ANNEX A

WARNING

FOR

CITY OF PHARR, TEXAS

APPROVAL & IMPLEMENTATION

Annex A

WARNING

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David Garza, Emergency Management Coordinator

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Ruben Villescas, Police Chief

$5/19/14$

Date

$5/19/14$

Date

NOTE: The signature(s) will be based upon local administrative practices. Typically, the first signature block is used by the individual having primary responsibility for this emergency function and the second signature block is used by the Emergency Management Director or the Emergency Management Coordinator. Alternatively, each department head assigned tasks within the annex may sign the annex.

RECORD OF CHANGES

Annex A

WARNING

Change #	Date of Change	Entered By	Date Entered

ANNEX A

WARNING

I.   AUTHORITY

A. Refer to Section I of the Basic Plan for general authorities.

B. Texas State Emergency Communications Committee, *Texas Emergency Alert System Plan.*

II.   PURPOSE

The purpose of this annex is to outline the organization, operational concepts, responsibilities, and procedures to disseminate timely and accurate warnings to the public and government officials in the event of an impending emergency situation.

III.   EXPLANATION OF TERMS

A. Acronyms

BSOC	Border Security Operations Center
CIS	Criminal Intelligence Service
EAS	Emergency Alert System
EMC	Emergency Management Coordinator
FAOC	FEMA Alternate Operations Center
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FNARS	FEMA National Radio System
FOC	FEMA Operations Center
GDEM	Governor's Division of Emergency Management
HSIN-CI	Homeland Security Information Network-Critical Infrastructure
HSOC	Homeland Security Operations Center
IC	Incident Commander
ICS	Incident Command System
JIC	Joint Information Center
JIS	Joint Information System
LWP	Local Warning Point
NAWAS	National Warning System
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NOAA	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
NRP	National Response Plan
NWS	National Weather Service
PIO	Public Information Office or Officer
SOC	State Operations Center
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
TLETS	Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System
TEWAS	Texas Warning System

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B. Definitions

1. <u>Area Warning Center</u>. Area Warning Centers disseminate national and state warning messages to a multi-county area of responsibility. The State's 36 Area Warning Centers are operated on a round-the-clock basis by the Department of Public Safety. Each center is equipped with a variety of primary and alternate telecommunications systems.

2. <u>Texas Fusion Center (TFC)</u>. The TFC is composed of three entities co-located in the DPS Headquarters building. These entities include the State Operations Center (SOC), the Border Security Operations Center (BSOC), and the Intelligence Center. The SOC and BSOC monitor and coordinate, as necessary, state emergency and border activities. The Intelligence Center, under the Criminal Intelligence Service (CIS) of the Department of Public Safety (DPS), functions on a 24-hour basis to receive and respond to reports from the public and local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. CIS commissioned officers and analysts from the CIS and federal agencies staff the Intelligence Center. When warranted, the Intelligence Center disseminates actionable intelligence and investigative leads to CIS District Command staff and/or Regional Joint Terrorism Task Forces and/or local law enforcement. The Intelligence Center also remains in communication with the DHS through several communications networks. The Director, Texas Office of Homeland Security, is apprised of any activity or threats potentially impacting the State of Texas.

3. <u>TLETS</u>. TLETS is a statewide telecommunications network connecting state and local law enforcement agencies and warning facilities. TLETS is the state warning network's primary "hard copy" communications system.

IV.   SITUATION & ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. See the general situation statement and hazard summary in Section IV.A of the Basic Plan.

2. This jurisdiction can expect to experience emergency situations that could threaten public health and safety and both private and public property and necessitate the implementation of protective actions for the public at risk.

3. Emergency situations can occur at any time; therefore, equipment and procedures to warn the public of impending emergency situations must be in place and ready to use at any time.

4. Power outages may disrupt radio and television systems that carry warning messages and provide public instructions.

B. Assumptions

1. Timely warnings to the public of impending emergencies or those which have occurred may save lives, decrease injuries, and reduce some types of property damage.

2. Electronic news media are the primary sources of emergency information for the general public.

3. Some people directly threatened by a hazard may ignore, not hear, or not understand warnings issued by the government.

4. Provision must be made to provide warnings to special needs groups such as the hearing and sight-impaired, and institutions (i.e. nursing homes and correctional facilities).

5. Local radio and television stations will broadcast Emergency Alert System (EAS) messages when requested by local government officials. To effectively utilize EAS, local governments and broadcasters must coordinate the procedures used to transmit warning messages and instructions from local government to broadcasters.

6. The local National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio station will broadcast weather watches and warnings issued by the National Weather Service (NWS). Weather radios are activated when such messages are broadcast.

V.   CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. The primary objective of our warning system is to notify key officials of emergency situations and disseminate timely and accurate warnings and instructions to the population at risk from the threat or occurrence of an emergency situation. Rapid dissemination and delivery of warning information and instructions may provide time for citizens to take action to protect themselves and their property.

2. The focal point of the warning function is the Local Warning Point (LWP), which operates around the clock. The City LWP is located in the Pharr Police Department. The Pharr Police Department/Emergency Management Office (when activated) operates the LWP.

   a. The LWP receives warning of actual or potential emergency situations from a variety of sources, including federal and state agencies, local officials, businesses, industry, the news media, and the general public. The systems by which warnings may be received by the LWP are described below.

   b. The LWP will verify warning information, where necessary, and disseminate pertinent information to specific local officials and departments.

      1) For certain types of time-sensitive warnings, the LWP may be authorized to activate the local warning system and warn the public immediately. In other situations, local officials must approve activation of the warning system and determine appropriate instructions to accompany the warning before a warning is disseminated to the public.

      2) For other types of emergency situations, the EOC may be activated and assume responsibility for formulating warning messages and public instructions, which may be disseminated through LWP or provided to the media for dissemination.

   c. Once warnings are received and, where necessary, verified, warnings that affect the local area and appropriate public instructions are disseminated by the LWP. The specific systems used to disseminate warnings and provide information to the public within the local area are described below.

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B. Receiving Warnings

The City may receive warning of actual emergency situations or the threat of such situations from the following:

1. National and State Warning Systems

   a. The National Warning System (NAWAS) is a 24-hour nationwide, dedicated, multiple line telephone warning system linking federal agencies and the states that is used to disseminate civil emergency warnings. NAWAS is a voice communications system operated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and controlled from the FEMA Operations Center (FOC) in Washington, D.C., and the FEMA Alternate Operations Center (FAOC) in Olney, Maryland. NAWAS is used to disseminate three types of civil emergency warnings to state and local governments:

      1) Attack Warnings
      2) Fallout Warnings
      3) Natural and Technological Emergency Warnings

      Warnings from the FOC or FAOC are coordinated with the Homeland Security Operations Center (HSOC) and relayed through the FEMA Regional Communications Center in Denton to the State Warning Point at the State Operations Center (SOC) in Austin. The State Warning Point further disseminates the civil emergency warnings through the Texas Warning System (TEWAS). The FEMA National Radio System (FNARS), a network of HF radios, serves as a backup for NAWAS.

   b. The Texas Warning System (TEWAS) is state level extension of NAWAS. It consists of a dedicated telephone warning system linking the State Warning Point at the SOC with Area Warning Centers located in Department of Public Safety offices around the state and with seven National Weather Service (NWS) offices in Texas.

