

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)  
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)  
Date: 12/24/2022 2:42:04 PM  
Subject: Potential storm surge - Dec 27

---

Good afternoon Mayor and Council,

I am writing to update you on the forecasted storm surge on Dec 27th and expected king tides. We anticipate some localized flooding, which happens annually. Please be aware that we have coordinated measures in place and this is being monitored and managed by City and Park Board teams.

### **Hazard Risk**

Environment and Climate Change Canada and Storm Surge BC are forecasting a potential storm surge next week which will coincide with king tides. Water levels are expected to peak at approximately 9am on Dec 27<sup>th</sup> [See [Storm Surge BC Extreme Water Level bulletin](#)]. The weather will also be unsettled and some rain will continue, though at lower amounts than over the next few days.

As you may be aware, king tides happen annually and can cause some localized flooding on the seawall and Spanish Banks areas. Engineering and Parks are used to dealing with these and put out sandbags and direct resources to the known problem areas. While there is still some uncertainty as to where the low pressure system causing the storm surge will centre, two of the three models show it to be close to Vancouver which will exacerbate the effect of the king tides and increase potential for localized flooding. In addition to flooding at Spanish Banks, there is potential for some areas along to Fraser to also experience flooding, either from the water levels or from overland pooling in lower lying areas. Engineering has created maps showing the areas below the current storm surge forecast water levels.

### **Response and Coordination**

- Engineering, Parks, VFRS, VEMA, and CEC will hold a coordination call on the morning of Dec 26<sup>th</sup> to get an update forecast and we will monitor the situation the following day.
- Engineering and Parks will have crews out monitoring these areas and investigating citizen service requests on the 27<sup>th</sup>, as well as monitoring and operating pumping infrastructure in the area, including Southlands and areas along the Fraser River, and being ready to respond to issues as they arise.
- Comms is drafting social posts that could go out on Dec 26<sup>th</sup>, as needed.

We will keep you apprised of any significant impacts.

Many thanks,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie** (he/him)  
City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
[paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca](mailto:paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca)



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.