

Department of Communications

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Potentially Dangerous Temperatures and Snow Predicted Residents Urged to Exercise Precautions

Warming Centers Available

Gary, Indiana (January 24, 2019)-As weather reports predict severe weather conditions for the Gary area, city of Gary officials urge citizens to exercise all recommended precautions. It is expected Northwest Indiana cities will experience extremely cold temperatures and snow beginning tonight and throughout next week. Warming centers in the city are listed below.

In case of inclement weather, the city's warming centers will be available for Gary residents. Warming Centers include Gary City Hall, the Calumet Township Center, Brothers' Keeper, Oak Street Health and Gary Public Transportation. (See list attached). **After hours, call the Gary Police Department main desk at 219-881-1214.** Gary Fire Stations are additionally available for temporary relief, 24 hours per day.

Residents are also reminded to report any cases of persons living in homes without utilities to City Hall to (219) 881-1302 or via email at mocs@ci.gary.in.us. Residents may also visit the city's website at www.garyin.us. "Click" on 311 to report the situation.

Residents may visit **www.teamgaryindiana.com** for weather related updates from the City. City updates will also be reported to local radio stations.

Weather related emergencies such as power outages should be reported to NIPSCO in the following manners; call 1-800-464-7726, online at NIPSCO.com, via Mobile: m.nipsco.com or Text "Out" to 444111. For Power outages, residents may also use the City of Gary's 311 system by dialing 219-881-1311.

Non-emergencies should be reported to Police Dispatch at 219-660-0000. **Medical emergencies or conditions should be called in to 911.**

Residents are additionally reminded that the city's snow team plows snow according to a "snow removal" action plan. The plan is designed to be the most effective in covering the greatest number of roadways and as efficiently as possible. **Important note: The snow team begins plowing snow at the end of the snowfall and within 48 hours.** During snow events, city trucks are dispatched to main thoroughfares and primary roadways when there is one (1") inch or more of snow accumulation. Primary roadways are those leading to hospitals and adjacent to schools. Primary roadways are considered main arterial or higher traffic roadways; including hills and bridges.

Secondary roadways are plowed after main thoroughfares. Secondary roadways include those in neighborhoods where workers will plow once, down the middle of residential streets to prevent deep ice rutting and to keep the streets passable. Secondary roadways are consistently travelled streets and those that feed into Primary roadways. Residents are reminded that it could take up to 48 hours for side street snow removal when there is heavy accumulation. Alleys conditions will be evaluated last, during heavier snow accumulations.

Attachment-Warming Centers