



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Sunday, Feb. 18, 2024

## City of San Diego Prepares for More Rain, Takes Steps to Prevent Flooding

SANDBAGS AVAILABLE FOR CITY RESIDENTS AT 3 LOCAL RECREATION CENTERS

SAN DIEGO – City of San Diego crews are continuing work to clear mud and debris in preparation for more rain as soon as Monday, Feb. 19, with up to half an inch expected. Residents who live in low-lying areas are encouraged to take precautions ahead of the storm and follow safety procedures in the event of flooding.

Before the rain arrives, the City's Storm Patrol teams, consisting of hundreds of staff from the Transportation and Stormwater departments, will once again be deployed to clean out storm drains and inlets with a history of debris buildup, and sweep streets to reduce trash and pollutants from entering waterways. To prioritize safety for residents, the City may close flood-prone roads ahead of the storm.

Throughout the rain event, Storm Patrol teams will monitor pump stations and more than 46,000 storm drains citywide for any issues and respond to reported incidents of flooding and downed trees or branches. Additional resources will be staged and ready to deploy during the storm. Residents can report storm-related issues by calling Public Works Dispatch at 619-527-7500. This will ensure the quickest response. If it is a life-threatening emergency, call 911.

Residents in communities impacted by Jan. 22's storm can visit <u>sandiego.gov/recovery</u> for information on services and resources.

In-person assistance with internet access and digital devices is available at:

Mountain View/Beckwourth Library 721 San Pasqual St. San Diego, CA 92113

## **Days and Hours**

Tuesdays: noon – 7 p.m. Thursdays: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saturdays: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The Mountain View/Beckwourth Library is also a donation site for San Diegans interested in donating to the residents affected by the Jan. 22 storm. Some items in need include bottled water, diapers, trash bags, laundry detergent, toothpaste, baby wipes, soap and paper towels.

San Diego residents can individually prepare for the rains and help reduce the risk of flooding near their homes and properties by taking a few important steps:

- Sweep and pick up trash, leaves, grass clippings and other debris that collect around storm drains and curb gutters near your home.
- Keep the lids securely closed on trash and recycle bins when placing them out on the street for collection. Place each bin approximately 2 to 3 feet away from the curb so as not to impede the stormwater flowing on the street.
- Proactively turn off irrigation to save water and minimize runoff.
- Know the safest routes to and from your home or property should flooding occur.
- Slow down and do not drive, ride or walk through flood waters.
- Do not open or lift manhole covers in the event of street flooding.

Empty sandbags are available at three recreation centers, during standing operating hours:

- <u>Encanto Recreation Center</u> 6508 Wunderlin Ave., San Diego, CA 92114
- <u>Mountain View Community Center</u> 641 S. Boundary St., San Diego, CA 92113
- <u>Southcrest Recreation Center</u> 4149 Newton St., San Diego, CA 92113

## Sandbags are limited to 10 bags per City of San Diego household or business, and sand is not provided.

Recreation centers are open seven days a week, contact the individual recreation center site for hours of operation. All City recreation centers will be closed on Monday, Feb. 19 in observance of the Presidents Day holiday.

For more information and resources on how to properly prepare before a storm, please visit the <u>City's</u> <u>Storm Preparedness</u> web page.

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