

ANNEX E

EVACUATION

Revision Three

Brazoria County

And

Joint Resolution Cities

APPROVAL & IMPLEMENTATION

Annex E

Evacuation

Revision Three



Steve Rosa
Brazoria County
Emergency Management Coordinator

2-21-24
Date



L. M. "Matt" Sebesta, Jr.
Brazoria County Judge

2/27/24
Date

RECORD OF CHANGES

Annex E

Evacuation

Revision Three

Change #	Date of Change	Description	Changed by

ANNEX E

EVACUATION

I. AUTHORITY

- A. See Basic Plan, section I.
- B. Texas Government Code 418.185

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this annex is to provide for the orderly and coordinated evacuation of all or any part of the population of Brazoria County, if it is determined that such action is the most effective means available for protecting the population from the effects of an emergency situation.

III. EXPLANATION OF TERMS

A. Acronyms

EMC	Emergency Management Coordinator
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ETN	Emergency Tracking Network
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
MACC	Multiple Agency Coordination Center
NRF	National Response Framework
NIMS	National Incident Management System
PIO	Public Information Office or Officer
FNSS	Functional Needs Support Services
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
STEAR	State of Texas Evacuation Assistance Registry
TDEM	Texas Division of Emergency Management
UC	Unified Command

B. Definitions

1. Special Facilities. Certain facilities which house or serve populations that cannot care for themselves during emergency situations and/or require unique support services. Such facilities include:
 - Schools and day care centers, where students require supervision to ensure their safety.
 - Hospitals and nursing homes, where patients need specialized health care personnel and equipment to maintain their health.
 - Correctional facilities, where offenders require security to keep them in custody.

2. Evacuation. The National Incident Management System (NIMS) defines evacuation as an organized, phased, and supervised withdrawal, dispersal, or removal of civilians from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.
3. Evacuation Hub. A facility where evacuated residents from multiple nearby jurisdictions can be consolidated to make the most efficient use of state transportation to a determined state shelter destination.
4. Shelter in Place. Shelter-in-place means selecting an interior room or rooms within your facility or home; or ones with no or few windows, and taking refuge there. In many cases, local authorities will issue advice to shelter-in-place via TV or radio.
5. Texas ETN. Texas ETN (Emergency Tracking Network) manages critical information, facilitates critical information exchange, and maintains accountability of evacuees, evacuee groups, pets, service animals, evacuee medical equipment, and state-supplied vehicles throughout the evacuation and repopulation process.
6. WebEOC. WebEOC is an internet-based, emergency operations center crisis information management system. It has functions that allow users to log events, track evacuations, and make logistics requests. All information that is entered in WebEOC becomes part of a log in an easily trackable system.

IV. SITUATION & ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. There are a wide variety of emergency situations that might require an evacuation of portions of the local area.
 - a. Limited evacuation of specific geographic areas might be needed as a result of a hazardous materials transportation accident, major fire, natural gas leak, or localized flash flooding.
 - b. Large-scale evacuation could be required in the event of a major hazardous materials spill, terrorist attack with chemical agent, extensive flooding, or a hurricane.
2. Authority for Evacuations. Texas Government Code 418.185 provides the County Judge the authority to order the evacuation of all or part of the population from a stricken or threatened area within their respective jurisdictions. Hence, the County Judge may order a mandatory evacuation of Brazoria County upon issuing a local disaster declaration. The County Judge may also take subsequent action to control re-entry, curtail movement, and deny building occupancy within a disaster area.

B. Assumptions

1. According to FEMA, Spontaneous evacuation will occur when there is sufficient warning of the threat. Between 5 and 20 percent of the people at risk will evacuate *before* being directed to do so.

2. *Some* individuals will refuse to evacuate, regardless of the threat.
3. When there is sufficient warning of a significant threat, many individuals who are *not* at risk will evacuate.
4. Evacuation planning for known hazard areas can and should be done in advance.
5. While some emergency situations are slow to develop, others occur without warning. Hence, there may be time for deliberate evacuation planning or an evacuation may have to be conducted with minimal preparation time. In the case of short notice evacuations, there may be little time to obtain personnel and equipment from external sources to support evacuation operations.
6. The need to evacuate may become evident during the day or at night and there could be little control over the evacuation start time.
7. In most emergency situations, the majority of evacuees will seek shelter with relatives or friends or in commercial accommodations rather than in public shelter facilities. FEMA estimates that roughly 20 percent of the population at risk will need to shelter at a mass care facility.
8. Most evacuees will use their personal vehicles to evacuate; however, transportation may need to be provided for evacuees without personal vehicles.
9. When confronting a major disaster or catastrophic incident, it may be necessary to employ all modes of transportation to include state and/or federal assistance to effectively evacuate our population.

V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. Evacuation is one means of protecting the public from the effects of a hazard; protection is achieved by moving people away from the hazard. In planning for evacuation, the characteristics of the hazard and its magnitude, intensity, speed of onset, and anticipated duration are all significant factors. These will determine the number of people to be evacuated, the distance people must be moved to ensure their safety, the need for reception facilities, and the extent of traffic control and security required.
2. Brazoria County must be prepared to conduct both small-scale and large-scale evacuations at all times of the day both from known hazard areas and from unexpected incident locations. A General Evacuation Checklist, provided in Appendix 1, has been developed to guide the execution of evacuation operations.

B. Evacuation Decisions

1. The County Judge shall assess the need for evacuation, plan evacuations, and coordinate support for the evacuation effort. Evacuation planning should resolve the following questions:
 - a. What areas or facilities are at risk and should be evacuated?
 - b. How will the public be advised of what to do?
 - c. What do evacuees need to take with them?
 - d. What travel routes should be used by evacuees?
 - e. What transportation support is needed?
 - f. What assistance will the population require?
 - g. What traffic control is needed?
 - h. Does the anticipated duration of the evacuation make it necessary to activate shelter and mass care facilities?
 - i. How will evacuated areas be secured?
2. Evacuations that must be conducted because of incidents that occur without warning may have to be planned quickly and carried out with only those resources that can be mobilized rapidly.
3. The decision to recommend an evacuation of the populace in and around the area of an incident site rests with the Incident Commander managing the incident. In general, the County Judge shall issue the order for large-scale evacuations.

