

For Immediate Release

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Hurricane Matthew

The City of Isle of Palms remains vigilant and continues to monitor the path of Hurricane Matthew. In coordination with Charleston County and the state's Emergency Management Division, the City is now in Operating Condition 3, which means an emergency is likely or imminent. City staff is alert and taking appropriate steps and the Municipal Emergency Operations Center (MEOC) has been activated.

“As you are aware, Governor Haley has announced an evacuation order starting tomorrow, October 5th at 3:00p.m. We cannot emphasize this enough, do not wait until it is too late to leave,” said Mayor Cronin. Isle of Palms full-time residents must have a hurricane re-entry sticker in order to return to the island after a storm. To request a Hurricane Re-Entry Sticker, residents may visit the Public Safety Building located at 30 J.C. Long Boulevard. The SC Department of Transportation's 511 mobile application provides real-time access to SC Coastal Evacuation Routes as well as to important traffic and traveler updates. Evacuation routes maps are also available online at <http://www.scdot.org/getting/evacuation.aspx> .

“At this point, we are urging citizens to finalize their emergency preparedness process, review their evacuation zones and respective routes and stock up on emergency supplies, such as fuel, non-perishable food, water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, prescription medication and glasses, battery powered radio, flashlights, pet food and extra water for pets, important family documents, including insurance policies and cash,” stated the Mayor. “Also, remember evacuation routes may be in remote areas where telephone and GPS do not operate, therefore the value of paper maps to navigate in these areas is crucial,” Mayor Cronin continues.

The City is providing sandbag supplies at the Municipal Parking Lot located at Pavilion Drive, across from the Public Safety Building. All recreation events are classes are cancelled starting tomorrow until further notice.

This storm may cause extensive severe beach erosion, strong winds and flooding as early as Friday. Emergency actions allowed to protect property requires an “Emergency Orders.” Emergency Orders are available for property owners along the immediate beachfront for temporary protection from wave uprush. Property owners in need of Emergency Orders for sandbags and/or sand scraping should immediately contact DHEC-OCRM for assistance (843-953-0200). Contact should be made prior to installation of sandbags or any other associated emergency activities on the beachfront. Bonding requirements for emergency orders associated with sandbags will be addressed once emergency conditions have abated.