      1) The State Warning Point relays national emergency warnings received on NAWAS to Area Warning Center using TEWAS. Area Warning Centers will normally disseminate warnings they receive to LWPs via teletype messages on the Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (TLETS). Warnings may be disseminated by telephone or radio to those LWPs that cannot be reached by TLETS.
      2) TEWAS may also be used by the SOC to disseminate warning messages from the Governor or other key state officials to specific regions of the state.

   c. HSIN-CI. Homeland Security Information Network – Critical Infrastructure is an unclassified network which immediately provides the Homeland Security Operations Center (HSOC) with one-stop 24/7 access to a broad spectrum of industries, agencies and critical infrastructure across both the public and private sectors. HSIN-CI delivers information sharing, alert notification services to the right people – those that need to know and those that need to act.

   d. Texas Amber Alert Network. A coordinated emergency alert program that disseminates information about abducted children. It serves as an early special purpose warning system available for use by law enforcement to alert the public when

a child has been kidnapped and the police believe the child is in danger. See the Statewide Texas Amber Alert Network Plan for more information.

e. Specific formats and handling instructions have been established for certain national civil emergency messages that would be disseminated by NAWAS and TEWAS. Appendix 3 provides guidance on handling national warning messages.

f. As NAWAS and TEWAS are "voice only" systems that are not particularly suited for disseminating lengthy messages; hence, these systems are generally not used for warning on a daily basis.

2. National Weather Service (NWS) Weather Products

Weather warning messages are issued by NWS Weather Forecast Offices and various NWS specialized weather centers, such as NWS river forecast centers, the National Severe Storms Forecast Center, and the National Hurricane Center.

a. NWS disseminates weather forecasts, watches, and warnings via the NOAA Weather Wire Service, which is a satellite communications system that broadcasts to specialized receiver terminals. In Texas, NWS weather products, such as watches and warnings, are transmitted by Weather Wire to the SOC. The SOC, as the State Warning Point, retransmits these weather messages to appropriate Area Warning Centers and Local Warning Points by TLETS. Among the weather messages that are provided are:

1) Flood and flash flood watches and warnings
2) Severe weather watches and warnings
3) Tornado watches and warnings
4) Tropical weather watches and warnings

Many local radio and television stations subscribe to the NOAA Weather Wire Service and have installed terminals to receive weather products directly from the NWS.

b. NOAA Weather Radio. The City also receives NWS weather warning disseminated by NOAA Weather Radio on tone-alert radios located in Fire Department.

3. Emergency Alert System (EAS)

EAS is intended to provide a means for government to provide emergency warning and instructions to the public. See Section V.D.2.b below and Appendix 4 for further information on EAS. This jurisdiction may receive EAS messages that contain warning information broadcast by:

a. Federal authorities or agencies
b. State government
c. Other local governments

Civil emergency warnings issued through NAWAS may also be disseminated through EAS. Incoming EAS messages may be received on commercial radio or television stations monitored by local officials.

4. State Government. From time to time, the SOC issues warning messages to local

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governments in specific regions of the State. For example, an advisory may be issued to inland jurisdictions along major evacuation routes when large-scale evacuations begin in coastal areas due to a hurricane. Warnings issued by the SOC are typically transmitted by TLETS to Area Warning Centers and LWPs.

5. Local Officials. Government employees may provide warning of emergency situations they have discovered or that have been reported to their departments and been confirmed. Such situations should be reported to the LWP through any available means of communications.

6. Business and Industry. Companies that suffer a major fire, explosion, hazardous materials spill, or other emergency situation that may pose a threat to public health and safety and public or private property have a general duty to notify local officials of such occurrences. Such notifications are generally made through the 9-1-1 system. Companies reporting emergency situations that may pose a risk to the public are expected to recommend to local government appropriate actions to protect people and property.

7. Federal, State, or Local Agencies. Warning of specific types of emergency situations may be received directly from specialized government agencies, including river authorities, dam operators, the US Coast Guard, military installations, airport authorities, and other agencies which operate specialized facilities.

8. Citizen Warning. Citizens may also provide warning of emergency situations, generally by calling 9-1-1. It is always advisable to confirm information on emergency situations reported by citizens before issuing public warnings.

C. Notification of Local Officials

When the Communications Center, as the LWP, receives warning of an emergency situation, it shall make notification to key local officials so they can determine appropriate actions to deal with the situation. The Emergency Notification Matrix provided in Appendix 1 indicates the departments and officials that should be notified of various types of emergency situations. Notification will be made by telephone, radio, or any other means available.

D. Dissemination of Warnings to the Public

1. In the initial stages of an emergency situation, the LWP will, within the limits of the authority delegated to it, determine if a warning needs to be issued and formulate a warning (using pre-scripted messages where possible), and disseminate it. Appendix 2 provides general guidelines for activation of the local warning system. When the EOC has been activated, it will normally determine who needs to be warned and how. The EOC will normally formulate the warning messages and public instructions. The LWP will execute the warnings by activating the warning system. The PIO or the EOC may disseminate emergency public information directly to the media.

2. The systems described below will be used to issue warnings and instructions to the public. To facilitate dissemination of warning and public instructions, a set of pre-scripted warning messages and public information messages suitable for use in likely emergency situations has been developed. They are included in Appendix 5 to this annex. These pre-scripted messages may be used as written or tailored as needed for specific circumstances.

    a. Outdoor Warning System.

1) The outdoor warning system consists of 6 sirens, whose locations and estimated coverage are depicted in Appendix 6. The outdoor warning system covers approximately 90 percent of our geographic area and approximately 90 percent of our population. Procedures for testing the outdoor warning system are included in Appendix 2.

2) Sirens are an alerting device – they alert the public, but cannot provide instructions. When the sirens are activated, people are expected to turn on their radio or television to obtain further information. When not available or when needed, the information may also be disseminated through the social media.

b. EAS **THIS SYSTEM DOES NOT EXIST IN OUR AREA**

1) As a condition of licensing, all commercial radio and television stations and cable television companies must participate in EAS and use their facilities to relay warning and instructions from government to the public. Broadcasters and cable companies <u>must</u> carry national security warnings and messages initiated by the President; they <u>may</u> broadcast alerts and messages initiated by state and local governments. The Federal Communications Commission encourages licensees to broadcast state and local warning and instruction messages, but the final decision on broadcasting such messages rests with the broadcaster.

2) For obvious reasons, EAS should be used prudently. Activation of EAS by local governments is governed by the *Texas EAS Plan* and local EAS plans developed in each of the state's 25 EAS districts. The general guidelines for local activation of EAS include:

   a) Severity of situation. EAS warning will aid in reducing loss of life or substantial loss of property.
   b) Timeliness. Immediate public knowledge is required to avoid adverse impact.
   c) Alternatives. Other means of disseminating information are inadequate to ensure rapid delivery.

3) The local EAS stations are listed in Appendix 4. The [County/City} has coordinated with these stations to establish procedures for accessing the EAS, which are included in that appendix. Authority to release EAS messages for broadcast is restricted to those local officials named in Appendix 2. The following methods will be used to transmit emergency messages to EAS stations for broadcast:

   a) By telephone, with the station generally recording our verbal message and then broadcasting it.
   b) By fax, with the station receiving our written message and reading it on the air.
   c) By using the EAS encoder/decoder to prepare a message, affix EAS originator, subject, and location codes, and send it to the local EAS station.

