

# World War II bomb found at Quartierspark Oststadt

No danger to the public / Defusing and evacuation planned for Sunday, 17 May

During construction work at Quartierspark in Oststadt (Old Cemetery | Former Municipal Nursery), a World War II bomb weighing approximately 1.35 tonnes was found near the junction of Dammstraße and Stückelhäldenstraße. There is currently no immediate danger to the public. The Pforzheim Fire Brigade, the police, and the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit are on site with emergency services. The bomb is scheduled to be defused on site on Sunday, 17 May 2026.

An evacuation within a radius of approximately 1.5 kilometers is planned for Sunday morning, 17 May. The affected area must be vacated by 8 am. Planning for the exact timing of the evacuation, the accommodation of those affected, and the defusing of the bomb is currently in full swing. A large part of the city center is affected by the evacuation (see attached map and the list of affected addresses below as a PDF document). Around 27,000 residents are affected. Rail services to Karlsruhe and Stuttgart, as well as all public transport, will also be severely restricted or temporarily suspended during the operation. The Helios Hospital is exempt from the evacuation.

A public helpline will be available from Friday, 15 May, at 07231 39-1000 to answer public questions.

## The public helpline is open at the following times:

- Friday: 12 noon to 10 pm
- Saturday: 8 am to 10 pm
- Sunday: 8 am to 10 pm

Facilities such as care homes will be informed directly by the fire service of any potential impact.

Up-to-date, ongoing information on further measures is available on social media channels and the City of Pforzheim website.

## Statement from Lord Mayor Peter Boch:

“Our city is facing an extraordinary challenge – and it is well prepared for it. I attended a meeting of the crisis management team today and saw for myself that the emergency services – the fire brigade, police, and explosive ordnance disposal team – are working with the utmost professionalism and with a clear plan. Coordination is running smoothly

– this deserves my sincere thanks and deep respect. The evacuation of around 27,000 Pforzheim residents on Sunday morning is absolutely essential – and it will be a success. I ask everyone affected: take these measures seriously, leave the area by 8 am, and place your trust in the people who are working to ensure your safety. Pforzheim will get through this Sunday too – together.”