

Media Release

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During the overnight hours of April 30th and May 1st, 2019, the Metro Detroit area received in excess of 3.3 inches of rain that led to flooding conditions in the northern areas of the City, generally along the Ecorse Creek. Multiple streets, including portions of Fort Street M-85 and Outer Drive were impassable and closed to vehicular traffic. This rainfall also led to numerous back-ups in basements in the City. It is estimated that upwards of 400 residential homes were impacted by these back-ups.

On May 1, 2019, the conditions within the City of Lincoln Park, as well as the full use of the City's resources, led Mayor Thomas E. Karnes to declare a State of Emergency. Mayor Karnes stated following the signing of the declaration, "All resources of the City are being used to ensure the safety of our residents during this unfortunate event. This declaration allows us to meet the obligations we have to our residents in providing for the highest level of service in protecting their safety and welfare."

The State of Emergency Declaration allows the City to make use of mutual aid, County, State, and Federal resources as they become available. Prior to this declaration by the Mayor, the City activated its emergency management center. Staff from the Fire Department, Police Department, DPS, CERT and City Administration have been regularly meeting to discuss the ongoing situation and plan for the predicted storms Thursday evening.

Over the course of the last two days, Mayor Karnes and City staff have been in contact with the Wayne County Emergency Management Office, County Commissioner Ilona Varga, State Representative Cara Clemente, and Congresswoman Dingell. Mayor Karnes has been advocating on behalf of the City for necessary resources to address the issues that have arisen and also ensure the City will be included in any possible State or Federal disaster declaration. Such a declaration will make available potential funding for clean-up costs and other needed resources to handle the issues within the City caused by the storm event.

Police, DPS, and CERT resources have been deployed the last two days to handle traffic control for flooded streets within the City. DPS personnel have been assessing the sanitary sewer system issues and ensuring that sanitary main lines are free and clear to handle the excessive flow. Additionally, they, along with personnel from the Building Department, are visiting homes to assess the damage and determine if the home is inhabitable. Already, three homes in the City have been declared uninhabitable.

Residents that have back-ups in their basements should contact the City to file a Sewer Backup Claim Form. These forms can be obtained in the City Management Office on the second floor of City Hall. Forms are also available on the City's website www.citylp.com. Residents have forty-five days from the date of the loss to file this form with the City of Lincoln Park.

Residents are asked to refer to the City's website www.citylp.com for additional information during the course of this event.