C. Hazard Specific Evacuation Planning

1. Hazard-specific evacuation planning information will be developed for certain known hazards and included as appendices to this or other annexes. These appendices will describe the potential impact areas for known hazards, the number of people in the threatened area, and any special populations affected. Such appendices should also identify potential evacuation routes and, where appropriate, transportation pickup points or assembly areas.
2. Likely major evacuation areas, other than hazardous materials or hurricane risk areas, and the potential evacuation routes for those areas are described and depicted in Appendix 2 to this Annex.
3. Hazardous materials risk areas and potential evacuation routes from those areas are described and depicted in the appendices to Annex Q, Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response.
4. Guidance for hurricane evacuation is provided in Appendix 3 and 4 to this Annex, which also describes hurricane risk areas and evacuation routes.

D. Transportation

1. Individuals: It is anticipated that the primary means of evacuation for most individuals will be personal automobiles. Many people do not own vehicles and others will need assistance in evacuating. Provisions have been made to furnish public transportation during an emergency evacuation. Two transportation "Hubs" are planned in Brazoria

County. One at the County fairgrounds to service the southern population and one at the City of Pearland's municipal natatorium for the northern population.

2. Special Facilities: Public schools maintain transportation resources; private schools and day care centers have limited transportation assets. Most other special facilities rely on commercial or contract transportation companies for their specialized transportation needs. Unfortunately, many of these providers cannot provide sufficient equipment to evacuate a sizeable facility on short notice. Hence, local government may be requested to assist in providing transport.
3. Emergency transportation may be provided by school buses, rural transportation system buses, ambulances, and other vehicles. See Annex S, Transportation, for transportation guidance; see Annex M, Resource Management, for transportation resources. In the case of large-scale evacuations with advance warning, pickup points are designated and a telephone bank established to receive and process requests for transportation. Agreements exist with the State of Texas to coordinate coach buses for Brazoria County evacuation out of the county to a shelter location as determined by TDEM at the time.
4. Public information messages emphasizing the need for citizens to help their neighbors who lack transportation or need assistance can significantly reduce requirements for public transportation during an evacuation. Brazoria County will use social media and websites, in addition to standard media to reach our population.
5. The County and all of the joint resolution cities do not have government owned transportation vehicles such as buses. As a result, Gulf Coast Transit has agreed to help transport residents, locally to hubs. County Independent School Districts are also a good resource for buses, however; drivers are then a commodity.

E. Traffic Control

1. Actual evacuation movement will be controlled by local law enforcement agencies.
2. When possible, two-way traffic will be maintained on all evacuation routes to allow continued access for emergency vehicles.
3. For large-scale evacuations when time permits, traffic control devices, such as signs and barricades, will be provided by the Brazoria County's Road & Bridge Department, upon request.
4. Law enforcement will request wrecker services when needed to clear disabled vehicles from evacuation routes.

F. Warning & Public Information

1. The Incident Commander will normally decide if an evacuation warning should be issued in and around an incident site. The County MACC will normally disseminate warnings for large-scale evacuations beyond the incident site or where evacuation is conducted because of an imminent threat.

2. Advance Notice of Possible Evacuation

- a. For slow developing emergency situations, advance warning should be given to affected residents as soon as it is clear evacuation may be required. Such advance notice is normally disseminated through the media, social media, and websites. Advance warning should address suitable preparedness actions, such as securing property, assembling disaster supplies, fueling vehicles, and identifying evacuation routes.
- b. Advance warning will be made to special facilities in a threatened evacuation area as early as possible. During notification, request facility staff review and prepare to implement their evacuation plans. Facility staff should also report their periodic status and any requirements for assistance to the MACC.
- c. The Functional and Access needs population should be given advance notice. Notifying and preparing this segment of the population for evacuation will likely require additional time and resources. Any special circumstances or requests for assistance should be reported to on-scene authorities or MACC.

3. Evacuation Warning

- a. Evacuation warning should be disseminated through all available warning systems. See Annex A, Warning, for further information.
- b. In the case of immediate evacuation in and around an incident site, route alerting using siren and speaker-equipped vehicles moving through the affected area is usually effective. When possible, two vehicles should be employed—the first to get the attention of the people and a second will deliver the evacuation message. Door-to-door notification should be considered for large buildings and in rural areas where residences may be some distance from the road. The smart phone app, Brazoria County OEM will also be used to disseminate the information.
- c. Special facilities may be notified directly by on-scene authorities or by the MACC staff. However, if both the incident command staff and the MACC will be making notifications, a specific division of responsibilities for notification should be made so that no facilities are inadvertently overlooked.
- d. Law enforcement personnel should sweep the evacuation areas to insure all those at risk have been advised of the need to evacuate and have responded. Persons who refuse to evacuate will be left until all others have been warned and then, time permitting, further efforts may be made to persuade these individuals to leave.

4. Emergency Public Information

- a. Warning messages disseminated through warning systems alert the public to a threat and provide basic instructions. They are necessarily short and to the point. The public will often require amplifying information on what to do during an evacuation. The Public Information Officer (PIO) will provide information to the media on a timely basis for further dissemination to the public. Provisions must be made to disseminate information to individuals with functional needs, including the blind, hearing impaired

and non-English speakers. Specific public information procedures are contained in Annex I (Public Information).

- b. Amplifying instructions for an evacuation may include information on the location of shelter and mass care facilities, specific evacuation routes, guidance on securing their homes, and the need for evacuees to take certain items with them during an evacuation. When school children are evacuated, parents need timely information on where to pick them up. A reunification facility should be pre-identified.
- c. When the incident that generated the need for evacuation is resolved, evacuees must be advised when it is safe to return to their homes and businesses.