4) Pre-scripted emergency messages have been prepared for use with those warning systems that are capable of delivering a verbal or written message; these are included in Appendix 5. As EAS messages are limited to two minutes, the pre-scripted messages include short warning and instructional messages that may be transmitted by EAS and amplifying messages that will be distributed to the media as Special News Advisories.

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c. Route Alerting & Door- to-Door Warning

The public may be warned by route alerting using vehicles equipped with sirens and public address systems. Route alerting may not work well in some areas, including rural areas where residences are some distance from the road or for large buildings with few external windows. Response personnel going door-to-door may also deliver warnings. Both of these methods are effective in delivering warnings, but they are labor-intensive and time-consuming and may be infeasible for large areas. The following departments maintain vehicles equipped for route alerting:

OUR POPULATION IS OVER 60,000; THIS METHOD IS NOT FEASIBLE FOR OUR AREA DURING A CITY WIDE EMERGENCY BUT MAY BE USED IN A SMALLER SCALE EMERGENCY (I.E. HAZMAT SPILL, PRISONER ESCAPE)

d. NOAA Weather Radio. Pursuant to an agreement with the NWS Forecast Office Brownsville, Texas, those local officials authorized to release EAS messages (See Appendix 2) may request that the NWS activate the NOAA Weather Radio system to broadcast civil emergency messages. This system can broadcast voice messages to individuals who have a NOAA Weather Radio or receive Weather Radio broadcasts on cable television.

e. Telephone Warning/Information Systems. The City has contracted with Emergency Communication Network (ECN) to license its CodeRED high speed notification service for the City of Pharr. This system is equipped to launch approximately 60,000 calls per hour and deliver pre-recorded messages to the targeted area of emergency. The contract was executed in February of 2008 with phone numbers of City residents included based on a database obtained by ECN. In order for residents who were not included in the initial database download, they are asked to register their cell, home and/or business phone number by calling the Fire Department at 956-402-4400 or logging onto our website at **www.pharr-tx.gov** and click on the CodeRED link.

CodeRED is updated by the Emergency Management Coordinator on a bi weekly basis to upload any residents into the database as well as changes to internal call lists.

CodeRED is restricted to the following department heads to launch an alert: Emergency Management/Fire Department, Public Works, Public Utilities, Police Department

E. Warning Special Facilities and Populations

Special populations and facilities will be warned of emergency situations by available methods to include:

1. Visually-impaired: EAS messages on radio, sirens, NOAA Weather Radio, route alerting, door-to-door notification, deaf link.
2. Hearing-impaired: Captioned EAS messages on television, route alerting, door-to-door notification, deaf link.
3. Non-English speaking: Language messages on radio and/or TV, NOAA Weather Radio, route alerting, door-to-door, deaf link.
4. Special facilities: EAS messages on radio/television, sirens, NOAA Weather Radio, route

alerting, door-to-door notification.

F. Warnings to Other Governments and Agencies

1. The Local Warning Point is responsible for warning adjacent or nearby jurisdictions that may be affected by emergency situations originating within this jurisdiction.

2. Local government is also responsible for informing the Disaster District in Weslaco, Texas of major emergencies after time-sensitive warnings have been issued.   The formal for the Initial Emergency Report is provided in Appendix 2 to Annex N, Direction & Control.

G. Actions by Phases of Emergency Management

1. Prevention

    a. Establish an effective public warning system and appropriate operating procedures. Extend the system to keep up with growth.   Adopt new methods of warning that increase the ability to reach citizens not well served by current systems.

    b. Conduct public education designed to prevent citizens from taking unnecessary risks during emergency situations.   An example would be a public information effort discouraging people from driving on flooded roads.

2. Preparedness

    a. Test the local warning system on a regular basis.

    b. Prepare pre-scripted warning and public instruction messages for known hazards. See Appendix 5.

    c. Brief local media on local warning systems and coordinate procedures for transmitting EAS messages to radio and television stations and cable television providers.

    d. Conduct public education on warning systems and the actions that should be taken for various types of warnings.

    e. Maintain this annex.

    f. Establish a Joint Information System (JIS) and identify suitable facilities for a Joint Information Center (JIC) if required.

3. Response:

    a. Activate local warning systems to alert the public of the emergency situation and provide appropriate instructions.

    b. Conduct media monitoring to determine the need to clarify issues and distribute updated public instructions

    c. Discontinue warnings when no longer required.

4. Recovery

a. Advise the public when the emergency situation has been terminated.

b. If necessary, provide instructions for return of evacuees and safety information relating to reoccupation of damaged homes and businesses.

VI.	ORGANIZATION & ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. General

1. The City Mayor and City Commissioners establish general policies for emergency warning and fund personnel and equipment to operate the warning system.

2. The Police Chief is responsible for operating the LWP and coordinating operation of the local warning system.

B. Task Assignments

1. The City Manager will:

   a. Outline general policies on warning and emergency public information.

   b. Approve emergency public information to be released to the public through the news media or other means.

2. The Police Chief will:

   a. Develop an adequate warning system.

   b. Staff and operate the local warning point.

   c. In coordination with the EMC, develop and maintain procedures for operation of the warning system, coordinating as necessary with other departments and agencies, the NWS, local radio and television stations, cable television companies, and other organizations. See Appendices 2, 3, and 4.

   d. Provide for maintenance and periodic testing warning system equipment. See Appendix 2.

3. The Police Department/EOC (when activated) will serve as the LWP and will:

   a. Receive and, if necessary, verify and acknowledge warnings of emergency situations.

   b. Make notification to local officials of emergency situations or conditions that could cause such situations as required. See Appendix 1.

   c. In accordance with SOP or when directed, activate the warning system to alert and provide instructions to the all sirens under their jurisdiction.

   d. Identify requirements for route alerting and door-to-door warning for areas where other warning systems do not adequately reach the public.

e. Develop and maintain hazard specific warning procedures covering warning receipt, verification, and dissemination.

4. The EMC will:

   a. In coordination with the Police Chief, develop operating procedures for the warning system, coordinating as necessary with other departments and agencies, the NWS, local radio and television stations, cable television companies, and other organizations.

   b. Assist in the development of pre-scripted warning messages and Special News Advisories. See Appendix 5.

   c. When the EOC is activated, assist in the development of warning messages and Special News Advisories.

   d. In coordination with the PIO, educate the public regarding the use of the warning system.

5. The PIO will:

   a. In coordination with the EMC and the Police Chief, develop pre-scripted warning messages and public instructions for known hazards.

   b. When an emergency has occurred, develop warning messages and public instructions for the specific situation at hand.

   c. Develop procedures to facilitate the release of coordinated emergency public information to amplify basic information provided in warning messages.

   d. Maintain a media briefing area in the vicinity of the EOC.

   e. Periodically brief the media on local warning systems and warning procedures.

   f. Develop and disseminate educational materials relating to emergency warning to the public.

6. Law Enforcement will:

   Provide units and personnel for route alerting and door-to-door warning when requested.

7. The Fire Service will:

   Provide units and personnel for route alerting and door-to-door warning when requested.

8. All local government departments and agencies will:

   a. Report emergency situations to the local warning point that merit warning local officials or the public.

