

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF UNION COUNTY**

UNION COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-46

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR UNION COUNTY ROADS TO BE CLOSED TO THROUGH TRAFFIC FOLLOWING CLOSURE OF STATE HIGHWAYS IN UNION COUNTY BY THE NEW MEXICO STATE POLICE; PROVIDING AUTHORITY TO THE SHERIFF OF UNION COUNTY TO CLOSE COUNTY ROADS TO THROUGH TRAFFIC IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF UNION COUNTY, NEW MEXICO:

Section One. Short Title.--This Ordinance shall be known as The Union County Emergency Road Closure Ordinance.

Section Two. Definitions.--

A. "County Road" or "Union County Road" means a road that has been accepted for maintenance by Union County;

B. "Local traffic" refers to travelling through Union County from a place inside Union County or within twenty five miles of Union County to reach a destination within Union County, such as a home, school, property or business; and

C. "Through traffic" refers to travelling from a place outside of Union County through Union County to a destination outside the County.

Section Three. Emergency Road Closure.--In the event that the condition of a State highway within Union County presents a substantial danger to vehicular traffic by reason of snow, sleet, hail, ice or other unusual or hazardous conditions pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 66-7-11 (1987), and the New Mexico State Police orders said highway or highways closed, then the Sheriff of Union County may in turn order the emergency closure of County roads to through traffic within Union County, or any portion thereof.

Section Four. Notice.--The Sheriff of Union County or his/her designee shall notify the consolidated communications center of any emergency road closure of County Roads pursuant to this Ordinance. The Sheriff or his/her designee shall also notify the general public to the extent possible given the circumstances, that a given County Road is closed and subject to this Ordinance, and shall, to the extent possible given the emergency, place barricades or traffic cones or other signage on the County Road to indicate the closure. The Sheriff or his/her designee shall also, to the extent possible, show the closure on the County's social media pages.

Section Five. Re-Opening County Roads.--The Sheriff shall evaluate the condition of County Roads that have been closed to through traffic pursuant to this Ordinance and shall re-open County Roads to through traffic when conditions warrant.


Section Six. Unlawful Use of County Roads for Through Traffic.--Any person who engages in through travel using a Union County Road that the Sheriff of Union County has declared closed for through traffic under the circumstances described in Section Three of this Ordinance, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as set forth in NMSA 1978, Section 4-37-3 (1993) and Union County Ordinance No. 1, Sec. 7.

Enacted this 9th day of December, 2024 by the Board of County Commissioners of Union County:

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Chair



Member



Member

Approved as to form:



County Attorney

(Seal)

ATTEST:



County Clerk

Passed: 12-9-2024

(Date)

Vote:

Unanimous
Majority

Recorded: 12-9-24

(Date)