



**City of Independence – Emergency Operation Plan
FLOOD RESPONSE POLICY
Watch, Warning, & Response Guidelines
Adopted March 2020**

The purpose of this Policy is to define and outline the City's response to flooding within the City of Independence. The Verdigris river flooding has historically impacted the community with flooding events in 1986, 2007, 2017 & 2019.

FEMA has established the 100-year flood elevation and 200-year flood elevation for the City of Independence and is referenced to in this policy. The City of Independence is responsible for the administration of the floodplain and activity occurring with businesses and residences living within the floodplain.

Responsibility for Flood Protection:

During flooding conditions, both the City and its residents have responsibility for different aspects of flood protection. The City of Independence is responsible to ensure the quality of life for our citizens by providing quality services which result in a safe and healthy community.

1. Protect public safety – maintain emergency vehicle access
2. Protect public health and safety – protect public utility infrastructure (i.e. sanitary sewer and water distribution)
3. Maintain traffic flow through the City corridor
4. Maintain access to private property through public rights-of-way

The City will coordinate with other agencies and provide updated information to residents in anticipation of flooding events. This communication will continue during flooding events.

Property Owners: Property owners are responsible for protecting their own private property during flooding events. Property owners may utilize City flood protection efforts to enhance private property protection efforts; an example of this would be connecting private sandbag walls.



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Prior Water Elevation-Based Flood Response:

City flood response is based on Prior water elevation trigger points, weather forecasting, watershed conditions and overall Verdigris flow. River elevations are determined by the USGS gauge at the river bridge East of Independence and the water level gauge and the Independence water plant inlet.

City Elevations at the water plant is 785.26’ and the USGS Gauge is 716.63’ or average difference of 8.5’ to determine flooding within the City of Independence Kansas. River level below these points are typically not a cause of concern in relation to flooding events. Prior to river rises or flooding rainfall (flash flood events), the following action will be taken:

Category	Action
Flash flooding locations	Prepare to deploy “High Water” signage to known locations.
Equipment	Ensure source of pumps, generators and sandbags are available
Public Safety	Ensure Police, Fire-EMS are notified
City EOP	No Action required at this time
City Manager / Council	City Manager is notified of watch/warnings
Agency Coordination	City EM’s notifies police chief, dispatch and Water Tx Plant to monitor river levels. EM contact County EM for updates and monitors NWS.
Infrastructure Protection	No Action required at this level
Water Quality	No Action required at this level
Communications	City communicates watches to the public via social media and web page and begins posting updates as received from NWS.



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Flash flooding Event at Whiskey Creek:

Heavy Rainfall at the rate of 1.0” per hour or more will create a flashflood event along Whiskey Creek in the Northwest part of the community. Flooding will occur along N. 10th, 13th, West Oak Street, North 17th – 19th Place, 19th and Sycamore and South along the Union Pacific Railroad and So. 19th Street to the City limits.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Action</u>
Flash Flooding Event	Identified flooding by Public Safety Officers or Citizens report
Communication	Emergency Alert sent out through the City Emergency Alerting System, Facebook and Social media
Equipment	Fire-EMS are dispatched for rescue and monitoring of the flash flooding areas. Street crews – high water signage
Residential Sandbagging	Prepare to offer sandbags for use by the public, per the City Fee Schedule
City EOP	Command Established at City Hall with coordination of the event
City Manager / Council	Notification to the CM of the event and situation
Agency Coordination	Command notifies county EM of the event and status. Informs NWS.
Infrastructure Protection	Prepare to deploy Water-Sewer Notify Utilities of flooding (Atmos & Evergy)
Water Quality	Monitor but no action needed
Communications	Monitor weather, rainfall estimations, river levels and update social media, webpage and media contacts. Internal staff briefings as needed

After flash flooding event, water will quickly fall.





Elevation Level of 24.6 ' at Water Plant or 741.23' at River Bridge

River level at the water plant is 24.6' on the tower and North Park Blvd will begin to flood in the 900 blk of North Park Blvd.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Action</u>
Flash Flooding Event	Identified flooding by Public Safety Officers or Citizens report
Communication	Notification through social media alerting of North Park Blvd flooding and closing
Equipment	Street dept. for signage, closure of City Dam access
Residential Sandbagging	No Action Needed
City EOP	City EM aware and monitoring situation.
City Manager / Council	Notification to the CM of the event and situation
Agency Coordination	Command notifies county EM of the event and status. Informs NWS.
Infrastructure Protection	Notfiy Utilities of flooding (Atmos & Evergy) – No Action needed
Water Quality	Monitor but no action needed
Communications	Monitor weather, rainfall estimations, river levels and update social media, webpage and media contacts. Internal staff briefings as needed