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b. When requested, provide personnel and equipment to assist in route alerting or door-to-door warning

9. Media companies are expected to:

a. Disseminate warning messages and Special News Advisories provided by local government to the public as rapidly as possible.

b. Participate in periodic tests of the EAS and other warning systems.

10. Institutions, businesses, and places of public assembly are expected to:

Monitor radio and television and/or NOAA Weather Radio receivers for warnings and take appropriate actions to protect their patients, students, customers, and employees.

VII. DIRECTION & CONTROL

A. General

1. The Mayor shall provide general guidance for warning activities.

2. The Police shall provide specific guidance for the operation of the LWP and warning systems.

3. For specific time-sensitive emergency situations, the LWP has been delegated authority to determine if a warning needs to be issued, formulate a warning if necessary (using pre-scripted messages where possible), and disseminate it.   For other situations, the LWP must coordinate with one of a designated set of key officials who will determine if a warning should be issued and approve the general content of any warning message that will be disseminated.   Guidelines for this process are outlined in Appendix 2.

4. When the EOC has been activated, the EOC staff will normally determine who needs to be warned and how and the EMC, PIO, and other members of the staff will formulate warning messages and public instructions. The LWP will normally execute such warnings by activating the warning system, except that the PIO may disseminate emergency public information to the media directly.

B. Line of Succession

The line of succession for the Police Chief, who has primary responsibility for the warning function, is:

1. Assistant Police Chief
2. Assistant Police Chief
3. Lieutenant

VIII. READINESS LEVELS

A. Readiness Level IV - Normal Conditions

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

B. Readiness Level III - Increased Readiness

1. Monitor the situation.

2. Inspect warning systems to insure they are fully operational.

3. Alert EAS stations of the increased threat so they are aware of the situation and can disseminate warnings if necessary.

C. Readiness Level II - High Readiness

1. Monitor the situation.

2. Develop draft warning messages and public messages for the impending threat.

3. Alert personnel for possible emergency operations; identify personnel for increased staffing during primary vulnerability period.

4. Identify requirements for route alerting and door-to-door warning.

5. Consider activation of the EOC to provide for increased situation monitoring and to conduct pre-planning.

D. Readiness Level I - Maximum Readiness

1. Monitor the situation.

2. Place selected off-duty personnel on standby to increase staffing if necessary

3. Coordinate with EAS stations to determine their readiness.

4. Designate units for route alerting and door-to-door warning.

5. Activate the EOC for increased situation monitoring, planning, and resource management.

IX.   ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT

A. Agreements & Contracts

Should local resources prove to be inadequate during an emergency; requests will be made for assistance from other local jurisdictions, other agencies, and industry in accordance with existing mutual-aid agreements and contracts.

B. Reports & Records

1. The LWP shall maintain activity logs recording:

   a. Warnings received.

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b. Key personnel notified and the actions they directed to be taken.

c. Warnings disseminated to the public and the means of that dissemination.

2. The Incident Command Post (ICP) and the EOC shall maintain logs of their activities as outlined in Section IX of the Basic Plan.

C. Maintenance of Equipment

All warning systems owned by City will be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for those systems.

X. ANNEX DEVELOPMENT & MAINTENANCE

A. Development

The Police Chief is responsible for working with other agencies in the development, maintenance, and improvement of this annex. Each agency tasked will develop standard operating procedures that address assigned tasks.

B. Maintenance

This annex will be reviewed annually and updated in accordance with the schedule outlined in Section X of the Basic Plan.

XI. REFERENCES

FEMA, *National Warning System Operations Manual.*

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

APPENDICES

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION MATRIX

Emergency Situation	Departments to be Notified	Individuals to be Notified
Weather		
Flash Flood Watch - local area	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director
Flash Flood Warning – local area	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director
Flood Watch – local area	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director
Flood Warning – local area	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director
Severe TS Watch – local area	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director
Severe TS Warning – local area	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director
Tropical weather system in Gulf	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director/EMC
Tropical Weather Watch or Warning includes local area	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director/EMC
Tornado Watch – local area	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director/EMC
Tornado Warning – local area	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director/EMC
Winter Storm Watch – local area	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director/EMC
Winter Storm Warning – local area	FD/Public Works/EMC	Fire Chief/Public Works Director/EMC
Technological Hazards		
Aircraft crash within county/city	FD/EMC/Health Dept.	Fire Chief/City Manager/Mayor/EMC
Fire – 2 alarm or less	FD	Fire Chief
Fire – 3 alarm+ or county/city facility	FD	Fire Chief
Mass casualty incident	FD/EMC/Health Dept.	Fire Chief/Health Dept./City Manager/Mayor/EMC
Hazmat spill with casualties/evacuation	FD/EMC/Health Dept.	Fire Chief/EMC/Health Dept./City Manager/Mayor
Hazmat spill with potential major environmental impact	FD/EMC/Health Dept./Public Utilities	Fire Chief/EMC/ Health Dept./Public Utilities Director/City Manager/Mayor
Incident involving potentially contaminated drinking water	FD/EMC/Health Dept./Public Utilities	Fire Chief/EMC/ Health Dept./Public Utilities Director/City Manager/Mayor
Major explosion	FD/EMC/Health Dept./Public Works	Fire Chief/EMC/Health Dept./City Manager/Mayor
Utilities		

Electrical outage – 500+ users/2 hrs+	FD	Dispatch
Electrical outage – critical facility	FD/City Manager/Mayor	Dispatch/City Manager/Mayor
Sewer outage – critical facility	FD/City Manager/Public Utilities/EMC	Dispatch/City Manager/Mayor/Public Utilities Director
Sewage spill affecting waterways	FD/City Manager/Public Utilities/EMC	Dispatch/City Manager/Mayor/Public Utilities Director
Water outage – 500+ users/2 hrs+	Public Utilities/City Manager/EMC	Public Works Director/City Manager/EMC
Water outage – critical facility	FD/City Manager/Mayor/Public Utilities/EMC	FD/City Manager/Mayor/Public Utilities/EMC
Security Issues		
Major civil disturbance	DPS, Border Patrol/Sheriff's Office	Department Heads
Terrorist incident	FBI, DPS, Border Patrol/Sheriff's Office	Department Heads

GENERAL WARNING POINT PROCEDURES

1. **Receiving Warning Information**

   A. The Local Warning Point (LWP) may receive emergency warnings by:

      1) TLETS message from the State Warning Point or Area Warning Center
      2) Telephone or fax from the SOC
      3) Radio, telephone, or fax from the Area Warning Center
      4) Radio, telephone, or fax from state or federal agencies or other local governments.
      5) Radio, telephone or fax from industry, government employees, or citizens
      6) [NOAA weather radio]
      7) [NOAA Weather Wire or EMWIN]
      8) [EAS message decoded by our EAS terminal]

   B. Incoming messages should be acknowledged if required (for example: national warning messages).

   C. The date and time on written messages and the date and time of receipt of all messages shall be entered in the Communication Log.

   D. For emergency situations reported by citizens and others unknown to the LWP operator, the operator should seek to confirm the source and information provided by any available means before taking action on the report, unless there are confirming reports from other sources.

2. **Emergency Notifications**

   A. The LWP shall make notifications of routine emergency situations to the department or agency that normally responds to such situations.

