5-709(1), the effect of the period of
12 local disaster emergency cannot exceed seven days except by or with the approval of City Council;

13 **WHEREAS**, out of an abundance of caution, City Council intends to further extend the current
14 Declaration until Monday, August 21, 2023;

15 **WHEREAS**, the Declaration gives the City the ability to expedite procurement for critical
16 services and shelter for migrants and asylum seekers in the City and continuing to arrive in the
17 City, among other time-sensitive needs.

18

19 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

20 **Section 1.** That the State of Local Disaster Emergency Declaration prepared by Mayor
21 Michael B. Hancock and filed with the Clerk and Recorder of the City and County of Denver on
22 December 15, 2022, be extended until August 21, 2023, and shall be in effect until terminated by
23 the Mayor or by City Council in accordance with state and local laws.

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25 **[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]**

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1 COMMITTEE APPROVAL DATE: N/A

2 MAYOR-COUNCIL DATE: N/A

3 PASSED BY THE COUNCIL: _____

4 _____ - PRESIDENT

5 ATTEST: _____ - CLERK AND RECORDER,
6 EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE
7 CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

8 PREPARED BY: Megan E. Waples, Assistant City Attorney DATE: , 2023

9 Pursuant to section 13-12, D.R.M.C., this proposed resolution has been reviewed by the Office of
10 the City Attorney. We find no irregularity as to form, and have no legal objection to the proposed
11 resolution. The proposed resolution is **not** submitted to the City Council for approval pursuant to
12 §3.2.6 of the Charter.

13 Kerry Tipper, Denver City Attorney

14

15 BY: _____, Assistant City Attorney DATE: _____

DRAFT