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To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" <CCDTMACDL@vancouver.ca>
Date: 10/12/2016 8:28:47 PM
Subject: Storm response

Good evening Mayor and Councillors,

As I expect you have heard, a series of three storm systems is forecast to transit through the Lower Mainland over the next 4 to 5 days. The first event is expected to commence overnight tonight (Wednesday) with 45 mm of rain and winds 60-80 km/h through Thursday morning. The second storm event is forecast over the period of late Thursday afternoon through to Friday night, with winds gusting up to 70 km/h and a further 70 mm of rain. The last front, which is currently expected to be the most severe, is predicted to hit Saturday afternoon through Sunday mid-day.

Engineering, Parks and Facilities Management are taking proactive measures to clear catch basins and drains and to ensure back up equipment is tested and ready. Staff will be available over the weekend to handle emergency work. We will also be engaging Vancouver Vounteer Corps members to clear catch basins in their neighbourhoods.

Greater Vancouver Shelter Society has issued an extreme weather alert for Vancouver and BC Housing has committed funding for any shelter capacity that can be made available over the coming days. Catholic Charities, First Baptist, Union Gospel Mission and Salvation Army will be proving additional space.

Staff have also been in contact with BC Hydro and have confirmed that Hydro has preparations under way and repair crews on stand by.

Communications is leveraging our social media channels to encourage preparation and reporting of flooding. As appropriate, our messaging will shift to address reporting of downed trees, power lines and power outages.

We will coordinating our response over the coming days through Emergency Management and expect to activate the Emergency Operations Centre over the weekend.

If you have any questions or concerns at this point, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Best,
Paul