

**EXERCISE**

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**NOT A REAL-WORLD EVENT** *This is part of a hypothetical asteroid threat exercise conducted at the 2019 IAA Planetary Defense Conference*

## **DAY 5**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **SMALL ASTEROID TO IMPACT OVER NEW YORK CITY IN 10 DAYS**

*April 19, 2027, College Park, MD* – The 60-meter (200-foot) fragment of asteroid 2019 PDC is predicted to impact over the Central Park area in New York City just after midnight on April 29, 2027, 10 days from now, the International Asteroid Warning Network (IAWN) reports.

The possible impact locations, which had been narrowed down by ground-based observations over the last three months to the New York City metropolitan area, have converged on Central Park following radar ranging measurements by the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico. The small asteroid was not observable by planetary radar until yesterday.

The small asteroid will enter Earth's atmosphere at 19 km/s (43,000 mph) on April 29, producing a very large fireball or "megabolide," and predicted to release the equivalent of 5 to 20 megatons of energy in the airburst. Radar images, which will better determine the size and shape, become possible a few days from now and may help experts better estimate the impact energy.

The U. S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) National Response Coordination Center has requested daily updates from IAWN on predicted impact location and damage estimates to finalize their nearly completed evacuation of residents and critical infrastructure, to define a Temporary Flight Restriction zone around the impact area, to coordinate pre-impact access to the area by scientists placing sensors to monitor the impact, and to prepare for any casualties and, ultimately, for recovery.

The International Asteroid Warning Network (IAWN) is disseminating this information in collaboration with the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group, (SMPAG) pursuant to United Nations General Assembly resolution 71/90, paragraph 9. IAWN is an international network of organizations that detect, track and characterize potentially hazardous asteroids. IAWN will publish daily updates for the duration.

For more information, see <https://cneos.jpl.nasa.gov/pd/cs/pdc19/day5.html> and [www.iawn.net](http://www.iawn.net).

Contact: <http://iawn.net/misc/contacts.shtml>

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