



January 18, 2024

Dear Springfield Community Members,

I would like to express my deepest concern for all of you especially those of you who are currently without power due to the unprecedented ice storm that has hit our city. I want to assure you that all necessary measures are being taken to address this situation. Our top priority is to restore our City so our residents can go back to leading their normal lives.

To help with this the City has declared a state of emergency. Additionally, the Lane County Board of County Commissioners and Governor Kotek have also declared a state of emergency which allows for assistance from the County and the State.

In light of this situation, I along with my fellow Council members and City staff are supporting the Springfield Utility Board, as they work to restore power and water as quickly and safely as possible. I ask that you stay patient and follow safety precautions while waiting for your power and/or water to be restored.

Thousands of trees have fallen or have damaged limbs creating dangerous conditions. The City is working with local contractors and neighboring government agencies to remove downed trees and debris. Our goal will be to efficiently remove the downed trees and debris while keeping everyone safe and limiting additional property damage.

You should expect more coordinated information from Springfield agencies over the next few hours. For more information on power outages, respite centers, and road clearing, and maintenance go to springfield-or.gov/alerts. The City will also do its best to keep you informed throughout this process. If you need help, the City's emergency and non-emergency services continue to be available 24/7. Lane County has also stood up their non-emergency call center at 541-682-3977.

Springfield is a community that takes care of one another. Some community members are without power and the ability to communicate. I encourage you to reach out to your neighbors, family, and friends to offer support. I especially ask that you check on your elderly or vulnerable neighbors who may need assistance during this challenging time.

Be Safe and look out for one another,

Mayor Sean VanGordon