G. Functional and Access Needs Populations

1. Functional and Access Needs Institutions are responsible for the welfare and safety of their students, clients, patients, and inmates. Virtually all of these facilities are required to maintain an emergency plan that includes provisions for an emergency evacuation; however, in order to effectively implement those plans, they must be warned of emergency situations.
 - a. Schools & Day Care Centers
 - 1) If evacuation of public schools is required, students will normally be transported on school buses to other schools outside of the risk area, where they can be picked up by their parents. It is essential that the public be provided timely information on these arrangements. In the case of a large-scale emergency situation with advance warning, schools will be closed and students returned to their homes so they can evacuate with their families.
 - 2) Private schools and day care centers, including adult day care facilities, typically maintain limited transportation resources and may require government assistance in evacuating.
 - b. Hospitals, Nursing Homes, & Correctional Facilities.
 - 1) If evacuation of these facilities is required, patients and inmates should be transported, with appropriate medical or security support, to a comparable facility. The facility operator is responsible for making arrangements for suitable transportation and coordinating use of appropriate host facilities. In the case of short-notice or no-notice emergency situations, facilities may be unable to make the required arrangements for transportation and may need assistance from local government with transportation and in identifying suitable reception facilities.
 - 2) Medical patients, homeless, registered sex offenders, and prisoners will not be housed in shelter and mass care facilities with the general public.
2. Functional and Access needs citizens will require special evacuation assistance, transportation, shelter facilities, and medical care during major evacuations (See Annex H – Health and Medical). County emergency management plans identify by type and estimated number the functional and access needs population and address their needs throughout the year.

H. Handling Pets During Evacuations

1. Evacuees who go to the homes of relatives, friends or commercial accommodations with their pets normally do not pose difficulties during evacuation. However, evacuees with pets seeking public shelter or transportation can create potential problems. For health and privacy reasons, pets may not be allowed to stay directly with evacuees in emergency shelters. Recent incidents indicated that some people, particularly the elderly, will not leave their homes if they cannot take their pets with them. Loose pets remaining in an evacuated area may also create a public safety concern. It is desirable to make reasonable arrangements for evacuees to leave with their pets. Livestock are not considered pets.
2. Depending on the situation and availability of transport, one or more of the following approaches will be used to handle evacuees with pets:
 - a. Pet owners must keep their pets in a cage, carrier or kennel. If they do not have one, best efforts will be made to provide one, as available.
 - b. As long as it can be accommodated, one or more buses will be designated "people only". Pets will ride with their owners. The owners will be responsible for their pets' needs at the hub and on the bus.
 - c. Upon arrival at the evacuation destination, disposition of the pets will be decided by the receiving entity and in accordance with paragraph V.E of Annex C; Shelter and Mass Care.

I. Access Control & Security

1. Security in evacuated areas is extremely important. Those who have evacuated may not do so in the future if their property has been damaged or stolen during their absence. Law enforcement should establish access control points to limit entry into evacuated areas and, where possible, conduct periodic patrols within such areas to deter theft by those on foot. To the extent possible, fire departments will take measures to insure continued fire protection.
2. If an evacuated area has sustained damage and cannot be reoccupied for an extended period of time, Brazoria County has implemented a re-entry letter system to limit access to emergency workers, homeowners, business owners, utility workers, and contractors restoring damaged structures and removing debris. Refer to Annex G, Law Enforcement, for further information.

J. Return of Evacuees

1. Evacuees returning to their homes or businesses in evacuated areas require the same consideration, coordination, and control as the original evacuation. For limited incidents, the Incident Commander will normally make the decision to return evacuees and

disseminate it as appropriate. For large-scale evacuations, the decision will normally be made by the County Judge and disseminated via the media and social media.

2. The following conditions should prevail in the evacuated area before evacuees are authorized to return:
 - a. The threat prompting the evacuation has been resolved or subsided.
 - b. Sufficient debris has been removed to permit travel and roads and bridges are safe to use.
 - c. Downed power lines have been removed; ruptured gas, water, and sewer lines have been repaired; and other significant safety hazards have been eliminated. However, utility services may not be fully restored.
 - d. Structures have been inspected and deemed safe for occupancy.
 - e. Adequate water is available for firefighting life sustainment.
 - f. Emergency services have been restored and determined adequate to protect the population.
3. For return and re-entry, it will be necessary to provide transportation for those who lack vehicles. Traffic control along return routes may also be required. The county only has the resources to return the evacuees we originally evacuated in the beginning of the event.
4. Public information intended for returnees should address such issues as:
 - a) Documenting damage for insurance purposes.
 - b) Caution in reactivating utilities and damaged appliances.
 - c) Cleanup instructions.
 - d) Removal and disposal of debris.

K. Actions by Phases of Emergency Management

1. Mitigation
 - a. Where possible, undertake mitigation for known hazards that have in the past led to evacuation.
 - b. Discourage development, particularly residential construction, in potential risk areas, including floodplains, areas downstream from suspect dams and dikes, and areas adjacent to facilities that make, use, or store hazardous materials.
 - c. Seek improvement to preplanned evacuation routes if needed.
 - d. Enhance warning systems to increase warning times and reduce the need for hasty evacuations.

2. Preparedness

- a. Identify areas where previous major evacuations have occurred and additional areas that may require large-scale evacuation in the future due to known hazards. See Appendix 2 for potential major evacuation areas other than hazardous materials risk areas; hazardous materials risk areas are described in Annex Q, Hazardous Materials & Oil Spill Response. Determine the population of risk areas and identify facilities that may require special assistance during evacuation (hospitals, nursing homes, schools, etc.) to determine potential transportation requirements.
- b. Maintain a database of STEAR participants and medical needs residents. Plan for their evacuation.
- c. Identify primary and alternate evacuation routes, taking into account road capacities.
- d. Review the disaster preparedness plans of special facilities and advise facility operators of any changes that may be needed to make them more workable.
- e. Include evacuations in the scenario of periodic emergency drills and exercises.
- f. Conduct public information programs to increase citizen awareness of possible reasons for evacuation, preplanned evacuation routes, availability of transportation, the need to take appropriate food, clothing, and other disaster supplies during an evacuation, and the desirability of helping neighbors who may need assistance during an evacuation.
- g. Promulgate procedures for protecting government resources from known hazards by relocating them.

