



## A Message from Mayor Wax

September 29, 2017

Although these letters come through the City, please know that it is a multi-jurisdictional effort that includes Aransas County and the Town of Fulton. Our level of cooperation is unmatched. We are truly One Voice --working together to rebuild.

### New News:

1. We remain in a BURN BAN and Curfew – 11 pm – 6 am. These are safety measures as there are few working streetlights, not to mention stoplights, AND we want to prevent the risk of fires in our tinder house of a community.
2. Debris Removal. Please continue to be patient. TxDOT has removed 67,414 cubic yards. Crowder/Gulf has removed 352,115 cubic yards and is approx. 38% done
3. Final Damage Assessment that was undertaken by TIFMAS, Red Cross and the BOAT organization inspection of 9228 businesses/homes
  - a. 1002 Destroyed
  - b. 2261 Major Damage
  - c. 3000 Minor Damage
  - d. 2300 Affected

(Total of Destroyed & Major = 36%)

4. Post Offices. The Rockport Post Office IS NOT completely open for business, but handing out packages and mail. The Fulton Post Office is completely open for business.
5. Mosquito Spraying. Countywide tonight and Sunday if there's no rain.
6. Free Concert. The Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce and Asleep at the Wheel, 10-Time Grammy Winning Kings Of Western Swing, are hosting a concert on Saturday, October 7 from 5 – 9 pm at the Festival Grounds at Rockport Harbor.
7. Assistance Agencies. FEMA reports over 12000 people registered and \$20,325,020 has been approved in Aransas County. Deadline for Red Cross Application for Assistance is October 10th and October 24<sup>th</sup> for SBA.
8. Long Term Recovery. The Long Term Recovery Group, under the direction of County Employee Mike Koerner, has established an Intake Form for those with Unmet Needs. After registering with FEMA, those with Unmet Needs should complete a form, which is available at:  
[www.rockport-fulton.org/media/uploads/files/Aransas%20Homeowner%20Intake%20Form.pdf](http://www.rockport-fulton.org/media/uploads/files/Aransas%20Homeowner%20Intake%20Form.pdf)

9. “Something CAN be Done About it Convoy”. Television viewers of KSL TV and listeners of Bonneville radio in Utah, Arizona, Idaho, Wyoming, and Nevada raised over \$1 million to purchase building supplies for Aransas County residents. Coordinated by National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), the convoy drove over 1,500 miles from Utah to bring construction supply material such as lumber and sheetrock to help in the recovery effort. We are very grateful for the tremendous shipment of materials. Please understand there has to be a process for distribution. The materials will go to the Long-term Recovery Group for distribution so that it can be given fair and equitable to those in need. It will be dispersed through a Case Management Process. Here’s more information about the event:  
<https://www.newswire.com/news/1-500-mile-something-can-be-done-about-it-convoy-leaves-for-texas-with-19971173>
10. Housing. At today’s Council of Government Meeting, the General Land Office appointed me and the County Judges of Aransas, San Patricio, Beeville and Nueces to a special task force to oversee their implementation of housing programs. Details will be available soon.
11. Castaways. Castaways will reopen on Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> and be running on a limited schedule. Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 9 am – 1 pm.

## 12. Donations, Volunteers and Assistance.

The Aransas County Donation Center has published a list of needed donations.  
<http://www.cityofrockport.com/Archive.aspx?ADID=2571>. Please take your donations to the First Baptist Church. Address and hours of operation are below. Contact email:  
[aransasrelief@gmail.com](mailto:aransasrelief@gmail.com)

**Volunteers.** A Volunteer Reception Center has opened at First Baptist Church, located at the intersection of Enterprise and N. Live Oak. Hours of Operation: 8-5PM M-SAT 1-5PM SUN . Contact email: [aransasvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:aransasvolunteers@gmail.com).

There is an immediate need for volunteers every day. Please sign up at  
<http://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=s.signup&urlid=5080a44aca2aabff2-donation&view=standard>

**Clean up Assistance.** The Crisis Clean-up program is also located at First Baptist Church. You may go in person or call 844-965-1386 to explain your needs and be paired with a volunteer clean up organization.

