



Distributed on:

OCT 13 2009

by City Manager's Office
Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Debra Figone

SUBJECT: STORM ACTIVITIES

DATE: October 13, 2009

INFORMATION MEMO

I am writing to provide you with a sense of the magnitude of City operational activities in response to the ongoing storm. This is typical of any significant event, and I am sure you share my pride in the outstanding work being performed by our staff throughout the City.

The rain began last night, Monday, October 12 and a wind driven heavy rain is predicted to last through today with possible heavy rains in the evening. Showers are also predicated tomorrow becoming less numerous later in the day. Below are highlights of the activities and preparations that have occurred:

Departments of Transportation and Public Works Activities

- The Department of Transportation (DOT) has concluded much of the pre-storm season maintenance activities on the various detention basins and culverts, and after completing this year's residential street sealing program about three weeks ago, our paving crews have shifted duties and are well into the catch basin cleaning program.
- DOT's pump maintenance crews finished cleaning the wet wells at the storm pump stations this weekend in preparation for the "first flush." All of the needed preparation work is completed in Alviso. Currently, there are no issues to report at Alivso.
- Almaden Road was closed earlier this morning and has since reopened (not Almaden Exp.). There is a PG&E power outage in the area and the City's pump station was shut down. Crews have set up a portable generator and the pump station is back on line.
- There is a large amount of capacity available in the local reservoirs, which means that the risk of widespread flooding is very low until later in the season. Flooding due to backed up storm drains is possible, as is creek overtopping in flash flooding events. These flash flood events typically occur without much warning, and the creek levels typically recede quickly as well.
- The total reservoir storage is currently at 44% of capacity. On the Coyote Watershed, Coyote Reservoir is 43% and Anderson 52% of capacity. On the Guadalupe Watershed, the reservoir of interest is Lexington, which currently is only 21% full.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Subject: Storm Activities

October 13, 2009

Page 2 of 3

- The Water District is reporting that the Canoas Channel in South San Jose (near Santa Teresa High School) is approaching its maximum point. District staff is on scene and the City is sending staff to evaluate the conditions and any exposure to the neighborhoods.
- Reports of plugged catch basins and instances of ponding in the streets are continuing to be received. This is picking up as the rain continues. DOT crews are deployed to handle this activity, including staff from Signs, Markings, Pavement and Landscape maintenance sections.
- We have received approximately 80 tree calls. Contractors are being dispatched first to those that are in the street travel lanes and affecting traffic. Based on the current activity level and the weather forecast, we expect calls to continue, but also anticipate that we will have cleared all of the priority calls sometime tomorrow. Staff will continue to work on the clean-up over the next couple of days.

Airport Activities

- No reports of any significant delays of flights due to local weather conditions. SJC is receiving diversions from SFO, which is typical in stormy weather.
- Airport Facilities & Engineering prepared for this event for several days. Crews checked all catch basins (airfield and landside) and verified that all drainage systems are clear. Additionally, walkthroughs were conducted for canopies, commute-a-walks, etc. in preparations for high winds. Sandbags have also been prepared for heavy rain expected this afternoon.
- Current reports are minor roof leaks (staff is reviewing conditions for source of leak); minor puddles in some of the Terminal zone (Granite and Facilities); standing water in front of Air Freight and tree limbs on Martin Avenue.
- Sand bags are now being placed near Gate C-3 due to poor drainage at the south end of Terminal C.
- In regards to construction, staff and contractors have been preparing for this storm since last week. Construction crews worked on Saturday at Terminal A to close up some open work to prevent damage from water, and stored materials were secured, crews also checked all the major storm drains along the roadway and cleared them as necessary. Hensel Phelps also has pumps standing by if needed when the rain ends to clear water from project sites.

Housing Activities

- EHC Lifebuilders - The Boccardo Reception Center (2011 Little Orchard St.; 510-7528 for the One Stop Prevention Center – day services; 294-2100 for the shelter) will be open all day for anyone who needs a place to stay warm and dry. They also increased the number of available beds in the shelter last night and for the duration of the storm.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Subject: Storm Activities

October 13, 2009

Page 3 of 3

- InnVision
 - The Georgia Travis Center/One Stop Homeless Prevention Center will be open all day for anyone who needs day shelter, rain ponchos, or food (297 Commercial St; 510-7150).
 - This evening InnVision will also be setting out additional cots at their Montgomery St. Inn (358 North Montgomery st.; 271-5160) to use for overflow should they get more requests than their regular shelter beds can hold.
- City Team Ministries will open its multi-purpose room all day at 1174 Old Bayshore HWY. for anyone seeking shelter from the storm. They will be providing lunch and a movie for folks who come in from the storm.

Fire Department Activities

- The Fire Department is responding to the typical type of heavy storm condition calls. Staff has responded to wires down, vehicle accidents and rescues. Department training has been cancelled, and currently all resources are available for response. So far, we have not responded to any water rescues or flooding calls.

Environmental Services Activities

- There are no reported issues at Municipal Water or the Water Pollution Control Plant.
- Recycle Plus Garbage Collection – Contractor crews are running behind schedule but should complete all routes by the end of the day.

General Services/Facility Activities

- There have been a number reported roof leaks at various facilities, including City Hall, Central Service Yard, Fire Station 19, Evergreen Community Center, and the Tech Museum. Most of these are fairly minor, and we'll be taking temporary measures to collect the water and then repair them later in the week after the rain stops. Those that are more serious will be repaired today.

Library Activities

- The branch libraries are scheduled to be open today from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Staff will monitor power outages and respond accordingly.



DEBRA FIGONE
City Manager

For questions, please contact Ed Shikada, Chief Deputy City Manager at (408) 535-8190.

