



A Message from Mayor Wax

August 29, 2017

Another busy, busy day in Rockport as we continue to shore up the infrastructure and increase our communication capabilities. While some of the efforts may not seem noticeable, they are truly significant in laying the groundwork for the rebuilding of our beloved city.

1. AT&T, Sprint and other specialists have improved the bandwidth for the Emergency Operation Center and Rockport Service Center. As a result, our ability to communicate using cellphones, text and email have improved significantly and we may be at full usage within the next two days.
2. Garbage Service is Returning. Republic will pick up waste from commercial dumpsters on Wednesday. Residential trash pickup will start on Thursday. There will be no recycling pickup.

Citizens are asked to separate their refuse into three categories – 1) regular trash in the blue bin, 2) building debris and 3) shrubs. We ask that you place them near the curb, not on the street, and that they not be covered or hamper access to meters. If your trash is not picked up that day, please wait another day or so to call the City as the trucks will be filling up much faster than the regular routes.

3. Water. The Public Works Department is currently testing the water system for pressure and leaks. There is a WATER BOIL ADVISORY in place. More information can be found on the “News Flash” section on the home page of the City’s web site. When the water is safe to drink, we will rescind the notice.
4. Food. Many wonderful organizations like HEB, Good Samaritans and the Baptist Men’s Group have been providing food for residents, emergency workers, first responders and other rebuilding partners. Government agencies continue to distribute water, ice and MREs (meals ready to eat) at the old HEB and will be opening four additional location in the county.
5. Donations. The Chamber has set up a page on Go Fund Me. This and the one run by the Red Cross are the only official/recognized fundraising campaigns. Individuals wishing to donated materials should either go to the Emergency Operations Center in the Public Safety building on Concho or call Bill Terry at 361-729-2222 to find out exactly what’s needed at this time. Current donation locations include Church Unlimited at 7451 Bay Area Drive in Corpus Christi and the Coastal Oaks Church on FM 3036.

6. City Hall and Operations. While City offices are closed due to damages, there are a great number of employees working behind the scenes. This includes members of our Public Works, Parks, Police and Public Safety Staff. And, a “satellite” City Hall has been in operation in Bastrop since last Friday to answer calls, relay information to us in the Emergency Operations Center, and coordinate communication on our web site and with social media pages.

7. Government Commitment. Yesterday I told you that I had met with Governor Abbott, Senator Cornyn and the director of FEMA. Today, we met once again, but with a much larger contingent that includes additional FEMA representatives, our State legislators, directors of Federal Cabinets, and the President himself. Once again, they pledged their full support.