3. Response

See the General Evacuation Checklist in Appendix 1

4. Recovery

- a. Initiate return of evacuees, when it is safe to do so.
- b. Coordinate temporary housing for those who cannot return to their homes.
- c. Provide traffic control for return.
- d. Initiate recovery activities for evacuees who have suffered loss of or damage to their homes or businesses.
- e. Carry out appropriate public information activities.
- f. The same pet guidance for evacuating will be used for the return.

VI. ORGANIZATION & ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Organization

1. Our normal emergency organization, described in Section VI.A of the Basic Plan and depicted in Attachment 3 to the Basic Plan, will plan and carry out evacuations and the return of people to their homes or businesses. A large-scale evacuation, however, may require the formation of a UC to support the Incident Command Posts (ICP) and The MACC.
2. Incident Command System (ICS) – MACC/UC Interface
 - a. As noted previously, the Incident Commander will normally determine the need for, organize, and conduct limited evacuations in the immediate vicinity of the incident site. If large-scale evacuation is required, the Brazoria County Judge will make the recommendation for such evacuation to the public.
 - b. A division of responsibility for evacuation tasks should be agreed upon between the Incident Commander and the MACC. The Incident Commander will normally manage evacuation operations at the scene, while the MACC coordinates operations beyond the incident site, such as coordinating traffic control along evacuation routes, arranging for the activation of shelter and mass care facilities, and advising other jurisdictions of the evacuation.
 - c. During a large-scale evacuation, a division of responsibility for evacuation tasks should be agreed upon between the MACC and the UC. The MACC will normally manage evacuation operations within their respective jurisdiction area while the UC coordinates evacuation operations affecting multiple jurisdictional areas. The UC will normally coordinate traffic control along evacuation routes, arrange for the activation of shelter and mass care facilities, and advise other jurisdictions.

B. Assignment of Responsibilities

1. The County Judge will:
 - a. For emergencies and disasters, issue the order directing citizens to evacuate, when appropriate.
 - b. Approve release of warnings, instructions, and other emergency public information relating to evacuation.
 - c. Coordinate evacuation efforts with other local governments that may be affected by the evacuation, where appropriate.
 - d. Direct the relocation of at risk essential resources (personnel, equipment, and supplies) to safe areas.
 - e. Direct the opening of local shelter and mass care facilities, when needed.

2. The Incident Commander will:
 - a. Identify risk areas in the vicinity to the incident site and determine protective actions for people in those risk areas.
 - b. If evacuation of risk areas and special facilities is required, plan, organize, and conduct the evacuation with the resources assigned.
 - c. Request support from the MACC to assist in coordinating evacuation activities beyond the incident site, such as activation of shelter and mass care facilities, if required.
3. The EMC will:
 - a. Develop and maintain evacuation planning information for known risk areas, including population of the area, and primary evacuation routes.
 - b. Review evacuation plans of special facilities within known risk areas and determine possible need for evacuation support.
 - c. Coordinate evacuation planning to include:
 - 1) Selection of suitable evacuation routes, based on recommendations from law enforcement.
 - 2) Movement control, based on recommendations from law enforcement.
 - 3) Transportation arrangements.
 - 4) Shelter and mass care arrangements.
 - 5) Functional needs demographics and evacuation support requirements.
4. Common Tasks of All Organizations
 - a. If time permits, secure and protect facilities in evacuation areas.
 - b. If time permits, relocate essential equipment, supplies, and records to non-risk areas.
5. Law Enforcement will:
 - a. Recommend evacuation routes to the Incident Commander or MACC staff.
 - b. Assist in evacuation by providing traffic control.
 - c. Protect property in evacuated areas and limit access to those areas.
 - d. Secure and protect or relocate prisoners.
 - e. Coordinate law enforcement activities with other emergency services.
 - f. Assist in warning the public.

- g. Provide information to the PIO for public news releases on the evacuation routes.
6. The Fire Service will:
- a. Be responsible for fire protection in the vacated area.
 - b. Assist in warning the public.
 - c. Assist in evacuating functional needs groups, as requested.
7. The Public Information Officer (PIO) will:
- a. Disseminate emergency information from the County Judge advising the public of evacuation actions to be taken.
 - b. Coordinate with area news media for news and media releases.
8. The County Engineer will:
- a. Provide traffic control devices upon request.
 - b. Assist in keeping evacuation routes open.
 - c. Provide barricades and barriers to restrict entry to evacuated areas and other areas where entry must be controlled.
 - d. Coordinate with local Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) for status on all State roads.
9. The Transportation Officer will:
- a. Coordinate transportation for evacuees without vehicles or who need assistance in evacuating, determining and establishing pickup points if necessary.
 - b. Coordinate transportation assistance for the evacuation of special facilities and medical needs population, if needed.
 - c. Coordinate all transportation relating to relocation of essential resources.
 - d. Provide information to the PIO on pickup points or special pickup routes for those who require transportation, so that this information may be provided to the public.
10. The Shelter Officer will:
- a. For short-term evacuations, coordinate with operators of government-owned buildings schools, churches, and other facilities for use of their facilities as temporary evacuee holding areas.

- b. For other than short-term and hurricane evacuations, coordinate with the MACC to open shelters and activate mass care operations. See Annex C, Shelter & Mass Care, for further information

11. Health and Medical will:

Monitor evacuation of special facilities and coordinate evacuation assistance, if requested. EMS may be needed at hubs.

12. Animal Control will:

- a. Coordinate arrangements to provide temporary carriers for pets arriving with evacuees.
- b. Be prepared to provide hub managers and bus drivers with information on procedures for handling evacuees with pets.

