



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **City Prepares Emergency Operations Center**

**New Braunfels, Texas** — With the assistance of the New Braunfels Community Emergency Response Team (NBCERT) the City of New Braunfels is staging its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in preparation for a potential heavy rainfall event associated with tropical storm Harvey. The EOC, located in City Hall at 550 Landa Street, will be staffed by City personnel and NBCERT volunteers, with officials from other entities participating should the need arise for a broader-based response to conditions.

City employees are already actively preparing by staging barricades, checking drainage areas for obstructions, testing the emergency alert siren system and coordinating with other local, regional and state entities. The New Braunfels Fire Department swift water rescue team is on stand-by and additional City personnel have been notified of potential activation over the next several days.

“Should emergency alert sirens system sound, residents should tune to radio AM 1420 for instructions and additional information,” said Interim Emergency Management Coordinator and Fire Department Captain Patrick O'Connell. “Information will also be available at [www.nbtexas.org](http://www.nbtexas.org), the City Of New Braunfels - Official Site Facebook page and Spectrum Cable channel 21 or AT&T U-Verse channel 99. Residents are advised to remain alert to the possibility of flash flooding caused by rain upstream from the New Braunfels area, as well. As always, we encourage everyone to avoid any flooded roadways. Remember, turn around – don't drown. Residents and visitors should stay aware and monitor changing weather situations via local television and radio news media and by viewing [www.noaa.gov](http://www.noaa.gov).”

The Regional Emergency Alert Network (REAN) system would be the second tier of notification. This system will notify residents who have registered their telephone numbers with the system. For information about this free service, and to register for alerts, visit [www.nbtexas.org/1165/Emergency-Management](http://www.nbtexas.org/1165/Emergency-Management).

In areas of immediate impact, first responders (Police & Fire) will go door-to-door with information as the third tier approach to the City's alert notification system.

The City holds in-house EOC training monthly in preparation for an actual emergency, and staff members and elected officials have various certifications and trainings they have obtained via Texas Department of Public Safety Emergency Management, FEMA, the National Weather Services and other agencies. Areas within the EOC include: Public Works, Fire Fighting, Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration, Emergency Public Information, Mass Care, Resource Management, Public Health, Energy & Utilities, Public Safety & Security, Transportation, Communication and Long Term Recovery.

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