   B. For those emergency situations or potential emergency situations described in the Emergency Notification Matrix in Appendix 2, the LWP shall make notifications to the departments, agencies, and those local officials indicated in the matrix. Local officials may request that the LWP take specific actions or advise the LWP that they will take certain actions in response to the warning.

   C. Notifications of emergency situations and other actions taken in response to such notifications shall be recorded in the Communications Log.

3. **Dissemination of Warnings**

   A. The LWP may disseminate emergency warnings and public instructions by:

      1) Activating the Outdoor Warning System with appropriate signals.
      2) Forwarding a voice or hard copy message to the local EAS station for broadcast
      3) Route alerting and door-to-door warning.
      4) Providing a voice or text message to the National Weather Service for broadcast on NOAA Weather Radio.

5) Activating the local telephone warning system, which provides a voice message to selected telephone subscribers.

6) Disseminate through social media to include Emergency Management Twitter.

B. The LWP may activate the local warning system for certain time-sensitive emergency situations. For other emergency situations, the LWP must seek approval from a key official to activate the local warning system.

C. The LWP is authorized to activate the local warning system without prior approval for the following emergency situations:

1) An NWS tornado warning for the local area or the confirmed sighting of a tornado on the ground in the local area.
2) A national civil emergency warning received from the Area Warning Center. See Appendix 4.
3) A catastrophic emergency situation that poses an immediate threat to life, such as a dam failure.

D. For other emergency situations, the LWP shall relay the warning received to one of the following key officials and obtain guidance on activating the local warning system and the suggested content of any local warning messages:

1) The Mayor
2) The City Manager
3) The Emergency Management Coordinator
4) The Police Chief

E. When a decision is made to activate the warning system, the outdoor warning system should be activated and an EAS message dispatched to local broadcasters first. Other warning systems should be activated as soon as possible thereafter.

1) To save time and ensure completeness, the pre-scripted warning messages contained in Appendix 6 should be used as basis for warning messages where possible. However, it may be necessary for the LWP to prepare an original message. Copies of the pre-scripted messages are maintained on computers in the LWP and the EOC so they can be easily modified.

2) National civil emergency warning messages received locally should not be forwarded to local EAS stations for broadcast, as plans call for federal authorities to enter such messages into EAS at the national level.

3) If it is determined that route alerting and/or door-to-door warning are required, the LWP must alert fire and police dispatchers to assign units to those tasks. The LWP should provide dispatchers with the warning message and any instructions that are to be disseminated so that these can be passed on to the units involved.

4) Warning messages and public instructions should be updated as the situation changes and canceled when no longer needed.

F. The LWP should record the activation of the various local warning systems and dispatch of warning and public instruction messages in its Communication Log.

4. Testing and Exercising the Warning System

A. System Testing

All components of the warning system will be tested on a regular basis.

B. Test Procedures

1) The Outdoor Warning System will be tested monthly on the 1st of the month at 12:00 (noon). In the monthly test, the steady ATTENTION or ALERT tone will be sounded for one minute. The wavering ATTACK WARNING tone will not be used for tests.

2) The preparation and transmission of a simulated warning message to the local primary EAS station shall be tested quarterly at a date and time agreed upon with the station. Such message shall not be broadcast. EAS stations are required by the FCC to conduct required weekly and monthly tests of their EAS equipment.

3) The preparation and transmission of a simulated warning message to the National Weather Service for broadcast on NOAA Weather Radio shall be tested quarterly at a date and time agreed upon with the NWS. Such messages shall not be broadcast.

4) The Telephone Warning System shall be yearly using the Emergency Communications Network Complimentary All Call and VeriCall test modules.

C. Exercises

1) It is desirable that preparation of warning messages and public instructions and the activation of warning systems be included in emergency exercise activities where such tasks are appropriate for the scenario being exercised in order to ensure that components of the system are adequate and the operational procedures are adequate.

2) If warning systems are activated at other than normal times for exercises, it is essential to give due notice to the public that such activations will occur.

NATIONAL WARNING MESSAGES

1. Types of National Warning Messages

National warning messages include:

A. Attack Warning
B. Fallout Warning
C. Natural & Technological Emergency Warning

2. National Warning Message Dissemination

National warning messages are disseminated by federal authorities from the FEMA Operations Center through the National Warning System (NAWAS) to the states; NAWAS is a dedicated telephone system that disseminates voice-warning messages. In Texas, such warning messages are received at the State Warning Point in Austin and relayed to Area Warning Centers around the state by the Texas Warning System (TEWAS), which is also a dedicated telephone system that disseminates voice-warning messages.   Area Warning Centers normally disseminate national warning messages they receive by Texas Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (TLETS) teletype to Local Warning Points. Local Warning Points whose TLETS service is inoperative may receive warning messages by telephone or radio.

3. Local Action Upon Receipt of A National Warning Message

A. When national warning messages are received at the Local Warning Point, such warnings should be disseminated as soon as possible through the local warning system, except that national warning messages received locally should not be forwarded for local broadcast as EAS messages, as federal authorities will broadcast such warnings as national EAS messages.

B. For an Attack or Fallout Warning, outdoor warning systems should use the ATTACK signal – a 3 to 5 minute wavering tone. For other national warnings, the ALERT/ATTENTION signal (a 3 to 5 minute steady tone) should be used.

C. All national warning messages received verbally (by telephone or radio) should be acknowledged.

4. National Warning Messages

A. Attack Warning

1) Attack Warnings are issued when there is a threat of attack on the United States or portions of it.

2) Incoming message format:

"This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. This is an Attack Warning. Declaration time (date & time) Zulu."

Note:
Zulu - 5 hours = Central Daylight Time; Zulu - 6 hours = Central Standard Time.
Zulu - 6 hours = Mountain Daylight Time; Zulu – 7 hours = Mountain Standard Time.

If the threat is limited to a specific area, the message will be tailored to describe the area at risk.

3) Termination message format:

"This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. The Attack Warning is terminated. Termination time (time) Zulu."

B. Fallout Warning

1) Fallout warnings are intended to warn of radiation hazards resulting from nuclear detonations, accidental mishaps, and/or terrorist incidents.

2) There is no specific format for this type of message, but it appears that it will likely follow the general format of the message in paragraph 4.D.2). b) below.

C. Natural & Technological Emergency Warning

1) This type of warning may be issued to cover the following events: major natural disasters, errant domestic missile launch, reentering space debris, volcanic eruption, major dam failure, and other hazards to public health, safety, and property that may threaten a wide area.

2) Incoming message format:

"This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with a special announcement for all states or the following state(s) _____ or the following region(s) _____.
Text: (free text message describing the problem and appropriate protective actions)"

3) There is no specific format for this type of message.

D. Accidental Missile Launch.

1) An accidental missile launch by the United States or other countries may generate a Natural & Technological Emergency Warning or a Fallout Warning or both, depending on the type of missile involved.

