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> Date: March 5, 2015 For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

Winter Storm Forecast Upgraded, City Announces Closings and Delays

New Bedford, Massachusetts – The National Weather Service has upgraded the Winter Storm Watch in effect for Southern Bristol County, including New Bedford, to a Winter Storm Warning due to greater than earlier anticipated snow accumulation. The upgraded Warning will remain in effect until 7 PM tonight. The revised local forecast for Greater New Bedford calls for total snow accumulation in the 6-10 inch range and temperatures tonight will be much colder with lows around 10 degrees.

Pilgrim United Church to Open Early for Residents in Need of Shelter

Pilgrim United Church (634 Purchase Street) will open as of 5:30PM for unsheltered residents. The church will be equipped with staff, food and cots.

City Hall and City Offices to Close at Regularly Scheduled Closing Time

City Hall and all city offices will close at their regularly scheduled closing time, 4PM, today, March 5, 2015.

New Bedford Main Library and Branches to Close at 5PM

All New Bedford Public Library Branches including the Main Library Downtown will be closing at 5PM today, Thursday, March 5, 2015.

Reminder: Trash Collection Operating on One Day Delay

To allow city crews to properly treat the roadways, city officials in partnership with ABC Disposal announced earlier today that residential trash collection in New Bedford will be delayed by one day for the remainder of the week. If your trash is normally collected on Thursday (today), it will be collected tomorrow, Friday. If your trash is normally collected on Friday, it will be collected on Saturday this week.

<u>City Garages at Elm Street and the Zeiterion Free and Open to the Public Until 12 Noon Friday</u>

Downtown parking is available at no charge in the Elm Street and the Zeiterion Parking Garages as of 3:30PM today, March 5, 2015 through noon tomorrow, Friday, March 6, 2015.

SRTA Services Suspended as of 6PM Tonight

The Southeastern Regional Transit Authority has announced it will suspend service at 6PM this evening. Riders should call (508) 999-5211 for information about the status of SRTA services. For more details visit www.srtabus.com.

New Bedford Regional Airport
The New Bedford Regional Airport will remain open to permit scheduled operations to continue.

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