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Waterline Break at Westfield Mall
On behalf of the Tukwila Fire Department

Tukwila, Wash. – March 20, 2015– A major tenant of Westfield Mall was forced to close this morning after a two-inch waterline broke and flooded two stories of the mall.

Seafood City was forced to close after employees noticed water coming through the ceiling of their large Asian grocery store and restaurant. All of the employees were able to get out safely and there were no reports of injuries.

The cause of the damage was a waterline above Seafood City that had broken while tenant improvements were taking place.

The Tukwila Fire Department was dispatched at 8:28 am, to a report of a flooded business. Firefighters found several inches of water on the floor of Seafood City but were able to keep the water from entering other parts of the mall. The water supply was shutoff and the health department notified due to the perishable foods that were exposed to the water leak.

Firefighters used squeegees and water vacuums to remove as much of the water as possible, but it could be as long as a week, according to Seafood City's manager before they will be able to reopen. The grocery employs 120 people and occupies the entire northeast corner of the mall. The manager also stated that he thinks that all of the perishable food will have to be disposed of as a health precaution.

Mall management and security worked with the fire department to protect employees, the public, and the property during the water leak and have been able to keep the rest of the mall open. The public will not be able to park or enter at the northeast corner of the mall until repairs are complete.

According to Nicole Grubbs, District Marketing Director for Westfield, the mall will be issuing their own statement about the water leak and how it impacts the mall's operations.

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