2) Incoming message format:

a) "This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center with a Emergency Warning for the following (states, counties, cities). An accidental missile launch threatens the following areas: (states, counties, cities). Advise population by all means to take cover."

b) For accidental launches which result in a nuclear weapons detonation, the following message will be used: "This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. An accidentally launched nuclear weapon detonated in (city, county, state) at _____ local time. Radioactive fallout is possible. Persons in (cities, counties, states) should be advised to remain under cover and await further instructions from state or local authorities. Residents are advised to take protective actions in accordance with local community shelter plans and to be alert for further instructions from state and local authorities. Residents in all other areas are advised that protective actions are not required at this time."

c) For accidental launches that do not result in a nuclear weapons detonation, the following message will be used: "This is the FEMA (Alternate) Operations Center. An accidentally launched nuclear weapon impacted in (city, county, state) at _____ local time. A nuclear detonation did not – repeat – did not occur. Persons in (cities, counties, states) should be alert for further instructions from state or local authorities. Residents in all other areas are advised that protective actions are not required at this time."

EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS) PROCEDURES

1. Purpose

The purpose of EAS is to provide real time communication, information, direction and instruction in the event of an emergency requiring public action. This process is in the working stages with our Public Information Officer.

2. EAS Plans

For purposes of coordinating the use of EAS, the State Emergency Communications Committee has developed a statewide EAS Plan. Local Area Emergency Communications Committees for each of the State's EAS Districts develop local EAS plans. These plans address the concept of operations for EAS, message priorities, procedures for activation of EAS, and message formats. Local plans typically designate individuals authorized to activate EAS and authentication requirements.

3. EAS Activation

A. Authority

The following individuals may request activation of EAS:

1) Mayor
2) City Manager
3) The Emergency Management Coordinator
4) The Police Chief

Each individual is provided a set of code words to authenticate requests for EAS activation.

B. Methods for Transmitting Messages

EAS messages will be transmitted from the Local Warning Point to EAS stations by telephone, fax, e-mail, or other electronic means.

Voice & Fax Messages. The authentication code should be provided for voice messages and included on fax messages. The LWP should coordinate with the EAS station to determine the methods of delivery. Faxed messages will normally be read by the station staff. Voice messages may be transmitted live or recorded and then transmitted; the latter is preferred if the message must be repeated. For voice messages, it is desirable that the individual generating the message work from a written script or notes to ensure that all essential information is covered.

1) Forwarding Messages for Transmission. EAS messages will be forwarded to the EAS Local Primary Station if the emergency situation affects areas beyond the local area or if stations that broadcast EAS messages in the local area are unattended during the period when EAS activation is required. Stations that are in unattended operation at certain hours of the day must set their EAS Decoder to Automatic Mode so programming is interrupted and EAS messages broadcast automatically. If the emergency situations affects only an area served by one or two stations or cable companies, local officials may request EAS activation from those stations directly if they are staffed.

C. Operating Guidance

    1) EAS messages are limited by hardware design to two minutes.

    2) If a message provided for broadcast by EAS stations is no longer current, it should be cancelled or replaced by an updated message.

    3) If an EAS station is required by license restrictions to operate at reduced power or cease transmitting during certain specified time periods, and activation of EAS is requested during that time period, the station may operate its transmitter as needed using full power.

D. Broadcast of EAS Messages

When a request for EAS activation is received and authenticated, the EAS station will typically:

    1) Interrupt normal programming.
    2) Send the EAS Header Code.
    3) Send the EAS Attention Signal (8 to 25 seconds).
    4) Make an activation announcement: "This is the (local area) Texas Emergency Alert System. Important information will follow."
    5) Broadcast the emergency message.
    6) Make a termination announcement: "This is the (local area) Texas Emergency Alert System. We now resume normal programming."
    7) Send the EAS End-of-Message Code.
    8) Resume normal programming.

E. Tests. Testing of the EAS system will be as described in the _____ District EAS Plan.

4. **EAS Stations**. EAS stations serving the local area include:

A. Local Primary Radio Station 1
    Call sign: KFRQ   Frequency: 94.5 FM
    Address: 801 Jackson Rd., McAllen, Texas 78501
    Telephone: 956-661-6000   Fax: 956-661-6082

B. Local Primary Radio Station 2
    Call sign: KGBT   Frequency: 96.1
    Address: 200 South 10th Street, Ste. , 600, McAllen, Texas 78501
    Telephone: 956-631-54999   Fax: 956-687-1020

LOCAL WARNING & EMERGENCY INFORMATION MESSAGES

1. This appendix provides two types of warning messages for a number of emergency situations.

   A. Warning Messages. These messages alert the public to emergency situations and provide directions on what they should do and not do to protect themselves. As the time limit for warning messages transmitted via the Emergency Alert System (EAS) is approximately two minutes, and the capability of television warning displays is limited, warning messages are generally short and concise. Warning messages are generally disseminated through warning systems and broadcast every 15 minutes until they are canceled or replaced by an updated message

   B. Special New Advisories. Special News Advisories amplify information contained in the warning messages, provide further information regarding an emergency situation, and may be used to provide information on impending threats that do not yet warrant public warning. Special News Advisories are generally sent to the media through normal communications channels for further dissemination to the public.

   C. Warning messages and Special News Advisories have been pre-scripted to expedite timely dissemination; however, it may be necessary to modify the pre-scripted text and the additional information.

   D. Copies of the messages in this appendix are maintained on computers in the Local Warning Point and the EOC.

2. The following warning messages and Special News Advisories are provided in this appendix:

   A. Tab A: Warning Message – General Incident
   B. Tab B: Warning Message – Road/Facility Closure
   C. Tab C: Warning Message – Shelter-in-Place
   D. Tab D: Special News Advisory – Pre-Evacuation Information
   E. Tab E: Warning Message – Urgent Evacuation
   F. Tab F   Warning Message – Mandatory Evacuation
   G. Tab G   Special News Advisory – Supplemental Evacuation Information
   H. Tab H   Special News Advisory – Schools & Public Facilities

3. General Guidance for Warning & Public Information Messages

   A. Protective Action Areas. Areas in which protective actions, such as evacuation or shelter-in-place, are being implemented should be described with reference to obvious geographic features, such as roads and rivers, rather than with abstract descriptions such as a one mile radius of some intersection. The preferred method of describing the area should use compass directions and neighborhood and landmark names where appropriate.

Example:

The area to be evacuated is north of Green Street, east of Olive St, south of James Road, and west of Rainy Road. This area includes the Green Tree and Hidden Hollow subdivisions and the Big Bargains Shopping Center.

B. Evacuation Routes. The description of evacuation routes should make it clear which direction(s) evacuees should go and which travel directions they should avoid.

Example:

People who are west of Meridian Avenue should go west on Kingman Road or Exeter Drive. People who are east of Meridian Avenue should go east on 10th, 11th, or 12th Streets or Easy Street. Do not leave the evacuation area by going north.

Warning – General Incident

1. The City of Pharr Emergency Management Office has issued the following warning for those who live, work, or are visiting in the City

2. An emergency situation involving City is currently in progress at: [*Describe location by reference to facility name (if known), street and cross street, other geographic features (rivers, rail lines, etc.), and neighborhood name where appropriate]*

3. Emergency personnel are currently responding to this incident and local officials are monitoring the situation. To keep yourself safe and avoid impeding the emergency response, please avoid this area until further notice.

4. To repeat, an emergency situation involving City is currently in progress at: *(Repeat location in 2 above).* Please avoid this area.

5. Do not call 911 for information about the emergency situation. Instead, stay turned to this station for additional official information.

