



# PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE of the MAYOR | RALPH BECKER

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **City Cleans Up After Staggering Windblast** *Public Services set to help residents haul away tree debris*

SALT LAKE CITY – High winds that swept through much of the Salt Lake Valley overnight and through the day on Thursday caused widespread damage of both public and private property across Salt Lake City.

Municipal crews, deployed citywide since 6 a.m. Thursday, worked throughout the day to address storm-related public safety issues and clear roads, sidewalks and other public right-of-ways.

Salt Lake City Public Services Director Rick Graham said crews have made great headway, even as high-winds continued.

“It appears that we’ll have all major right-of-ways cleared by this evening,” Graham said. “While some sidewalks may remain blocked until tomorrow, our crews have done an outstanding job in clearing streets. City traffic should currently be moving without hindrance from storm-related debris.”

Graham said the full impact of the storm damage was still being assessed, but some 30 trees were downed at the City Cemetery, seven at Sunnyside Park and a large tree had fallen at Gilgal Gardens, but no statuary at the park was damaged.

Downed trees on private property are the responsibility of property owners. However, if a private tree is blocking or interfering with City right-of-way, City crews will cut the tree back to the property line and remove the portion of the debris on public property. If a downed City tree is resting on private property, City crews will take responsibility.

While downed private trees remain the responsibility of property owners, debris from downed trees on private property may be placed curbside for City pickup. The City will begin hauling tree debris (no stumps) beginning Wednesday, Dec. 7. Residents must have only tree-related debris (no garbage, roofing,

or building materials) curbside by end of day, Tuesday, Dec. 6. Pickups will run through Friday, Dec. 8, but no later.

For questions regarding storm damage, please call the City's Urban Forest Division at 801-972-7818.

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