

For Immediate Release

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**City of Ventura declares a local State of Emergency
in response to severe storm event**

Ventura, Calif. — The City of Ventura has proclaimed a local emergency in response to the latest winter storm. The state of emergency declaration allows the City to expedite disaster response and seek emergency funding from the state to aid in recovery. The local state of emergency was ratified by the City Council at its meeting on January 9. It remains in effect for the next 60 days.

The City has received storm-related reports of flooding, debris in the roadway, retaining wall damage from extremely high surf, and other potentially dangerous conditions on public property and in the public right-of-way.

“By declaring a local state of emergency, the City can expand its efforts to protect public health and the environment. The severe storms caused damage within the City and additional heavy rainfall is ongoing this week,” said Acting City Manager Akbar Alikhan.

The Ventura Pier has also sustained damage and will remain closed until repairs can be made. Safety inspections will continue to be performed to ensure public safety before reopening.

During severe storm events, waterfront property owners are encouraged to safely secure docks, gangways, boats, and boating equipment to prevent property damage and harm to others. Waterfront property owners may be liable for all costs and fees the City incurs in the removal or potential demolition of docks.

The City published a designated webpage on January 4, to provide updates at regular increments to showcase the latest emergency information relevant to residents at www.CityofVentura.ca.gov/WeatherAlert.

If you have a critical emergency, please call 911. Stay informed of critical incident updates in your area by registering for VC Alert, Ventura County’s Emergency Notification System, at www.VCAAlert.org.

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