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Date: June 27, 2025

To: Chair and Members of Stormwater Advisory Committee

From: Helen Noehammer, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.  
Director, Works, Operations and Maintenance

Meeting date: July 14, 2025

Subject: Flood Preparedness Activities

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This memorandum provides information about the actions that the City of Mississauga takes when preparing for, and responding to, extreme rainfall events.

### **Regular Maintenance**

Routine maintenance of the stormwater system ensures that issues are addressed proactively and that the system can perform as designed. In September 2024, Council approved an action plan for additional operating budget in support of increased maintenance activities for flood mitigation.

Routine maintenance of the stormwater system includes:

- Catch basin cleaning (sediment removal from inside the catch basin) once every three years;
- CCTV inspection and flushing of sewers once every five years\*;
- CCTV inspection and flushing of the Lisgar Foundation Drain Collector Sewer System once every three years; and,
- Inspection and cleaning of inlets and outlets monthly\*\*, with inspections of designated priority locations before and after every significant rainfall event.

\* This represents an improved level of service. Additional contract services are being procured to meet this service level.

\*\* This represents an improved level of service. Assessments are currently being completed bi-monthly as the program scales up to meet this service level.

### **Routine Monitoring**

The City of Mississauga maintains a Severe Weather Response Plan which identifies the process for monitoring and responding to extreme weather events, including extreme rainfall and flooding. The City's Office of Emergency Management (OEM), and various other City Divisions, consistently monitor weather forecasts and related weather products. These products

include weather and flood advisories issued by Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and local conservation authorities, as well as rainfall and streamflow gauges.

In addition, the City's road maintenance technicians patrol city streets 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The team is equipped to respond to and assess emergency situations and call-in additional staff or contractors, if required.

Residents who wish to report flood concerns can call 311. Calls received after-hours are forwarded to the City's call answering provider who can dispatch staff to investigate and take appropriate action.

### **Enhanced Monitoring**

City divisions use weather and flood advisories as a basis for any monitoring or additional measures they may take to prepare for severe weather. These activities may include:

- Issuing public messaging about the potential for severe weather and actions residents can take to stay safe;
- Inspecting and cleaning inlets and outlets in areas at risk of flooding;
- Proactively cleaning debris from catch basin lids;
- Mobilizing the Lisgar High Water Protocol FDC pumps; and,
- Increasing road patrols to monitor changing conditions.

### **Activation and Response**

The City's Incident Management Team (IMT) is activated if there are severe or widespread impacts caused by extreme weather. The IMT consists of all relevant City Divisions and applicable external agencies (e.g. conservation authorities) who possess the skillsets, knowledge and expertise to support specific areas of the emergency response. The IMT meets consistently throughout an emergency to coordinate response activities and recovery efforts. As an example, the IMT was activated for both the July and August 2024 storm events to ensure an effective and coordinated response.

### **Public Education and Emergency Preparedness**

City staff also engage with conservation authorities and other partners year-round to prepare the City for severe weather. These activities include:

- The development of various emergency plans, including site-specific flood plans;
- The development of GIS products to identify areas potentially at-risk of flooding;
- The identification and installation of flood monitoring tools such as gauges and alarms;
- Public outreach and education initiatives, including development of flood preparedness; literature, community-based flood resilience efforts, and engagement in various settings such as community events and in schools; and,
- Severe weather specific emergency training and exercises.

The City also participates in research studies, conferences, seminars, and workshops to share knowledge and identify emerging best practices in severe weather and flood preparedness.



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