Elevation Level of 30.7 ' at Water Plant or 747.33' at River Bridge

River level at the water plant is 30.7' on the tower and North Park Blvd will be flooded in the 900 blk of North Park Blvd.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Action</u>
Flash Flooding Event	Identified flooding by Public Safety Officers or Citizens report
Communication	Notification through social media alerting of North Park Blvd flooding and closing and So. 10 th street at City limits
Equipment	Street dept. for signage, closure of City Dam access. Signage and barricades at So. 10 th St.
Residential Sandbagging	No Action Needed
City EOP	City EM aware and monitoring situation. Activation may be needed based on forecast
City Manager / Council	Notification to the CM of the event and situation
Agency Coordination	Command notifies county EM of the event and status. Informs NWS.
Infrastructure Protection	Notfy Utilities of flooding (Atmos & Evergy) – No Action needed
Water Quality	Monitor but no action needed
Communications	Monitor weather, rainfall estimations, river levels and update social media, webpage and media contacts. Internal staff briefings as needed



Elevation Level of 32.0’ at Water Plant or 748.63’ at River Bridge

River level at the water plant is 32.0’ on the tower and North Park Blvd will be flooded in the 900 blk of North Park Blvd.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Action</u>
Flash Flooding Event	Identified flooding by Public Safety Officers or Citizens report
Communication	Notification through social media alerting of North Park Blvd flooding and closing and So. 10 th street at City limits
Equipment	Street dept. for signage, closure of City Dam access. Signage and barricades at So. 10 th St., So. Penn, So. 2 nd Street – Consider City Alert Notification.
Residential Sandbagging	No Action Needed
City EOP	City EM activation and command center established.
City Manager / Council	Notification to the CM of the event and situation
Agency Coordination	Command notifies county EM of the event and status. Informs NWS.
Infrastructure Protection	Notfy Utilities of flooding (Atmos & Eergy) Notify Water-Sewer protect lift stations
Water Quality	Monitor but no action needed
Communications	Monitor weather, rainfall estimations, river levels and update social media, webpage and media contacts. Internal staff briefings as needed



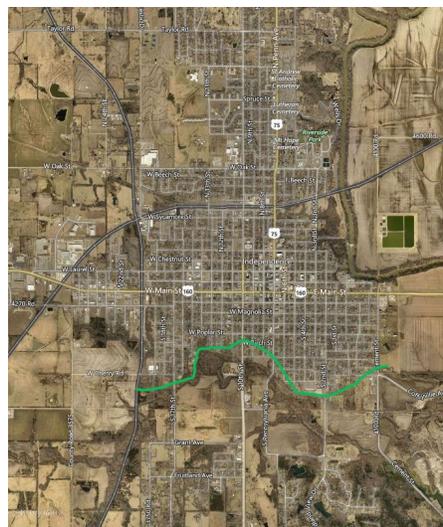


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Elevation Level of 34.0 ' at Water Plant or 750.63' at River Bridge

River level at the water plant is 34.0 on the tower and North Park Blvd will be flooded in the 900 blk of North Park Blvd.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Action</u>
Flash Flooding Event	Identified flooding by Public Safety Officers or Citizens report
Communication	Notification through social media alerting of North Park Blvd flooding and closing and So. 10 th street at City limits – City Alert Notification
Equipment	Street dept. for signage, closure of City Dam access. Signage and barricades at So. 10 th St., So. Penn, So. 2 nd Street
Residential Sandbagging	Prepare to offer sandbags for use by the public, per the City Fee Schedule
City EOP	City EM activation and command center established. Activation may be needed based on forecast
City Manager / Council	Notification to the CM of the event and situation
Agency Coordination	Command notifies county EM of the event and status. Informs NWS.
Infrastructure Protection	Notify Utilities of flooding (Atmos & Every) – Notify water-sewer – protect lift stations
Water Quality	Monitor but no action needed
Communications	Monitor weather, rainfall estimations, river levels and update social media, webpage and media contacts. Internal staff briefings as needed



