

Ward 11 Special Update - Councillor Jeromy Farkas

Flood Mitigation & Preparedness Update

April 25, 2018

WATCH LIVE TODAY FOR THE STATUS ON FLOOD MITIGATION & READINESS EFFORTS



Watch live today at 9:30 am:

<http://www.calgary.ca/CA/city-clerks/Pages/Council-and-Committee-webcasts.aspx>

With recent overland flooding throughout southern Alberta, I requested that City Administration provide City Council with an update on where we are at with flood mitigation efforts, and to go over the steps that The City of Calgary is taking to prepare for the coming flood season.

If Council approves my request, we will receive a brief presentation on the status of our plans in the event of another flood. I will be sharing this information with constituents at my next Ward 11 Town Hall on May 17th, a

special edition Town Hall focused on flood mitigation and preparedness.

Accurately predicting the large rainstorms that can cause flooding on Calgary's rivers is challenging, because we are so close to the mountains. We may only have 12 hours to respond appropriately. Calgary is at its greatest risk of flooding from May 15 to July 15 and both The City and citizens need to be prepared to take action on what could be short notice.

The City has made significant strides in the last five years since the 2013 flood and, while we can't prevent flooding, we can and must equip our communities, families, and businesses with the information and tools they need to respond and be ready.

This is a complicated issue, as it spans the jurisdiction of every level of government. I continue to advocate strongly for investment in flood mitigation infrastructure, particularly new dams upstream on the Elbow and Bow rivers.

My position is that this is not just a Ward 11 issue, but a city-wide issue. Calgary is a key economic engine for Alberta, and although the risk has been reduced, we remain vulnerable to flooding on both rivers. We have to keep pushing the provincial government to live up to its existing commitments, as well as start the work on new flood mitigation. If effects of climate changes are considered, the urgency for additional flood mitigation infrastructure is even more apparent.

Please tune into today's meeting of City Council at 9:30 am to watch the flood presentation live or join me at my next Ward 11 Town Hall to hear speakers from The City and get the most up-to-date flood information:

Ward 11 Town Hall: Special Edition - Flood Mitigation and Preparedness

Thursday, May 17th, 2018

7:00pm-8:30pm

Elbow Park Clubhouse (800 34 Avenue SW)

For more information and updates on City flood preparation please visit:

<http://www.calgary.ca/UEP/Water/Pages/Flood-Info/Flood-Information.aspx>

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