



The City of Minneapolis

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

**By Glidden, Bender, Cano, Frey, Goodman, Gordon,
A. Johnson, B. Johnson, Palmisano, Quincy, Reich, Warsame, Yang**

Supporting the people of Puerto Rico and the people of Mexico and others in recovery from natural disasters.

Whereas, on Wednesday, September 20, 2017, Hurricane Maria hit the United States territory of Puerto Rico, creating devastating damage and putting in jeopardy the public health and safety of millions of American citizens; and

Whereas, the concern for the people of Puerto Rico continues to rise, as safe drinking water, electricity, and other basic needs remain unmet throughout much of Puerto Rico; and

Whereas, community leaders and elected officials across the United States, and within Minnesota, have raised concern about the grave humanitarian crisis in Puerto Rico and called on the Federal Government to deploy additional resources and assistance to Puerto Rico; and

Whereas, 11,000 residents in Minnesota have ties to Puerto Rico, including a Minnesota State Senator, a Minnesota State Representative, and employees of the City of Minneapolis, and many residents have asked how they can help Puerto Rico; and

Whereas, efforts by Minnesotans to support Puerto Rico include:

- University of Minnesota doctors, led by Dr Miguel Fiol, traveling to Puerto Rico and bringing medical supplies; you can assist them at [gofundme](#).
- The Coalición de Boricuas en Minnesota, with fiscal agent Impact Lives, is collecting goods at various locations and accepting tax-deductible donations (choose "Puerto Rico Hurricane Support Relief in the "select your event" box and write "Coalicion de Boricuas en Minnesota" in the comment box)..
- El Fondo Boricua of the Saint Paul Foundation is disbursing money to vetted 501c3 organizations in Puerto Rico and other trusted organizations working on the island. While the challenge in Puerto Rico is that not many organizations have the federal tax status of a 501c3, El Fondo is an important, ongoing partner for relief and you can make tax deductible donations to El Fondo Boricua at [givemn.org](#); and

Whereas, a 7.1 magnitude earthquake struck Central Mexico on September 19, 2017, causing damage in the Mexican states of Puebla, Morelos, Oaxaca and in the Greater Mexico City area, killing at least 369 people and injuring more than 6,000 people; and

Whereas, Minneapolis' sister city of Cuernavaca, Mexico, is the capital and largest city in the State of Morelos, and its residents suffered significant harm in this earthquake; and

Whereas, the trauma and confusion experienced in Mexico from the September 19 earthquake was compounded by the fact that it occurred on the 32nd anniversary of the devastating 1985 Mexico City earthquake, which killed around 10,000 people, and due to this anniversary a national earthquake drill was held just two hours before the 2017 earthquake; and

Whereas, many residents in Minneapolis have ties to Mexico, including to our sister city of Cuernavaca, and are grieving the damage, injuries, and loss of life suffered; and

Whereas, donations for the survivors of the most powerful earthquake in Mexico's history are accepted by the trusted organizations Oxfam Mexico and the Mexican Red Cross (Cruz Roja Mexicana); and

Whereas, Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria have caused destruction and personal devastation in 2017 for many in the states of Texas and Florida and elsewhere, with impacts felt by family and friends throughout Minnesota, the United States and beyond;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the City of Minneapolis urges residents to support our broader community suffering from natural disasters in Puerto Rico and Mexico, as well as in Texas, Florida and elsewhere, and further urges residents who are able to express their generosity by supporting relief efforts to provide supplies, help survivors and rebuild communities in the United States territory of Puerto Rico, in Mexico, and to other places in need.

Passed, October 20, 2017

Barbara Johnson, President of the Council

Approved:

Betsy Hodges, Mayor

Attest:

Casey Carl, City Clerk