A-5-A-1

Warning – Road/Facility Closure

1. The City of Pharr Emergency Management Office has issued the following warning for those who live, work, or are visiting in the City:

2. It has been necessary to close certain local streets and highways due to:
   ☐ flooding
   ☐ heavy accumulations of snow and ice
   ☐ fire / explosion
   ☐ incident involving hazardous materials
   ☐ Other:

3. As of _____ today, the following roads have been closed by law enforcement officials:

   Street or Route _____   At or Between _____

   Please avoid these routes.

4. ☐ If you must travel, use alternate routes, such as:

5. ☐ We recommend that you refrain from driving and remain at home due to the extremely bad travel conditions.

6. ☐ In addition, the following facilities have been closed due to the emergency situation:

7. Again, the roads and streets that have been closed are: *(Repeat list in 3 above)*

8. Please stay turned to this station for additional information on the current emergency situation.

A-5-B-1

Tab C to Appendix 5 to Annex A

Warning - Shelter-in-Place

1. The City of Pharr Emergency Management Office has issued the following warning for those who live, work, or are visiting in the City.

2. There has been an accidental release of hazardous material that is affecting a portion of the local area. People in the following area must take protective measures:

[Describe area boundaries]

3. If you are located in this area, do the following immediately in order to protect yourself:

   A. Go inside your home, workplace, or the nearest building that appears to be reasonably airtight and stay there. Take your pets with you.
   B. Close all doors, windows, and any fireplace dampers.
   C. Turn off any heating or cooling system that draws in air from the outside.
   D. Keep your radio on and tuned to receive emergency announcements and instructions
   E. Gather items that you may need to take with you if you are advised to evacuate.

4. People traveling in vehicles should seek shelter in the nearest airtight structure. If a suitable structure is not immediately available, travelers should roll up car windows, close air vents, and turn off the heater or air conditioner until they reach a suitable building.

5. If shelter is not immediately available, keep a handkerchief, towel, or damp cloth snugly over your nose and mouth until you get indoors.

6. (If school is in session.)

   ☐ Students at the following school(s) are taking shelter at their schools:

   Parents should not attempt to pick up students at school until the hazardous situation is resolved and they are advised it is safe to do so.

   ☐ Students at the following school(s) [have been/are being] evacuated to other facilities:

   Parents should not attempt to pick up students from schools that have been evacuated. Local officials will provide information on where to pick up school children as soon as it is available.

7. If you know of any neighbors or co-workers with hearing or language problems or special needs, please advise them of this message.

8. Please do not call [911] or local emergency officials for information. Stay turned to this station for additional information.

Special News Advisory – Pre-Evacuation

1. The City of Pharr Emergency Management Office has issued the following advisory for those who live, work, or are visiting the City of Pharr.

2. Due to the threat of [_____], it may be necessary for people who live, work or are visiting in the certain local areas to evacuate in the near future. This area(s) that may be at risk include:

    [Describe area boundaries]

3. Evacuation is NOT being recommended at this time. Local officials will advise you if evacuation is necessary. However, you should be prepared to evacuate if needed.   To prepare, you should:

    A. Assemble the following emergency supplies:
        * Clothing for your family for several days
        * Bedding, pillows, and towels
        * Prescription medicines & spare eyeglasses
        * Soap and toiletries
        * Baby food and diapers
        * Your address book or list of important telephone numbers
        * Your checkbook, credit cards, and cash
        * Your drivers license and identification cards
        * A portable radio and flashlight.

    B. You should also:
        * Gather suitcases, boxes, or bags to hold your emergency supplies.
        * Be prepared to secure your home or office and your property before you depart.
        * Ensure your car is in good shape and you have adequate fuel.
        * Decide where you will go if you have to evacuate. Make arrangements with relatives or friends or consider making hotel or motel reservations.

4. ☐ Potential evacuation routes from the area(s) at risk include:

5. ☐ Potential evacuation routes from the area(s) at risk are described in:

6. If you know of any neighbors or co-workers with hearing or language problems or special needs, please advise them of this message. And if you have neighbors or co-workers who do not have transportation, offer to assist them if you can.

7. We want to emphasize that this is a PRECAUTIONARY message about possible evacuation. Evacuation is NOT being recommended at this time.

8. Keep your radio or TV on and listen for further information about this situation. Please do not call 911 or local emergency officials for information as this ties up telephone lines needed for emergency operations.

Warning Message – Urgent Evacuation

1. The City of Pharr Emergency Management Office has issued the following warning for those who live, work, or are visiting the City of Pharr.

2. Due to [_____] that [threatens/is affecting a portion of the local area, the Mayor recommend that people in the following area evacuate immediately to protect their health and safety:

3. Recommended evacuation routes from the area(s) at risk include:

4. Be sure to take essential items such as:

   - prescription medicines
   - eyeglasses
   - identification cards
   - checkbook
   - credit cards
   - valuable papers

   Do not delay your departure to collect other belongings.

5. Take your pets with you, but make sure you bring a leash, crate, or cage for them. Some shelters will not accept pets.

6. If you have no means of transportation or if you are physically unable to evacuate on your own, ask a neighbor to assist you.

7. If you know of any neighbors or co-workers with hearing or language problems or special needs, please advise them of this message. And if you have neighbors or co-workers who need help or do not have transportation, offer to assist them if you can.

8. Repeating, local officials recommend the people in the following area(s) evacuate now: *(Repeat the area description in paragraph 2 above.)*

9. Please do not use your telephone except to report a true emergency. Stay tuned to this station for more information and instructions from local officials.

Warning Message – Mandatory Evacuation

1. The City of Pharr Emergency Management Office has issued the following warning for those who live, work, or are visiting in the City:

2. Due to ___, the County Judge/City Mayor, under Texas law, has ordered that people evacuate immediately the following area to protect their health and safety and the health and safety of rescuers:

3. Recommended evacuation routes from the area(s) at risk include:

4. Be sure to take essential items such as:
   - prescription medicines
   - eyeglasses
   - baby supplies
   - personal care items
   - identification cards
   - checkbook and credit cards
   - valuable papers

   Listen to this station for more information on what you need to take with you. Secure your home before you depart.

5. Take your pets with you, but make sure you bring a leash, crate, or cage for them. Remember some shelters will not accept pets

6. Decide where you will stay until the emergency situation is resolved. Staying with relatives or friends or in a hotel or motel is a good choice.

7. If you can't stay with friends or relatives or find a motel room, listen to this station for more information on the locations of public shelters.

8. If you have no means of transportation or if you are physically unable to evacuate on your own, ask a neighbor to assist you.

9. If you know of any neighbors or co-workers with hearing or language problems or special needs, please advise them of this message. And if you have neighbors or co-workers who need help or do not have transportation, offer to assist them if you can.

10. Repeating, local officials, under Texas law, are ordering the people in the following area(s) to evacuate immediately: *(Repeat the area description in paragraph 2 above.)*

11. Please do not use your telephone except to report a true emergency. Stay tuned to this station for more information and instructions from local officials.

