CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS



ALEXANDRIA LATRAGNA, COMMUNICATIONS & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

alatragna@manhattanbeach.gov • (310) 802-5063

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MANHATTAN BEACH PREPARES FOR TROPICAL STORM HILARY City urges community to take caution ahead of anticipated storm

Manhattan Beach, CA (August 19, 2023) – After the National Hurricane Center issued its first ever tropical storm watch for Southern California, the City of Manhattan Beach began taking measures to prepare for heavy rain and wind and is urging the community to stay vigilant and prepare their homes and outdoor spaces for the impact of the storm. The Manhattan Beach Emergency Preparedness Administrator and the Emergency Operation Center Director are proactively monitoring the storm and are prepared to activate the Emergency Operations Center as the Tropical Storm continues to develop.

"The City is committed to meeting the needs of our residents and businesses as we ride out this storm. We have not been waiting for the storm to hit Manhattan Beach. Our emergency staff has trained for years and the City has been proactively preparing for the past three days," said Mayor Richard Montgomery. "Our staff has been closely monitoring Tropical Storm Hilary as it approaches the region and immediately mobilized resources upon learning about the unprecedented extreme weather. I urge our community to prepare today and stay up to date by signing up for emergency notifications. Our staff has been working 24 hours a day to ensure that we are prepared for when the storm hits our shores."

Due to the expected extreme weather, the National Weather Service is cautioning against outdoor events. As a result, the Concerts in the Park scheduled for August 20, 2023, at Polliwog Park was canceled.

How you can prepare:

- Register for Alert SouthBay. If we can't reach you, we can't alert you! Please take a moment to register to ensure we have the most up-to-date accurate information for you. Go to <u>Alertsouthbay.com</u>, make a profile, text ALERTSB to 888777 to receive the link to register, and download the Everbridge App from the App Store.
- <u>Subscribe</u> for updates on our website and follow the City of Manhattan Beach on social media channels for event developments and general resources to stay informed.
- Keep a fully charged cell phone on hand. Prepare for power outages with batteries, flashlights, backup cell phone chargers.
- Secure your outdoor space move furniture, umbrellas, and other light weight items indoors or to secured areas to ensure they don't fly away.

- Gather emergency supplies that will allow you to shelter in place during the storm, including food, water, radios, medication, and pet supplies.
- Sandbags are available at the Public Works Yard at 3621 Bell Avenue. There is a limited supply and staff is filling bags as quickly as possible. Limited to four bags per household.
- Hurricane safety tips and resources on how to prepare for a disaster can be found on <u>Ready LA County</u>.

What you can do during the storm:

- **Stay inside**, and stay away from the shoreline, beaches, and outdoor areas including Polliwog Park throughout the duration of the storm.
- If you are vulnerable and unhoused, you can call the non-emergency line at (310) 545-4566 for assistance.
- If you see a downed power line, assume that it is electrified, stay clear, and call 9-1-1.
- If you observe storm drain flooding/overflows you may call the non-emergency dispatch 24/7 at (310) 545-4566.