



City of Loveland, Colorado MEDIA RELEASE

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Department: Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**City departments work to protect safety of residents as more rain
tonight threatens additional flooding**

Rising Big Thompson River waters in Loveland have closed all but one north-south street at the city's river crossings, and a prediction for more rain Thursday night threatens more flooding into Friday.

Loveland Fire and Rescue Authority, Loveland Police and Loveland Public Works staff are working jointly to protect safety of residents and ensure dangerous roadways are closed to traffic.

A mandatory evacuation remains in effect for river corridor areas, those that lie within the 100-year floodplain designated by Federal Emergency Management Agency. To view the evacuation zone along the Big Thompson Corridor, please click here;

<http://www.cityofloveland.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=785>

Road closures as of late Thursday include:

- Colorado Highway 402 between U.S. Highway 287 and Interstate 25;
- South Lincoln Avenue (U.S. 287) between Southwest Eighth Street and Southwest 14th Street;
- West Taft Avenue between First Street and Eighth Street;
- South St. Louis Avenue between Southeast Eighth Street and Colorado 402;
- South Railroad Avenue between Roosevelt Avenue and Southeast Second Street;
- South Roosevelt Avenue between South Railroad Avenue and Southwest 14th Street.

In addition, Rossum Drive and Namaqua Avenue are closed south of West Eisenhower Boulevard.

For a comprehensive list of road closures please click here;

<http://www.cityofloveland.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=17212>

And to view the map detailing the road closures please click here;
<http://thelogicsystem.maps.arcgis.com/apps/OnePane/basicviewer/index.html?appid=8e66551243e04b46a52361ae8c313499>

Only Wilson Avenue remains open as a north-south passage in Loveland, and that roadway is threatened by rising water on the approaches to the bridge. Public Works crews will sandbag the roadsides on Thursday night in an effort to keep the road open.

Police and fire authorities are requesting that residents not approach the Wilson bridge except for necessary travel so that crews can do the emergency work.

Weather forecasts for at least 2 to 4 inches of additional rainfall on Thursday night, plus increased flows from the Olympus Dam in Estes Park, could raise the Big Thompson flow even more by early Friday.

Power customers in the vicinity of the U.S. 287 bridge over the river have voluntarily shut down electrical service to their businesses because of potential damage to transformers near the river.

Loveland's water supply remains unaffected by the flooding. Water utility managers will conduct water quality tests early Friday to ensure the supply has remained safe.

Public Works Director Keith Reester said that the City of Fort Collins has collaborated with Loveland crews to ensure availability of road closure barricades and other needs that the flooding presents.

Loveland Fire and Rescue Authority staff asks residents not to enter fast, high or standing water on any roadway, and to be wary of downed power lines and electrocution hazards in the flood zone.

The City will continue to post emergency information on the City website at www.CityofLoveland.org, on the City Facebook and Twitter pages, 1610 AM radio and the City's Infoline; 962-2020.

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