13. Recycling. **Regular recycling will resume the first week in October.** Please check your calendars for the appropriate pickup day for your household. You may use the green bins for normal trash bin service through the end of this month.
14. Disaster Recovery Center. **UPDATE.** We have put together a multi-agency resource center in the old HEB parking lot. It is a consolidation of state, federal and relief organizations under a huge tent. This includes FEMA, SBA, TWIA, Red Cross, Americorp, the Distribution Center headquarters and Unmet Needs.

Worth Reminding:

1. Utilities. WE NEED YOUR HELP – if you notice a leak or seepage that we may not have been able to identify, please alert us to the problem. You may contact the City of Rockport’s Water Department at 361-790-1160 during normal business hours. If there is an emergency, please call 361-729-1111 or 729-2222. City workers are on call 24/7.

We are aware that it is impossible to pay your July utility bills in person. Our Municipal Online Payments program is now up and working for those who were unable to make a payment prior to the storm. Do not be concerned about penalty fees, or water being shut off.

2. The list of Verified Contractors is on the City’s web site is updated regularly. As of 9/26, there are 989 registered contractors. There have been 10 complaints lodged against contractors and five companies have vacated. The registration/verification process is to ensure, among many things, that the contractors have proof of liability insurance and state licenses.
3. Municipal Court. The municipal court office is temporarily located at 410 E. Bay St. Accepting payments via money order in the office. Online payments can be made by calling 1-800-272-9826 or at [www.officialpayments.com](http://www.officialpayments.com). Case number is required when making online or phone payments. Communication can be sent to us at [Court@cityofrockport.com](mailto:Court@cityofrockport.com). Court business communication is monitored regularly through cell phone due to down phone service and internet service at the office. Mail should be sent to 2751 SH 35 Bypass, Rockport, TX 78382
4. Local Businesses. As businesses open, the Chamber will add them to a list and publish it on their web site. This is for ALL businesses, not just Chamber members. **If your business is open and you’re not on the list, please alert the Chamber.**
5. Aerial Views. Drones have been taking photos of the Hurricane Harvey aftermath. Residents who wish to view before and after views of the area, should visit [Harvey2017.eagleview.com](http://Harvey2017.eagleview.com)
6. Garbage. Continue to put your household refuse in your blue bin. **Do not block the bins with debris or vehicles as the automated trucks are unable to access many bins on their rounds.** Make separate piles for building debris, trees/limbs AND appliances. Place them close to the curb or on your property – not the street. The **Transfer Station** will operate 7 days a week from 7 am – 6 pm for an indefinite period. **Residents should enter via Prairie Street. Commercial contractors must take their debris to a landfill. Here is a link for landfills in Texas – <https://wastebits.com/region/Texas>**
7. If you or anyone you know has provided FREE assistance to our area, such as volunteer clean-up, food, equipment or materials, in-kind donations, etc., please deliver or mail this information to the Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce, 319 Broadway, Rockport, TX 78382. You may also fill out a form online that will go directly to a state run database <https://olympus.soc.texas.gov/services/volunteerhours/>

Additional information, as provided by the Texas Emergency Management Team, can be found at <http://www.drc-group.com/.../EDS-Guidelines-Donations...> and also at <https://www.dps.texas.gov/.../05...>

**There are now centralized contacts for individuals wishing to donate goods and/or services.**

aransasrelief@gmail.com for all physical donation inquiries

aransasvolunteers@gmail.com for groups of individuals wishing to volunteer

donate@onestarfoundation.org

**There is also a centralized contact for residents needing assistance with cleanup. Call 844-965-1386. This is the primary source for work orders coming in from Operation Blessing, Samaritan's Purse, Team Rubicon and others.**

**Rockport-Fulton Good Samaritans. Now open and assisting with groceries, utilities, rent, medical, transportation, diapers and other expenses. 507 S. Ann St. 361-790-9828**

8. Rebuilding. If you have suffered significant damage and are rebuilding, you will need to obtain a building permit in person at the Service Center. Due to the high volume of inspection requests, the Building Department can no longer provide same-day inspections.

It's getting better every day!!