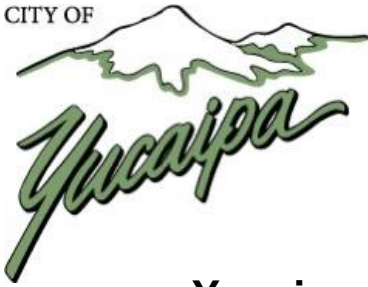


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Yucaipa City Manager Declares Local Emergency In Response to Tropical Storm Hilary

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(Yucaipa, CA) – This evening, Yucaipa City Manager Chris Mann signed a local emergency proclamation to support response efforts related to damage inflicted by Tropical Storm Hilary.

"The City of Yucaipa mobilized quickly in preparation for the storm," said Chris Mann, Yucaipa City Manager. "Although we always hope for the best, we're seeing significant damage due to the heavy rains and strong winds. An emergency order is necessary to protect life and property."

Leading up to the storm event, the City up-staffed its public safety and public works crews and began to warn residents to prepare for the coming storm. The City offered free sandbags to residents at its fire stations, and by Saturday evening, the city issued more than 15,000 sandbags.

As the signs of the storm indicated a growing threat, an evacuation order was issued for parts of northeast Yucaipa that are susceptible to flooding and mud flows due to their proximity to the hills and recent burn areas.

Strong winds moved into Yucaipa early this evening tumbling trees and downing power poles. Isolated power outages affected residents in parts of the city while public works crews cleared fallen trees from roadways. Soon after, heavy rains led to flooding and mud flows that have led to road closures.

Issuing an emergency proclamation grants the city additional authorities to protect the public and seek state and federal reimbursements. Chapter 8 of the City's municipal code outlines the process for issuing an emergency proclamation. Among the powers granted to the City under an emergency proclamation is the ability to close streets and other areas that pose significant threats.

The City Council must ratify the declaration within 7 days.

"Our first responders and public works crews are doing a great job working in these perilous conditions," Mann said. "I thank them all for their hard work and want to give them all the tools they need to protect the people of Yucaipa."

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