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**CITY OF COALINGA**  
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**PREPARED BY:** MARISSA TREJO, INTERIM CITY MANAGER  
**SUBJECT:** FLOOD PREPAREDNESS  
**DATE:** NOVEMBER 4, 2015



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**PRESS RELEASE**

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The City of Coalinga has been working diligently to prepare for an anticipated “El Nino” storm and possible flooding. Our goal has been to be proactive rather than reactive. As you may have noticed, Public Works employees can often be seen in the early morning hours cleaning drain inlets and pipes, removing debris, grading and cleaning storm water swales/ditches to improve drainage, and cleaning retention basins.

The possible flood zones have been identified as Elm Street from 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Garfield/Roosevelt, Van Ness-Buchanan to Sunset, Truman/Baker and Sunset/Jefferson. Public Works staff will install flood signs in these locations as needed.

We have partnered with the Chamber of Commerce to get the word out to businesses in the Elm Street area and we have asked that they plan ahead by obtaining City-provided sandbags.

Coalinga residents are also able to obtain City-provided sandbags. We ask that citizens who are able to fill their own bags visit the Coalinga Fire Department. Residents must bring a photo identification card or a utility bill verifying an address within City limits. Residents will then be provided with the number of bags requested (up to 10) which can be taken out back and filled with sand. We ask that residents do not take more than they anticipate needing. The sand and bags are immediately available. Please bring your own shovel(s).

Additionally, we have partnered with Coalinga Huron Recreation and Parks District to provide residents with a second location to obtain pre-filled sandbags. We ask that only those residents who are unable to fill their own bags obtain them from this location. Pre-filled bags will be available at the Welborn Center beginning on Tuesday, November 10, 2015. They will be located on the cement slab near the parking lot.

We would also like to pre-thank the Coalinga High School students who will be pre-filling the sandbags for the Welborn Center this weekend in exchange for community service hours. If you are a student or have a student in need of community service hours, the more the merrier. We will see you at the City of Coalinga Public Works yard (located behind Savemart) on Saturday, November 7, 2015, at 9:00am. Please be sure to bring your community service log. We would like to fill approximately 500 sandbags.

Let's work together to be prepared!

Thank you.