

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, Feb. 13, 2026

City of San Diego Prepares for Incoming Storm, Residents Encouraged to Take Simple Steps Now

CITY TEAMS WILL MONITOR STORM CHANNELS AND DRAINS ON RAINY DAYS

SAN DIEGO – With a storm expected to deliver heavy rainfall to San Diego starting Monday, Feb. 16, and continuing into Thursday, Feb. 19, City of San Diego crews are actively preparing to reduce the risk of flooding and monitor stormwater infrastructure. San Diegans can also take simple preventive measures to protect their homes and neighborhoods.

As a reminder, low-lying areas of the city typically experience flooding during extended rain events, especially when combined with high tides. Areas such as Mission Valley, Sorrento Valley, and Southcrest have been identified by FEMA as Special Flood Hazard Areas and are at increased risk of flooding during large storm events. City employees will monitor river levels during the storm and may close roads if needed. Drivers are encouraged to avoid these areas during heavy rains.

The City's Stormwater Department is cleaning storm drains and inlets with a history of debris buildup and sweeping streets to reduce trash and pollutants from entering waterways during the rain. Throughout the storm, City staff will be monitoring more than 46,000 storm drains for any issues.

Over the past several months, teams have cleared tons of debris and vegetation from storm channels, including ongoing maintenance along Chollas Creek. City staff will monitor recently cleared channels and perform any additional needed maintenance once the wet weather subsides.

"Preparing for potential flooding is part of the City's responsibility year-round," said Stormwater Director Todd Snyder. **"Our crews are working to make sure our stormwater systems are ready and we encourage residents to take a few simple steps now to prepare for the rain."**

Residents are encouraged to report storm-related issues, such as flooding or downed trees, by using the [Get It Done](#) app or by calling 619-527-7500. If it is a life-threatening emergency, call 911.

San Diego residents can help reduce the risk of flooding near their homes and properties by taking a few simple 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.
- Do not open or lift manhole covers in the event of street flooding.

In order to keep you and your family safe, emergency responders remind everyone to know the safest routes to and from your home or property should flooding occur. Also, slow down and do not drive, ride or walk through flood waters.

During the rains, multiple crews from the City's Storm Patrol operation will actively monitor areas throughout the city and respond to incidents, such as temporary flooding and downed trees or branches.

Sandbags are also available in limited supply and can be picked up at 11 recreation centers centrally located in each City Council District. Sandbags are limited to 10 bags per City of San Diego household or business, and sand is not provided.

As the sandbags are not pre-filled, residents are encouraged to also plan to buy sand at local hardware stores or landscape suppliers.

Sandbags are available at the locations listed below only during recreation open hours.

- Council District 1 - Pacific Beach Recreation Center, 1405 Diamond St.
- Council District 2 (inland) - North Clairemont Recreation Center, 4421 Bannock Ave.
- Council District 2 (coastal) - Robb Field Athletic Area, 2525 Bacon St.
- Council District 3 - Golden Hill Recreation Center, 2600 Golf Course Drive
- Council District 4 - Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center, 6401 Skyline Drive
- Council District 5 - Scripps Ranch Recreation Center, 11454 Blue Cypress Drive
- Council District 6 - Standley Recreation Center, 3585 Governor Drive
- Council District 7 - Allied Gardens Recreation Center, 5155 Greenbrier Ave.
- Council District 8 - Silver Wing Recreation Center, 3737 Arey Drive
- Council District 8 - Southcrest Recreation Center, 4149 Newton Ave.
- Council District 9 - City Heights Recreation Center, 4380 Landis St

With rain in the forecast, the City and its nonprofit partners are taking extra precautions to protect residents at [Safe Sleeping Program](#) sites and other homeless shelter locations. Efforts to fortify some areas with sandbags are underway, and operational contingency plans are in place. City-contracted outreach teams also have been in the San Diego River and other areas, alerting people of coming rain and offering available resources.

When rain is forecasted, the City's inclement weather shelter beds are activated by the San Diego Housing Commission. Individuals experiencing homelessness can call 2-1-1 or visit 211sandiego.org.

For more information and resources on how to properly prepare before a storm, please visit the City's [Storm Preparedness](#) webpage.



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