

Office of the City Manager

For Immediate Release

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Prepare Now for Bay Area Storm

Helpful emergency preparedness tips and resources available online for residents

SAN JOSE, CALIF. – With severe weather forecasted for San José along with the San Francisco Bay Area region for late Wednesday evening, Dec. 10 through Thursday, Dec. 11, 2014, city crews are preparing now for the storm's anticipated heavy rains and damaging winds.

Here's what the public can do to deal with weather-related impacts to our roadways:

1. Be safe, especially while driving. Slow down and be patient. Do not drive through flooded areas or underpasses. Also know that power outages are likely and they can affect traffic signal lights. "Dark" signals are to be treated like a four-way stop: when approaching a dark traffic signal, come to a complete stop and proceed when safe.
2. High winds are expected which can lead to falling trees and tree limbs. Avoid parking your car or standing under a large tree. Clear any small limbs or trees out of the sidewalk and curb area of the street if possible. If a large tree or limb does fall that a resident or property owner is unable to handle, contact the City's Department of Transportation for help. Call (408) 794-1900/weekdays 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or (408) 277-8956/ all other times, including weekends and holidays.
3. Ponding or, in some cases, flooding in the streets is likely to occur in some areas. To help prevent this situation, keep the curb and gutter areas in front of your homes clear of leaves and other debris so that water can flow unrestricted to the nearest storm drain inlet. Pile leaves or other debris up and away from the curb or put them in a container. Also, keep cars, waste collection carts, leaves and other items well away from the storm drain inlets. If residents observe ponding or flooding in the streets, contact DOT and someone will respond as soon as possible. Residents should know that City crews are expected to be very busy and will be prioritizing issues affecting major streets or entire neighborhoods first.

Visit the Santa Clara Valley Water District website for flood protection resources and sandbag distribution sites, <http://www.valleywater.org/Services/FloodProtectionResources.aspx>. For the latest storm-related information, visit the City of San José website, www.sanjoseca.gov and follow [@SanJoseInfo](https://twitter.com/SanJoseInfo) on Twitter.

About the City of San José

Known as the Capital of Silicon Valley, San José is the nation's tenth largest city and the largest city in Northern California with an ethnically diverse population of 1,000,000. San José was founded in 1777, once served as the state capital of California, and now encompasses 180 square miles. Facts about San José can be found here: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/780>. The City's website is www.sanjoseca.gov.

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