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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 11/19/2024 3:51:14 PM
Subject: City prepares for possible flooding: residents in coastal and low-lying areas to stay alert information bulletin (November 19, 2024)

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City will be issuing the below information bulletin this afternoon to inform the public of possible storm impacts following a Special Weather Statement that was issued by Environment Canada, noting that the majority of impacts will be felt by the west side of Vancouver Island. For your awareness, the impacts from this storm are not anticipated to be as significant as the December 2022 flood event.

Please keep this information bulletin embargoed until it goes live from the City media email account this afternoon.

Additionally, and as an update to my email yesterday evening about the storm, here is how the City is responding to possible storm conditions:

- Park Board staff are monitoring seawall areas and other at risk park areas for hazardous situations and conditions and will close if necessary to ensure public safety
 - McCleery pump station is being monitored and functioning well
 - Additionally, Park Board staff are paying attention to Jericho works yard and New Brighton Pool
- Engineering Street Operations and Sanitation Operations staff are monitoring and will close hazardous road areas (e.g. Kent Avenue) and other at risk areas as needed
- 3-1-1 and E-comm are tracking calls regarding coastal flood-related and windstorm issues and are equipped with current messaging
- VFRS is preparing for possible downed power lines and increased call volume

The City will be advising residents and staff of possible storm impacts in the following ways:

- Below information bulletin
- Social media updates including amplifying relevant information from third-party partners
- [Update on Currents](#) advising staff of possible storm impacts with a reminder to charge devices before the storm, to synchronize and save critical documents and to ensure they have methods to communicate with staff who are working remotely.

You are welcome to refer any media inquiries you receive to media@vancouver.ca. Maria will reply to this email with the relevant Vancouver.ca link and social media links, once these are live.

Best,
Paul

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the m k y m (Musqueam), S wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and s lilw ta (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

City prepares for possible flooding: residents in coastal and low-lying areas should stay alert

Wind conditions gusting up to 70 km/h are expected in the Vancouver area starting tonight. In addition to winds, a storm surge tomorrow and higher-than-normal tide are expected with moderate flooding risk for some low-lying coastal areas. High water levels are expected just before 10 am tomorrow, November 20, when high tide combined with storm surge of ocean water from the incoming storm is anticipated to raise the tide to above average levels.

Environment Canada has issued a [Special Weather Statement and a Weather Advisory](#) for Metro Vancouver. More intense winds generated by this rapidly deepening low pressure system are forecasted to mostly impact the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Flood risk

As a result of this weather event, low-lying areas in the floodplains will be at an elevated flood risk and may experience some overland flooding. This includes Southlands, the Fraser River floodplain, and Locarno and Spanish Banks.

Residents are advised to monitor outdoor conditions, be cautious when near the water or floodplains and follow all closure signage.

To accommodate annual slope stabilization and tree removal work, the seawall between Third Beach and Prospect Point in Stanley Park [is currently closed](#). Park visitors are reminded to exercise caution around the water's edge and other sections of the seawall.

City response

The City's response is guided by the weather. Staff are monitoring the weather and tides, and preparing for possible flooding impacts.

Engineering and Park Board staff are mobilizing to support essential infrastructure and services in the area.

Updates will be shared on the City's social media channels ([X](#), [Threads](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)).

What residents can do during a storm

While Vancouver Island is expected to receive the majority of the impact from this storm, it is important to always be prepared for storms. Here are things you can do to prepare anytime there is a storm in the forecast.

- [Download the Alertable app](#) to get notified quickly and directly about any emergencies near you.
- Use the new interactive [Hazard & Risk Explorer](#) to discover the coastal flooding risks where you live, work and spend time. Learn specific actions to prepare and steps the City is taking to mitigate and prepare for this hazard.
- Clear catch basins of leaves and other debris if it is safe to do so.
- High winds may cause power outages and fallen branches:
 - Secure or bring loose objects inside
 - If you see a downed powerline, stay 10 metres away and call 911
 - Report fallen trees to 3-1-1 or via [Van311](#).

- Check the BC Hydro website for:
 - Power outage [map](#)
 - Information on [preparing for power outages](#)

Supporting residents with Extreme Weather Response (EWR) shelters

The Extreme Weather Response (EWR) program, funded by the Province, has issued an extreme weather alert, which activated six EWR shelters through Homelessness Services Association of BC (HSABC) to help provide emergency shelter spaces for those experiencing unsheltered homelessness. A list of extra shelter spaces is available on [Vancouver.ca](#) in addition to the 1,400+ shelter spaces that are open nightly.

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