13. Functional and Access Needs Institutions (schools, hospitals, nursing homes, correctional facilities) will:

- a. Close and supervise evacuation of their facilities.
- b. Coordinate appropriate transportation for evacuees and en route medical or security support.
- c. Arrange for use of suitable host facilities.
- d. Request emergency assistance from local government if assistance cannot be obtained from other sources.
- e. Ensure assigned personnel are trained and knowledgeable of evacuation procedures.
- f. Disseminate public information to advise relatives and the general public of the status of their facilities and the patients, students, or inmates served by those facilities.

VII. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

A. General

1. The County Judge has the general responsibility for ordering an evacuation, when deemed the most suitable means of protecting the public from a hazard.
2. In situations where rapid evacuation is critical to the continued health and safety of the population, the on-scene Incident Commander may recommend evacuation of people at risk in and around an incident scene and direct and control the required evacuation.
3. Large-scale evacuations and evacuations conducted on the basis of imminent threat where there is no current incident scene will normally be coordinated and directed by the MACC or UC.

B. Evacuation Area Definition

1. Areas to be evacuated will be determined by those officials with the authority to direct a mandatory evacuation based on the counsel of those individuals and agencies with the necessary expertise, the use of specialized planning materials or decision aids, the recommendations of state and federal agencies, and, where appropriate, advice from other subject matter experts. Evacuation recommendations to the public should clearly describe the area to be evacuated with reference to known geographic features, such as roads and rivers.
2. The hazard situation which gave rise to the need for evacuation should be continually monitored in case changing circumstances, such as an increase in rainfall or wind shift, change the potential impact area and, thus, the area that must be evacuated.

C. Lines of Succession

1. The lines of succession for the County Judge and the EMC are outlined in Section VII of the Basic Plan.
2. Lines of succession for each department and agency head shall be according to the standard operating procedures established by each department.

VIII. INCREASED READINESS ACTIONS
--

A. Level IV - Normal Conditions.

See the prevention and preparedness activities in section V.K, Actions by Phases of Emergency Management.

B. Level III - Increased Readiness. Increased Readiness may be appropriate if there is a greater than normal threat of a hazard which could necessitate evacuation. Level III readiness actions may include:

1. Review information on potential evacuation areas, facilities at risk, and evacuation routes.
2. Monitor the situation.
3. Inform first responders and local officials of the situation.
4. Check the status of potential evacuation routes and shelter/mass care facilities.

C. Level II - High Readiness. High Readiness may be appropriate if there is an increased risk of a hazard which necessitates evacuation. Level II readiness actions may include:

1. Actively monitor the situation.
2. Alert response personnel for possible evacuation operations duty.
3. Coordinate with special facilities to determine their readiness to evacuate.

4. Check the status of resources and enhance short-term readiness if possible. Monitor the availability of transportation assets and drivers.
5. Alert Shelter and Mass Care organization that shelters may be needed, incident dependent.
6. Advise the public and special facilities to monitor the situation.

D. Level I - Maximum Readiness. Maximum readiness is appropriate when there is a significant possibility that evacuation operation may have to be conducted. Level I readiness actions may include:

1. Activate the MACC to monitor the situation and track resource status.
2. Place first responders and transportation providers in an alert status; place off-duty personnel on standby.
3. Update the status of resources.
4. Check the status of evacuation routes and pre-position traffic control devices.
5. Update plans to move government equipment to safe havens.
6. Select shelter/mass care facilities for use.
7. Provide information to the public on planned evacuation routes, securing their homes, and what items they need to take with them. Prepare to issue a public warning if it becomes necessary.

IX. ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

A. Reporting

Large-scale evacuations should be reported to state agencies and other jurisdictions that may be affected in the periodic Situation Reports prepared and disseminated during major emergency operations. The Situation Report format is provided in Annex N, Direction & Control.

B. Records

1. Activity Logs. The Hub Manager and, if activated, the MACC shall maintain accurate logs recording evacuation decisions, significant evacuation activities, and the commitment of resources to support evacuation operations.
2. Documentation of Costs. Expenses incurred in carrying out evacuations for certain hazards, such as radiological accidents or hazardous materials incidents, may be recoverable from the responsible party. Hence, all departments and agencies will maintain records of personnel and equipment used and supplies consumed during large-scale evacuations.

C. Resources

General emergency response resources that may be required to conduct an evacuation are listed in Annex M, Resource Management.

D. Post Incident Review

For large-scale evacuations, the County Judge, or EMC shall organize and conduct a review of emergency operations by those tasked in this annex in accordance with the guidance provided in Section IX.D of the Basic Plan. The purpose of this review is to identify needed improvements in this plan, procedures, facilities, and equipment.

E. Exercises

Local drills, tabletop exercises, functional exercises, and full-scale exercises shall periodically include an evacuation scenario based on the hazards faced by this jurisdiction.

X. ANNEX DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- A. The Emergency Management Coordinator is responsible for developing and maintaining this annex. Recommended changes to this annex should be forwarded as needs become apparent.
- B. This annex will be revised as required and updated in accordance with the schedule outlined in Section X of the Basic Plan.

C. Departments and agencies assigned responsibilities in this annex are responsible for developing and maintaining SOPs covering those responsibilities.

XI. REFERENCES

FEMA, *Guide for All-Hazard Emergency Operations Planning* (CPG-101).

