



KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH  
CITY OF KETCHIKAN



**Joint Media Release: Third Avenue Landslide Update 25: Recovery Progress**

Date: September 13, 2024, 6:30 p.m.  
Contact: Kacie Paxton, Public Information Officer, 907-228-2383

**For Immediate Release**

**Landslide Recovery Updates to be Provided Weekly**

The EOC plans to provide a weekly media update on the landslide recovery progress each Friday. The public information phone line continues to be staffed Monday-Friday, and phone messages will be monitored and returned by the public information officer over the weekend.

**Landslide Recovery Work Continues:**

City Public Works crews and contractors continued to remove debris and address utility needs on Second Avenue and the Third Street Access Road this week.

**Landslide Awareness and Safety**

As information is received from consultants and the State Geohazard Program team specific to Ketchikan, local officials will make that information available to the public. In the meantime, the EOC urges citizens to utilize landslide preparedness tools available through the American Red Cross, the Federal Emergency Management Administration and on the Landslide page of the Borough website. Below are links to tools and resources for families to be prepared for a disaster:

- Red Cross Landslide Safety: <https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/landslide.html>
- Ready.gov Landslides and Debris Flow: <https://www.ready.gov/landslides-debris-flow>
- Alaska Landslide Hazards Program: <https://dggs.alaska.gov/hazards/landslides.html>

**Community and Family Disaster Preparedness  
Session September 19**

On September 19, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. in the Assembly Chambers at the White Cliff Building, the Alaska State Defense Force (ASDF) will be providing a one-hour session on disaster preparedness. The session will cover family emergency planning, when to shelter, and when to leave. Citizens will learn how to create a family disaster plan, how to use emergency radios, and how to create an emergency kit – or “bug out” bag. Participants can attend in-person, or may view the session via live webstream at [www.kgbak.us/livestream](http://www.kgbak.us/livestream).



**NOAA/NWS:** Citizens are reminded to check for daily weather updates at <https://www.weather.gov/ajk/>

**Road Closure and Opening Updates:**

- White Cliff Avenue is now open.
- Second Ave South from White Cliff to Water Street is now open
- Second Ave from Austin St to Whitecliff Ave remains closed to through traffic.
- Third Ave from the Library to Washington Street remains closed. This area is expected to be closed through the end of September while safety measures are put in place.

**Rainbird Trail remains CLOSED.** All sections of the trail have been closed since August 25, 2024. Entering the Rainbird Trail is prohibited. Additional caution tape and signage was placed on the trail in the areas of the slide. Please respect this closure and do not attempt to access the trail.

**EOC Objectives**

The Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center Unified Command objectives have been updated:

1. Restore services on 2nd Avenue by 9/20/2024.
2. Complete necessary repairs/updates to open to 3rd Avenue to traffic by 9/30/2024.
3. Restore permanent infrastructure on 2nd and 3rd Avenue. Due September 2025.
4. Ensure the financial stability of the City of Ketchikan while managing the costs associated with the landslide response and recovery. Ongoing.
5. Provide landslide awareness and public outreach. Ongoing.

**Services for Families Affected by the Landslide:**

Anyone who had disaster-related expenses to their primary residence because of the event on August 25, 2024, is encouraged to complete the Individual Assistance application via <https://ready.alaska.gov/Recovery/IA> or calls may be made to the IA hotline at 1-844-445-7131 Monday-Friday.

**Information and Disaster-Related Resources:** Additional information about the August 25, 2024, Third Avenue Landslide is available at [www.kgbak.us/landslide](http://www.kgbak.us/landslide)

A list of opportunities to support the families affected by the landslide, is available on the Borough Landslide page at: <https://www.kgbak.us/1099/Helping-Your-Neighbors>

To sign up for Nixle emergency alerts text "99901" to 888777 for updates.

# # #