



JEFF R. BRANICK
County Judge

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To: Media

From: Jeff R. Branick, Jefferson County Judge

In preparation for potential impacts of Hurricane Harvey, we have closely monitored and will continue to monitor all available weather information to assure an efficient Emergency Management response. Currently there are no plans for an evacuation of Jefferson County. The current forecast calls for Harvey to make landfall just north and east of Corpus Christi tonight, Friday, August 25th. Harvey is then forecast to stall before moving northeast either in the Gulf of Mexico or along the Coastal Bend. It should be significantly weakened by this point in wind intensity but is still forecast to drop a significant amount of rain along its path. As much as 10-20 inches of rain could fall on Southeast Texas between Sunday, August 27th & Wednesday, August 30th. Although Drainage Districts 6 and 7 have made dramatic improvements to their systems over the last several years, the intensity of the rains could exceed the capacity of the drainage systems and result in flooding. Citizens are urged to remain prepared, to visit Ready.gov, and to follow the Jefferson County Office of Emergency Management Facebook page. A live power outage map is currently up and operational at www.EntergyTexas.com.

Winds are forecast to run 25-45 mph through Wednesday but those forecasts could change depending on whether Harvey re-enters the Gulf as it moves northeast. We will continue to monitor National Weather Service, National Hurricane Center and Texas State Operations Center updates and forecasts and will adjust our emergency response efforts accordingly. We have authorized State and Federal Agencies to utilize Ford Park as an Emergency staging area, should it be needed. We are coordinating our emergency planning and response efforts with all local jurisdictions.

Further updates will be provided as received.



Jeff R. Branick
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