APPENDICES:

1 General Evacuation Checklist
2 Potential Evacuation Areas
3 Hurricane Evacuation
4 STEAR Evacuation Plan

GENERAL EVACUATION CHECKLIST

✓	Action Item	Assigned
	PLANNING:	
	1. Determine area(s) at risk: ▪ Determine population of risk area(s) ▪ Identify any special facilities and FNSS populations in risk area(s)	
	2. Determine evacuation routes for risk area(s) & check the status of these routes.	
	3. Determine traffic control requirements for evacuation routes.	
	4. Estimate public transportation requirements & determine pickup points.	
	5. Determine temporary shelter requirements & select preferred shelter locations.	
	ADVANCE WARNING:	
	6. Provide advance warning to special facilities & advise them to activate evacuation, transportation & reception arrangements. Determine if requirements exist for additional support from local government.	
	7. Provide advance warning of possible need for evacuation to the public, clearly identifying areas at risk. See Annex I, Emergency Public Information.	
	8. Develop traffic control plans & stage traffic control devices at required locations	
	9. Coordinate with special facilities regarding precautionary evacuation. Identify and alert FNSS populations.	
	10. Ready temporary shelters selected for use.	
	11. Coordinate with transportation providers to ensure vehicles & drivers will be available when and where needed.	
	12. Coordinate with school districts regarding closure of schools.	
	13. Advise neighboring jurisdictions that may be affected of evacuation plans.	
	EVACUATION:	
	14. Advise neighboring jurisdictions & the local Disaster District that evacuation recommendation or order will be issued.	
	15. Disseminate evacuation recommendation or order to special facilities and FNSS populations. Provide assistance in evacuating, if needed.	
	16. Disseminate evacuation recommendation or order to the public through available warning systems, clearly identifying areas to be evacuated.	
	17. Provide amplifying information to the public through the media. Emergency public information should address: ▪ What should be done to secure buildings being evacuated ▪ What evacuees should take with them ▪ Where evacuees should go & how should they get there ▪ Provisions for medical needs population & those without transportation	
	18. Staff and open temporary shelters	
	19. Provide traffic control along evacuation routes & establish procedures for dealing with vehicle breakdowns on such routes.	
	20. Provide transportation assistance to those who require it.	

	21. Provide security in or control access to evacuated areas.	
	22. Provide Situation Reports on evacuation to the local Disaster District.	
	RETURN OF EVACUEES	
	23. If evacuated areas have been damaged, reopen roads, eliminate significant health and safety hazards, & conduct damage assessments.	
	24. Determine requirements for traffic control for return of evacuees.	
	25. Determine requirements for & coordinate provision of transportation for return of evacuees.	
	26. Advise neighboring jurisdictions and local Disaster District that return of evacuees will begin.	
	27. Advise evacuees through the media that they can return to their homes and businesses; indicate preferred travel routes.	
	28. Provide traffic control for return of evacuees.	
	29. Coordinate temporary housing for evacuees that are unable to return to their residences.	
	30. Coordinate with special facilities regarding return of evacuees to those facilities.	
	31. If evacuated areas have sustained damage, provide the public information that addresses: ▪ Documenting damage & making expedient repairs ▪ Caution in reactivating utilities & damaged appliances ▪ Cleanup & removal/disposal of debris ▪ Recovery programs See Annex J, Recovery.	
	32. Terminate temporary shelter & mass care operations.	
	33. Maintain access controls for areas that cannot be safely reoccupied.	

POTENTIAL EVACUATION AREAS

ID Name Brazos River Flood Plain

Description: County Rd 25 at Cow Creek (border between Brazoria County and Ft. Bend County) through to the Coast

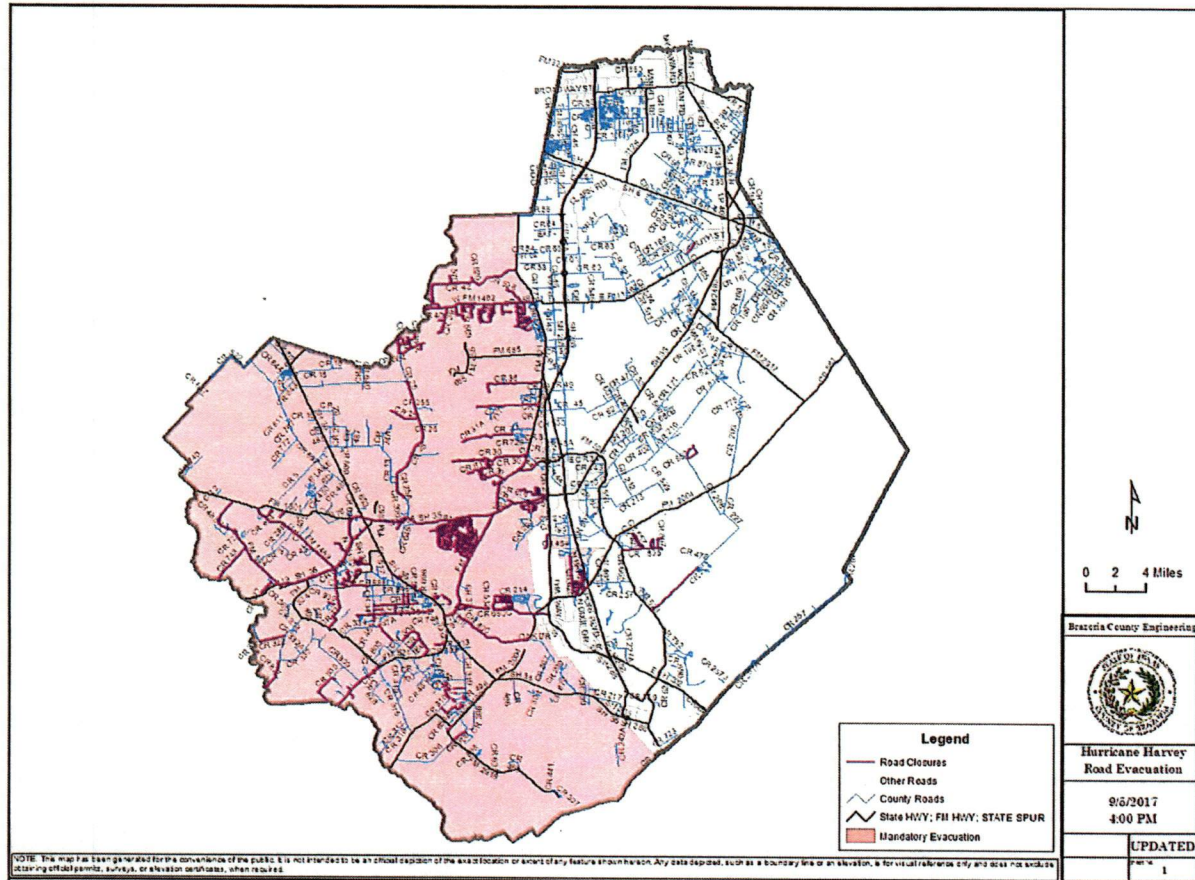
Hazard: Flooding with the Brazos River at Major Flood Stage

