

THE CITY OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE MAYOR NEW YORK, NY 10007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 24, 2016 **CONTACT**: <u>pressoffice@cityhall.nyc.gov</u>, (212) 788-2958

MAYOR DE BLASIO ISSUES STORM RESPONSE UPDATE

Alternate Side Parking Suspended through Friday, January 29

NEW YORK—Mayor de Blasio today delivered an update on yesterday's winter storm and the city's response. The city received 26.8 inches of snow in Central Park--the second largest total since 1869. The Mayor urged New Yorkers to refrain from travel except when necessary in order to allow plows to continue clearing our streets.

"While the storm is over, there is still work to be done. We urge all New Yorkers not to travel on our roads except when necessary, and to be extremely careful when driving. Our tireless sanitation workers are out in full force and we must give them space to clear the roads. If you go outside, use caution and stay alert for ice and cold temperatures," said **Mayor Bill de Blasio**.

Final Snowfall

26.8 inches of snow fell in Central Park. This is the second largest snowfall total in New York City history.

NYPD

- A total of 25 summonses were issued in relation to the Mayor's Executive Order.
- Assisted in 367 tows across the City.

Department of Sanitation

- DSNY has plowed all streets at least once. Focusing on secondary and tertiary streets today.
- DSNY has more than 2,300 pieces of snow clearing equipment out.
- Sanitation workers remain on two 12-hour shifts, with 2,300 workers per shift.

DOT

- Alternate Side Parking rules suspended through Friday 1/29. Meters remain in effect.
- DOT has deployed more than 350 workers and 240 trucks and pieces of equipment to assist in snow removal.
- JC Decaux has cleared several hundred bus shelters across the City.

NYC Emergency Management

• NYCEM Emergency Operations Center remains activated.

• NYCEM has deployed Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers citywide to assist with clearing fire hydrants of snow, and is working with NYC Service to provide help to those who may need assistance shoveling. Anyone needing assistance should call 311.

FDNY

- Maintaining approximately 300 additional fire and EMS personnel on duty through 6 PM hours today to staff additional ambulances plus extra firefighter on all engine companies.
- Hydrant clearing operations underway today there are approximately 110,000 hydrants throughout the city. FDNY will survey and clear as necessary, and is asking the public to help clear hydrants.
- Fire and EMS personnel responded to 6,000 emergency calls during the storm, including nearly 4,000 medical calls.

Homeless Services

Code Blue protocols are in effect. No one seeking shelter in New York City will be denied. Anyone who sees a homeless individual or family out in the cold should call 311 immediately and an outreach team will be dispatched to assist them.

Heat and Hot Water

Any tenant lacking heat and hot water should immediately call 311. The Department of Housing Preservation and Development has crews responding.

NYC Transit and MTA Bus Service

Subway service has been restored to portions of the above ground network hit hardest by this weekend's record snowfall. Service will be limited and most express service is suspended. Service on NYC Transit and MTA bus has resumed on a modified Sunday schedule. Limited buses are making all local stops. Access-A-Ride service has resumed scheduled trips.

Ferry Services

Staten Island Ferry in service and running on normal schedule. Seastreak service is suspended.

Further Notifications

For information and updates related to weather and travel conditions, visit sign up for Notify NYC, the City's free emergency notification system. Through Notify NYC, New Yorkers can receive phone calls, text messages and/or emails alerts about traffic and transit disruptions and other emergencies. To sign up for Notify NYC, call 311, visit <u>NYC.gov/notifynyc</u>, or follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter.

Travel Safety Tips

New Yorkers are urged to staff off the roads unless travel is necessary so that the Sanitation department can continue to clean streets throughout the day:

- Use mass transportation whenever possible. If you must drive, drive slowly and use major streets or highways for travel whenever possible.
- If you're walking outdoors, be careful as sidewalks may be snowy and icy.
- Have heightened awareness of cars, particularly when approaching or crossing intersections.

Snow Removal Safety Tips

- Stretch before you go out.
- Cover your mouth. Protect your lungs from extremely cold air by covering your mouth when outdoors.
- Avoid overexertion. Take frequent rest breaks, and drink plenty of fluids to avoid dehydration.
- Keep dry. Change wet clothes frequently to prevent a loss of body heat.
- Do not cover fire hydrants with snow when clearing sidewalks and driveways. Do not shovel snow into manholes and catch basins.
- Offer to help individuals who require special assistance, including seniors and people with disabilities and access and functional needs.
- Promptly remove ice and snow from tree limbs, your roof, and other structures. If snow/ice accumulates, remove it using a snow rake with a long extension arm so you can remove it safely while standing on the ground, or hire a snow removal contractor.
- Clear tree branches or limbs that could potentially fall on your home or power lines.
- Clear leaves and other debris from gutters.

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