

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Athina Williams, Town Manager townmanager@townofbelvile.com (910)-371-2456

BELVILLE, NC, August 30, 2023, 11:00 a.m.

TOWN OF BELVILLE DECLARES A STATE OF EMERGENCY AND ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS TO MAKE PREPARATIONS FOR HURRICANE IDALIA

The National Weather Service has issued a Tropical Storm Watch and Warning for Coastal North Carolina, including the Town of Belville.

Mayor Mike Allen declared a State of Emergency due to the expected track of Hurricane Idalia, as the National Weather Service has predicted heavy rain across the area and potential for dangerous flash flooding, storm surge and rip currents.

Residents should be advised that tornadoes are a possibility with hurricanes, however, tornadoes may spawn with short notice. Most injuries from tornadoes are caused by being stuck by falling or wind-borne debris. Identify where you will seek cover should a tornado threaten the area.

In declaring the state of emergency, Mayor Mike Allen said, "be sure you are prepared and never drive through flooded roadways. We are grateful for our emergency management response teams who not only keep us informed, but are ready to provide aid if we need them."

Town officials are in constant contact with emergency management officials and the weather service and will provide ample warning.

The Belville Riverwalk Park will be closed at 5 p.m., as well as the Farmers Market and Fun Time Ice Cream.

We advise residents to stay indoors, stay tuned to your local radio and television stations, or a weather app for additional information. Visit <u>ReadyNC.gov</u> for additional information on weather preparation, as well as information on power outages. Visit <u>DriveNC.gov</u> for current travel conditions from NCDOT.

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Posted: August 30, 2023 Sharon A. Niemann, Town Clerk