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MEDIA ADVISORY

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MSD to practice closure of downtown floodgate

*Second Street between Witherspoon Street and River Road
will close to traffic from 10 AM to Noon, Thursday, October 26, 2017*

LOUISVILLE, KY—MSD will practice closure of the floodgate at Second Street and River Road — east side of the KFC YUM! Center — beginning at 10 AM on Thursday, October 26, 2017. The area is closed to traffic during this exercise.

MSD is required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to practice installation or closure of all openings in the flood protection system every three years. This closure is the only “swing gate” in that system.

Background

Louisville Metro’s Ohio River Flood Protection System exists to keep the river at bay and out of the city.

The system includes:

- 29 miles of floodwall and earthen levee
- 315 floodgates
- 79 floodwall closures
- 16 flood-pump stations

Flood-pump stations move inland water from creeks and streams to the river when the floodwall and levee are sealed. This system stands ready to safeguard our community every day of the year.

Our staff tests the pump stations monthly to ensure that they function properly. In times of flooding, information collected from our network of rain gauges, customer calls and area monitoring allows us to direct resources to the most severely affected areas.

About MSD

The Louisville/Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) works to achieve and maintain clean, environmentally safe waterways for a healthy and vibrant community. The organization’s more than 600 employees provide wastewater management, drainage and flood protection services across the 376 square miles of Louisville Metro. In addition to operating and maintaining Louisville Metro’s sewer system, floodwall system, water quality treatment centers and flood pumping stations, MSD invests in hundreds of infrastructure improvement projects each year, plants more than 1,000 trees and other vegetation annually to enhance water filtration and reduce runoff, and provides numerous outreach programs to inform and educate the community about protecting our waterways.