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## **City of Charleston Prepares for Saturday Morning Tidal Flooding**

**Charleston, S.C.**—Due to current high tide and rainfall projections, city officials are preparing for the likelihood of major tidal flooding in low-lying areas of the city Saturday morning.

**What to expect:** While the forecast is subject to change, National Weather Service Charleston is currently predicting a high tide of 8.6 feet at 9:40 a.m. Saturday, which is likely to coincide with light to moderate rainfall amounting to .75 inch, with locally higher amounts possible.

At this time, Saturday evening's high tide is predicted to peak at 7.1 feet at 9:53 p.m. and coincide with .25 inch of rainfall. Strong wind gusts are expected throughout the day tomorrow and into the evening.

**City preparations:** To prepare for Saturday's high tides and likelihood of flooding, city departments are taking the following preventative measures:

The Stormwater and Public Service Departments have transitioned to a rain day operation schedule and have been working in tandem to clear storm drains of any existing debris. Additionally, crews have been actively inspecting existing check valves for blockages to ensure that they are able to work as efficiently as possible during tomorrow's high tide.

Both Stormwater and Public Service crews stand ready to assist with post-event cleanup, including street sweeping, as needed.

The Charleston Fire Department has staffed two high water vehicles and is prepared to assist with water rescues during the morning high tide, if necessary.

The Charleston Police Department is working today to pre-position barricades in areas of known flooding throughout the city to allow for safe and efficient road closure operations tomorrow.

City Traffic and Transportation crews have deployed variable message boards cautioning motorists to avoid driving through standing water.

**Additional updates:** Due the threat of hazardous weather conditions, the Charleston Farmers Market in Marion Square will be closed on Saturday, November 6. Regular market operations are expected to resume on Saturday, November 13 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., weather permitting.

**What they're saying:** Emergency Management Director Shannon Scaff said, "As always, I encourage drivers to use caution when out on the roadways, take alternate routes when necessary, do not drive around barricades and avoid driving through standing water."

**Track road closures:** Road closures will be updated throughout the event on the city's road closure map, which can be viewed here: <http://gis.charleston-sc.gov/road-closures>.

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