

MAYOR'S TASK FORCE ON THE PREVENTION OF FLOODING IN BLOOMINGDALE AND LE DROIT PARK

Report of the Emergency Response Committee

October 31, 2012



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
VINCENT C. GRAY, MAYOR**

AGENDA

- **Committee Members**
- **Emergency Response Committee Recommendations**
- **Resident Engagement through Public Meetings**
- **Emergency Response in Action – Hurricane Sandy**
- **Questions**

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- **DPW (Lead) – William O. Howland, Director**
- **Bloomingtondale Representative – Teri Janine Quinn, President, Bloomingtondale Civic Association**
- **DC Water – George Hawkins, General Manager**
- **DDOE – Keith Anderson, Interim Director**
- **DDOT – Terry Bellamy, Director**
- **DISB – William P. White, Commissioner**
- **DOH – Saul Levin, MD, Interim Director**
- **HSEMA – Chris Geldart, Acting Director**

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- **DOH and DMH can organize groups of residents to discuss their anxiety/stress/fear**
- **Wear protective clothing when cleaning up after a flood/sewage release**
- **Have a current tetanus shot**
- **Wash hands frequently**
- **Contact insurance agent before loss(es)**
- **Sewer back-up prevention is available**
- **DPW/DC Water assess needs of property owners for sandbags**
- **DDOT monitors traffic cameras**
- **Variable message boards located on Rhode Island Avenue, NW**
- **Restricting parking is a challenge**
- **Community needs to pull together to help one another**
- **Distribute flyers door-to-door**

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RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT THROUGH PUBLIC MEETINGS

September 19 – Bloomingdale

October 23 – LeDroit Park

- **Insurance – Need to check policy(ies) to know what is and isn't covered, contact FEMA for their policies, contact insurance agent to learn what endorsements are available**
- **Sandbags – DPW/DC Water determine property owners' needs and distribute prior to storm to have on hand**
- **Debris collection – For one week following a storm, DPW will canvass streets to collect ruined furniture, etc.**
- **Traffic control – Use variable message boards, monitor traffic cameras, TCOs/MPD to direct traffic**

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RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT THROUGH PUBLIC MEETINGS, cont.

- **Health concerns – Mold in vacant homes, safely cleaning house after the storm**
- **Mental health issues – Resources are available through DMH and its provider network**
- **Community effort – Map out where elderly/disabled neighbors live, activate sandbag team when needed**
- **Communications channels – Need to use everything, including door-to-door to get the word out prior to , during and after events**

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN ACTION – HURRICANE SANDY

- **Friday, October 26: Pre-event planning by EOM, DPW, DDOT, DC Water, MPD, FEMS, HSEMA, other agencies**
- **Saturday, October 27:**
 - **DC Water cleaned storm drains, distributed sandbags in Bloomingdale**
 - **DPW collected leaves in Bloomingdale/LeDroit Park, distributed 10K sandbags at RFK**
 - **DDOT checked infrastructure and construction sites citywide, e.g., steel plates, etc.**
 - **DOH ascertained viability of dialysis centers**
- **Sunday, October 28:**
 - **DC Water continued cleaning storm drains, sandbag distribution**
 - **DPW distributed 5,500 sandbags, cleared gutters of leaves, distributed fact sheets door-to-door, supported DC Water's sandbag distribution**
 - **DDOT prepared generators for signal outages, placed tree contractors on standby**

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN ACTION – HURRICANE SANDY

- **Monday, October 29:**
 - **DPW cleared catch basins of leaves; activated Snow Command Center**
 - **DDOT assessed tree damage citywide**
 - **DC Water continued clearing catch basins**
- **Tuesday, October 30:**
 - **DPW and DDOT cleared storm debris, continued Snow Command Center**
 - **DDOT contractors handled large trees**
 - **DC Water continued clearing catch basins**
 - **DISB issued resident and industry information regarding insurance claims following Hurricane Sandy**
- **Wednesday, October 31 – Friday, November 2:**
 - **DPW will position trucks to receive spoiled food in once-a-week trash collection neighborhoods where collections were missed on Monday and Tuesday.**

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EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE REPORT STATUS

- **3.5: Storm Response – DPW, DOH, DDOT sections submitted**
- **7.1: Citizen Storm/Flood Preparedness – to be completed**
- **7.2: Community Outreach & Communication – completed**
- **7.3: Flood Protection Toolkit – Planning and Research Committee**
- **7.4: Agency Coordination of Storm Response – to be completed**
- **7.5: Voluntary Home Inspections for Environmental and Health Hazards – completed**
- **7.6: Mental Health Services: completed**

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QUESTIONS

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