Est. Population: 120,000

Evacuation Routes: CR 25 to SH 35, SH 35 to FM 521, FM 1462 to FM 521, SH 36 to FM 521

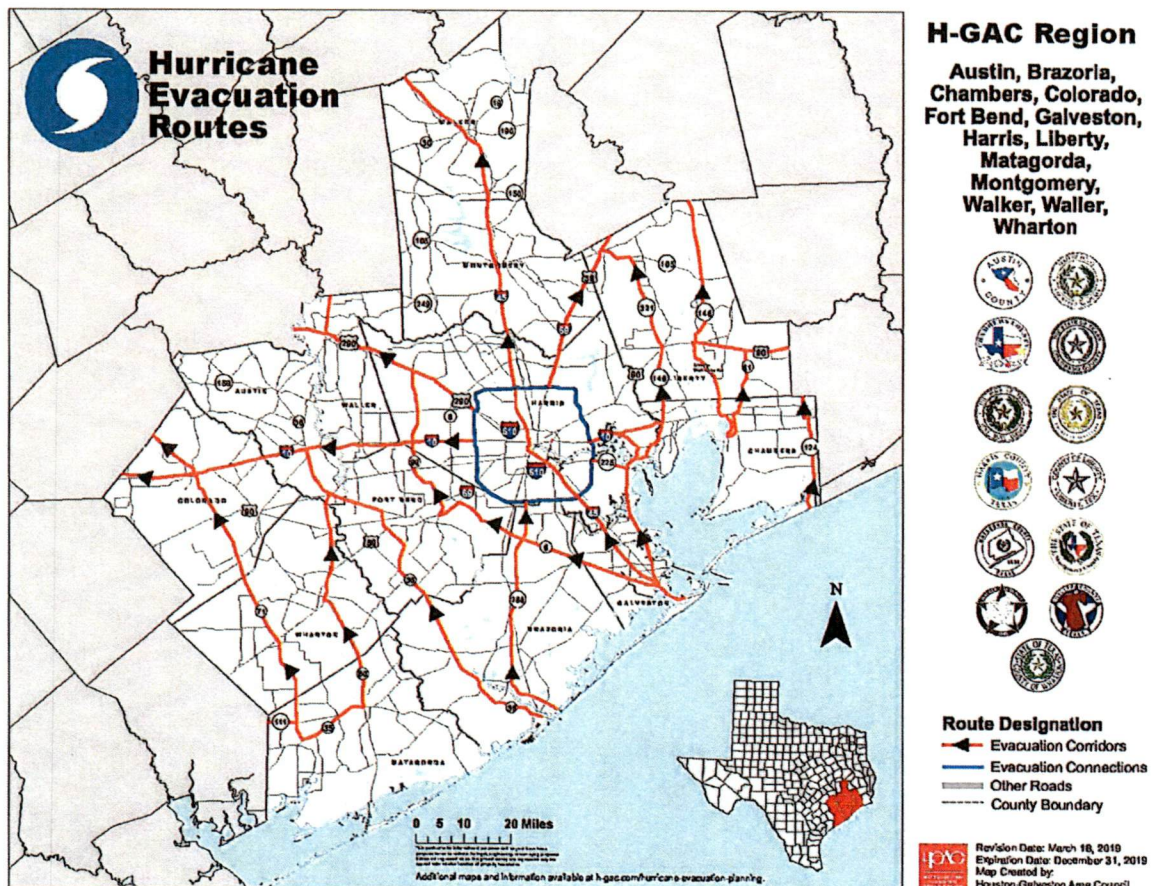
Est. Evacuation Time: 12 Hours

Brazos River Flood Plain with Evacuation Zones

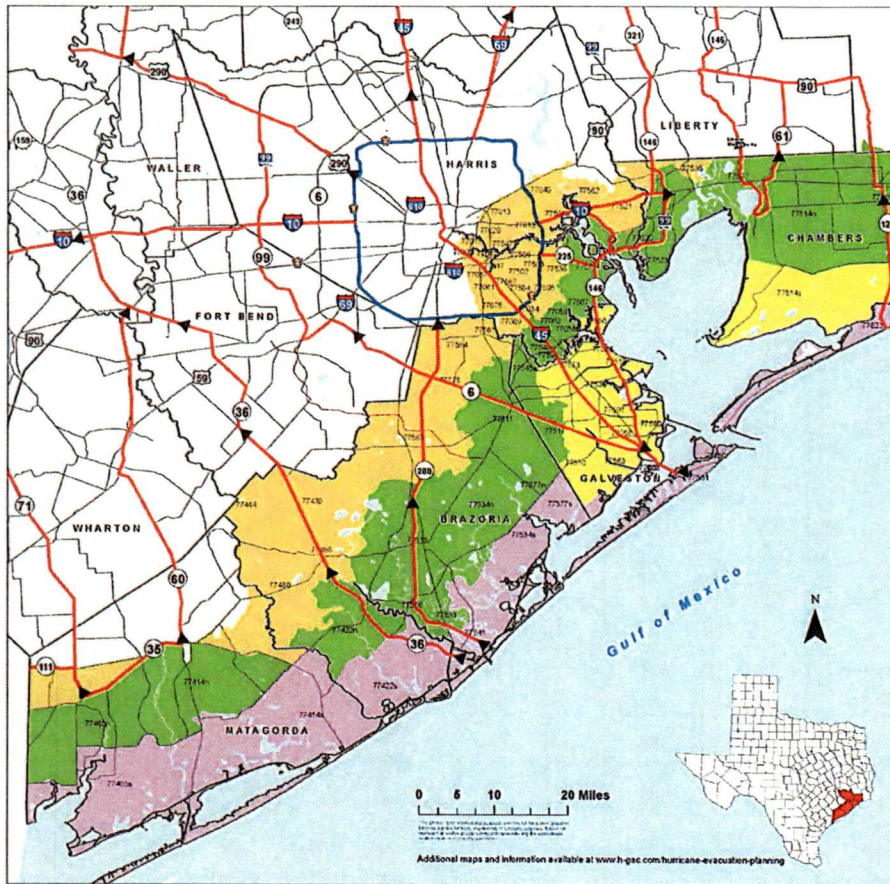


Brazoria County's evacuation data is compiled through the Houston-Galveston Area Counsel as well as by *Southeast Texas Hurricane Evacuation Study (HES) Vulnerability Analysis as current data becomes available*. Hurricane Evacuation Studies assess the vulnerability of a population to hurricane threats and provide information and critical planning factors that guide state, local, tribal and territorial governments in hurricane evacuation and response plans. These critical planning factors support the National Hurricane Program mission of using analytics to support informed decision making and saving lives. Data accessible to County planners and staff via the Hurrevac program maintained by the National Weather Service. Hurricane Evacuation Studies (HES) documents, evacuation zones and clearance times are available in HURREVAC, the NHP's hurricane evacuation decision support tool. Clearance times estimate the number of hours it takes to move a threatened population to safety given various factors. HURREVAC is a web-based application available to government emergency managers and provides evacuation timing guidance by combining real-time NHC forecast products with clearance times from the HES. The Office of Emergency Management staff can access this information at all times.

Hurricane Evacuation Routes:



Hurricane Evacuation Zones:



Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, Harris and Matagorda Hurricane Evacuation Zip-Zones Coastal, A, B, C

ZIP ZONE COASTAL				
77414s	77422s	77465s	77534s	77541
77550	77551	77554	77563	77577s
77623				

ZIP ZONE A				
77058s	77510	77514s	77518	77539
77563	77565	77568	77573	77585
77590	77591			

ZIP ZONE B				
77058n	77059	77062	77414n	77422n
77465n	77507	77511	77514n	77515
77517	77520	77523	77531	77534n
77546n	77548s	77560	77566	77571
77577n	77597	77598	77655	

ZIP ZONE C				
77011	77012	77013	77015	77017
77023	77029	77034	77049	77061
77075	77087	77089	77430	77444
77480	77486	77502	77503	77504
77505	77506	77521	77530	77535
77536	77547	77562	77578	77581
77583	77584	77587		

Some zip codes are split into north (n) and south (s) for evacuation purposes.

- Route Designation**
- Evacuation Corridors
 - Evacuation Connections
 - Other Roads
 - County Boundary



Revision Date: March 29, 2023
Expiration Date: December 31, 2023
Map Created by:
Houston-Galveston Area Council

Appendix 4 to Annex E

STEAR Evacuation Management Plan for Brazoria County

Purpose:

The purpose of this document is to outline how the County will evacuate the Brazoria County STEAR registrants and manage all data located in our local STEAR database assigned to our responsibility. The County currently has over one hundred registrants living outside the city limits. This includes the following jurisdictions: Bailey's Prairie, Damon, Holiday Lakes, Quintana, and Rosharon. The County oversees those jurisdiction accounts and maintains the records annually. Cities/Jurisdictions with their own STEAR Data Custodians are responsible for contacting, verifying and transporting applicable registrants to the HUB during evacuations.

