I. Purpose

The purpose of this directive is to provide guidelines for closure of M-NCPPC roadways, Beach Drive, Sligo Creek Parkway, and Little Falls Parkway.

II. Equipment

A. The traffic trailer stocked with traffic cones, barrels and other traffic control equipment will be stored at the Special Operations, Woodlawn Facility.

B. The Special Operations Commander will designate a truck to be utilized for deploying the traffic trailer. The key to designated truck will be stored in Communications.

C. The Variable Message System (VMS) sign board will be stored at Headquarters

III. Closures

A. The Watch Commander or officer in charge (OIC) will monitor incoming weather events or unusual occurrences. When the events call for significant rain fall or an impact on MNCPPC roadways, the Watch Commander or on-duty supervisor will implement the inclement weather/unusual occurrence closure of all flood prone or affected roadways.

B. The closure of all flood prone roadway locations will be done prior to the storm event, if time permits.

IV. Implementation of Closures

A. During normal business hours (0600-1600 hours) the affected maintenance facilities will be notified to close affected roadways. Beach Drive and Sligo Creek Parkway are managed by the Meadowbrook Maintenance Yard. Little Falls Parkway is managed by Cabin John Maintenance Facility. If maintenance staff is unavailable to close the affected roadway, Park Police staff will close the roadway according to the guidelines as set forth in this Directive.

B. During the hours of 1600-0600 the Park Police will be responsible for closing affected roadways. If available, on-duty Special Operations Staff will respond to the Woodlawn facility to deploy the traffic trailer and respond to close affected roadways. If Special Operations Staff are not available, on duty staff holding a CDL license will be notified and respond to Woodlawn to deploy the traffic trailer. Only Special Operations Officers or officers holding a current CDL license are authorized to tow the traffic trailer. Keys to the designated Special Operation truck will be stored in dispatch and at the Woodlawn facility.
C. For long term closure the VMS board may be deployed at the discretion of the Watch Commander/OIC. The VMS board, if not deployed in the field, will be stored at Headquarters.

D. Barrels must be used at all intersections, as well as other closure devices.

E. Roadways with pre-installed gates will be closed.

V. Reopening of closed Roadways

A. It will be at the discretion of the Watch Commander/OIC as to when closed roadways will be reopened.

B. A thorough check of all closed roadways must be conducted to check for debris and hazards prior to the roadway being reopened. If the roadway is safe, the Watch Commander/OIC will be notified. If the roadway has debris or any hazards remaining, maintenance will be notified. The roadway will not be reopened until the debris or hazard has been removed. When the roadway has been the Watch Commander/OIC will be notified.

C. Once the Watch Commander/OIC has authorized a roadway to be reopened, Special Operations staff or staff holding a current CDL license will respond and remove the traffic closure equipment and return it to the Woodlawn Facility. If the roadway was closed by maintenance they will be notified and officers will coordinate to reopen the roadway.

VI. Notifications

A. Communications Staff will notify media outlets, Fire Rescue and Metro Traffic Control of all Parkway Closures and reopenings.

B. Communications staff will notify all Command Personnel of all roadways closures.

C. An after action report must be submitted by the Watch Commander/OIC overseeing the event.