

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 24, 2015

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### **City of Paterson: Latest storm updates**

Paterson, NJ --At 8:00 AM on Saturday, January 23, 2016, Mayor Jose 'joey' Torres ordered the Office of Emergency Management to stand up its Emergency Operations Center.

This ensured a cooperative and coordinated response from Emergency Management, Fire/EMS, DPW and Police resources. All City street cameras were utilized to pinpoint vehicles in distress, which assisted in rapid response.

The City deployed 33 plows; 18 that plowed and salted and 15 plow trucks. The DPW worked very hard throughout the day and night to ensure roads were passable to emergency response units.

With the storms' intensification, it was found that further safety measures must be taken in order to further protect the public; at 5:30pm on Saturday, January 23, 2016 the order was given by the Emergency Management Coordinator in consultation with the Mayor to enact a travel ban.

The police immediately deployed units to evacuation route entries at the City limits to deter vehicular traffic. This greatly assisted in snow removal operations.

The Fire Department responded to over 175 calls for fire and medical emergencies. There were 2 building fires and 2 partial building collapses.

The travel ban was lifted as of January 24, 2016 at 8:00 am.

Residents are still urged to limit travel to facilitate snow removal and prevent motor vehicle accidents.

Currently we advise the public

- \* Please do not block intersections or fire hydrants when parking your vehicle.
- \* Please make an effort to clear your closest fire hydrant.
- \* Throwing snow into the street is a violation of City Ordinance 435-105. Fines for failure to observe this Ordinance can cost up to \$1,200.00
- \* Failure to remove snow from sidewalks within 12 hours of daylight after the storm is a violation of City Ordinance 435-103.
- \* Remember to check on elderly and disabled neighbors and relatives.

Please note: Paterson Public Schools will be closed tomorrow, Monday, January 25, 2016, due to the inclement weather.

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