County STEAR Data Custodian:

*Amanda Ford
Brazoria County OEM
979-864-1174*

Amanda Ford is the County's designated data handler. She downloads from the state site monthly and assures all new registrants are imported into our local database for review. She also oversees and monitors all local jurisdiction accounts while providing assistance, when needed. The County will also ensure any registrants needing a medical review are submitted to the local area EMS agency. County backup custodians are listed below.

*Bryan Sidebottom
City of Lake Jackson
979-415-2705*

*Charlie Davis
Brazoria County OEM
979-864-1104*

STEAR DATA and OnSolve:

In the event of an evacuation, additional state downloads will be completed. Along with any new registrants, current County STEAR registrants will be notified and updated on status of the emergency by way of contact information provided by the registrant. The County will also utilize OnSolve when applicable to communicate critical updates, instructions, and warnings. OnSolve is a critical communications platform for broadcasting emergency alerts.

MOU's for Transportation:

The County has MOU's in place with the Gulf Coast Transit District and ActionS, Inc. of Brazoria County. In the event of an evacuation, based on need and availability, transportation and drivers will assist in picking up our STEAR registrants.

Bus Routes:

When an evacuation is ordered, phone calls to our County STEAR registrants needing a ride will be verified to include those requiring evacuation by ambulance. Gulf Coast Transit District will take the addresses we provide requesting a ride and create the bus route for their drivers. ActionS, Inc. will work with GCTD to assist in picking up registrants as required. Ambulance required registrants needing a ride will be turned over to our EMS / Ambulance Strike Team Coordinator to evacuate registrants to a designated TDEM Medical Shelter Location. Applicable bus/van passenger registrants will be informed a bus/van is being planned to pick them up and we will update them with approximate pickup times. Our goal to accomplish picking up all our registrants is in an 8-hour timeframe. The bus/van drivers will be in constant contact with the MACC Transportation desk.

Evacuation Hub:

The County will be responsible for running and operating the Angleton Evacuation Hub (Southern Hub) located at 901 S. Downing Road, Angleton – Brazoria County Fairgrounds. There will be additional agencies and departments assisting in this mission with key roles in the overall operation.

The City of Pearland will be responsible for running and operating the Pearland Evacuation Hub (Northern Hub) located at 4141 Bailey Road, Pearland – Recreation Center. There will be additional agencies and departments assisting in this mission with key roles in the overall operation.

STEAR registrants taken to the HUB will leave the HUB to a Shelter Destination as determined by TDEM for the specific Event using Coach Buses that we request from TDEM.