Special News Advisory – Supplemental Evacuation Information

1. The City of Pharr Emergency Management Office has issued the following advisory for those who live, work, or are visiting in the City:

2. Due to the threat of _____, local officials have recommended that people who live, work or are visiting in the following areas evacuate to protect their health and safety:

    [*Describe area boundaries.*]

3. Use the following evacuation routes: [list evacuation routes]

4. You should take the following emergency supplies with you:
    *   clothing for your family for several days
    *   bedding, pillows, and towels for each family member
    *   prescription medicines & spare eyeglasses
    *   soap and toiletries
    *   baby food and diapers
    *   address book or list of important telephone numbers
    *   checkbook, credit cards, and cash
    *   drivers license and identification cards
    *   portable radio and flashlight, with extra batteries

5. Plan where you will stay until the emergency situation is resolved. Staying with relatives or friends or in a hotel or motel is a good choice.

6. If you cannot find another place to stay, temporary public shelters will be/have been opened at:

7. Take your pets with you, but make sure you bring a leash, crate, or cage for them as well as pet food.

8. Secure your property before you depart. Shut off all appliances, except refrigerators and freezers. Lock all doors and windows.

9. Expect travel delays on evacuation routes. If you have a substantial distance to drive, you may want to take drinks and ready-to-eat food in your car in case you are delayed.

10. If you have no means of transportation or if you are physically unable to evacuate on your own, ask a neighbor to help you.

11. If you have neighbors or co-workers, who need help or do not have transportation, offer to assist them if you can.

12. If you know of any neighbors or co-workers with hearing or language problems or special needs, please advise them of this message.

13. Please do not use your telephone except to report a true emergency. Stay tuned to this station for more information and instructions from local officials. If you missed some of the information in this advisory, it will be broadcast again soon.

Special News Advisory – School & Public Facilities

1. The City of Pharr Emergency Management Office has issued the following advisory for those who live, work, or are visiting the City

2. The current emergency situation involving _____ has affected the operation of the number of local facilities. This advisory is intended to provide you an update on the status of schools, hospitals, nursing homes, and other key facilities.

3. ☐ All local public schools have been closed.

4. ☐ The following schools have been closed and students [are being/have been] returned to their homes:

5. ☐ The following schools have been evacuated and their students relocated to other facilities:

School   Students relocated to:

☐ Parents should pick up their children at these host facilities.

6. ☐ The following hospitals and nursing homes have been evacuated and their patients relocated to other facilities:

Facility   Patients relocated to:

7. ☐ The following government offices, parks, recreation areas, and other public facilities have been closed:

8. Please stay tuned to this station for more information and instructions from local officials.

9. ☐ And please refrain from using the telephone unless you have a true emergency.

OUTDOOR WARNING SYSTEM DIAGRAM

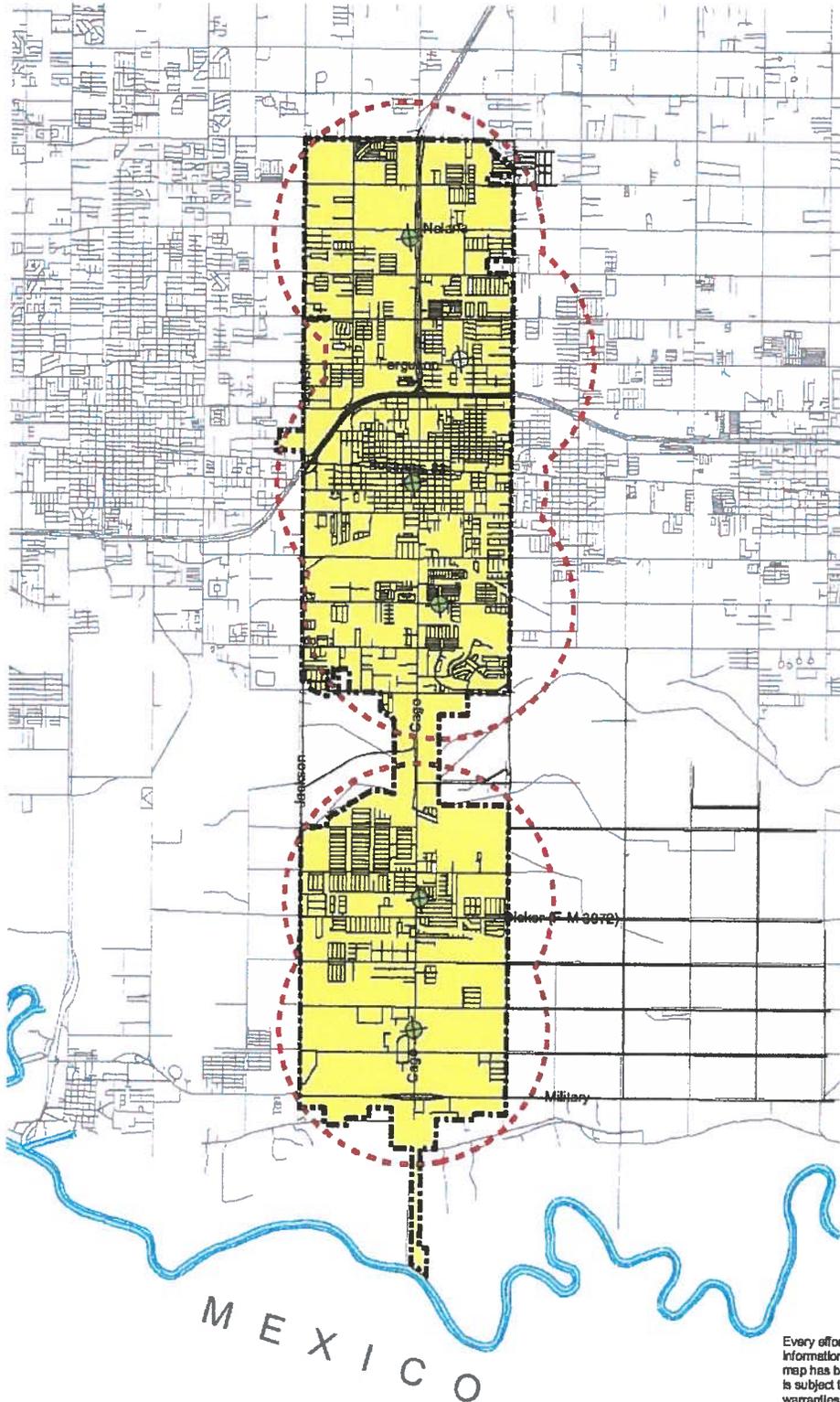Siren locations are as follows:

1901 N. Fir

109 W. Nolana Loop

120 W. Cherokee

200 E. Moore Rd.

7107 S. Cage

9012 S. Cage Blvd.

A-6-1

Pharr Siren Locations

CITY OF PHARR TEXAS

Pharr
All-America City
2006

M E X I C O

N
W E
S

Legend

⊕ SirenLocations

┈┈ 1 1/2 Mile Radius

═══ Rio Grande River

──── Pharr Streets

▨ Pharr City Limit

──── County Roads

Nolana

Ferguson

Sioux (F M 3072)

Military

Cage

Jackson

0   0.5   1   2   3   4
                              Miles

Every effort has been made to offer the most current and correct information possible on this map. The information included on this map has been compiled by City staff from a variety of sources, and is subject to change without notice. The City of Pharr makes no warranties or representations whatsoever regarding the quality, content, completeness, accuracy or adequacy of such information and data. The City of Pharr reserves the right to make changes at any time without notice. Original records may differ from the information on this map. Verification of information on source documents is recommended.

A-6-2