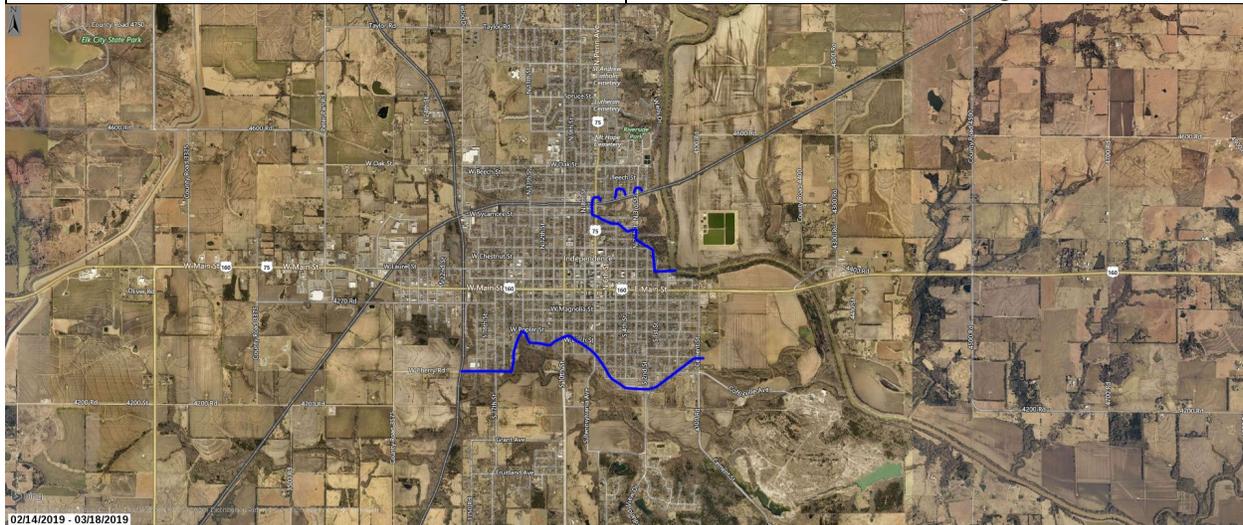


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Elevation Level of 37.0' at Water Plant or 753.63' at River Bridge

River level at the water plant is 37.0' on the tower and North Park Blvd will be flooded in the 900 blk of North Park Blvd.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Action</u>
Flash Flooding Event	Identified flooding by Public Safety Officers or Citizens report
Communication	Notification through social media alerting of North Park Blvd flooding and closing and So. 10 th street at City limits – City Alert Notification
Equipment	Street dept. for signage, closure of City Dam access. Signage and barricades at So. 10 th St., So. Penn, So. 2 nd Street
Residential Sandbagging	Prepare to offer sandbags for use by the public, per the City Fee Schedule
City EOP	City EM activation and command center established. Activation may be needed based on forecast
City Manager / Council	Notification to the CM of the event and situation
Agency Coordination	Command notifies county EM of the event and status. Informs NWS.
Infrastructure Protection	Notfy Utilities of flooding (Atmos & Eergy) – Notify water-sewer – protect lift stations
Water Quality	Monitor but no action needed
Communications	Monitor weather, rainfall estimations, river levels and update social media, webpage and media contacts. Internal staff briefings as needed



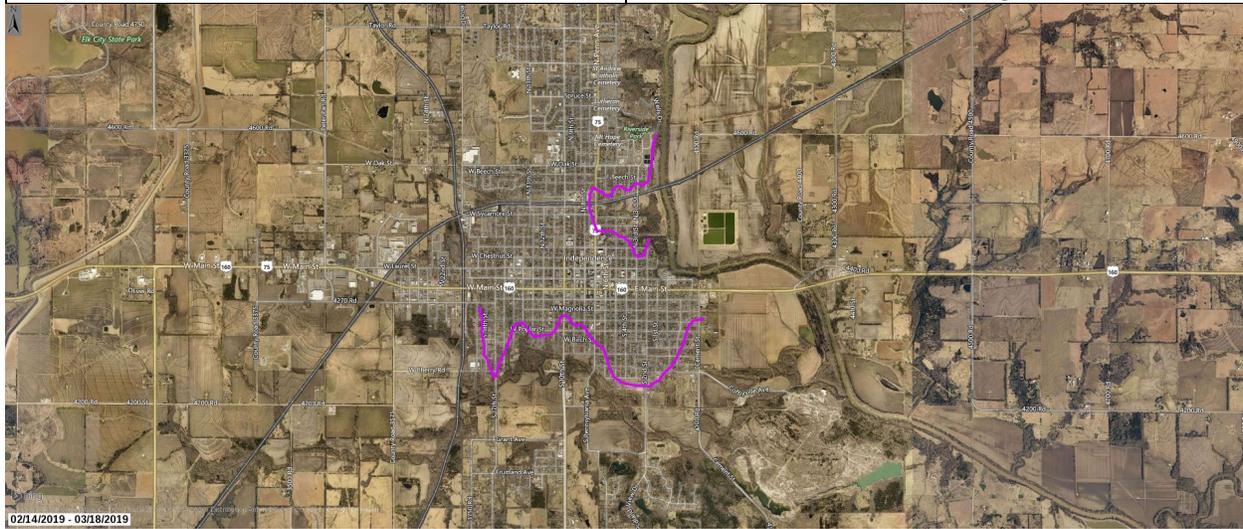


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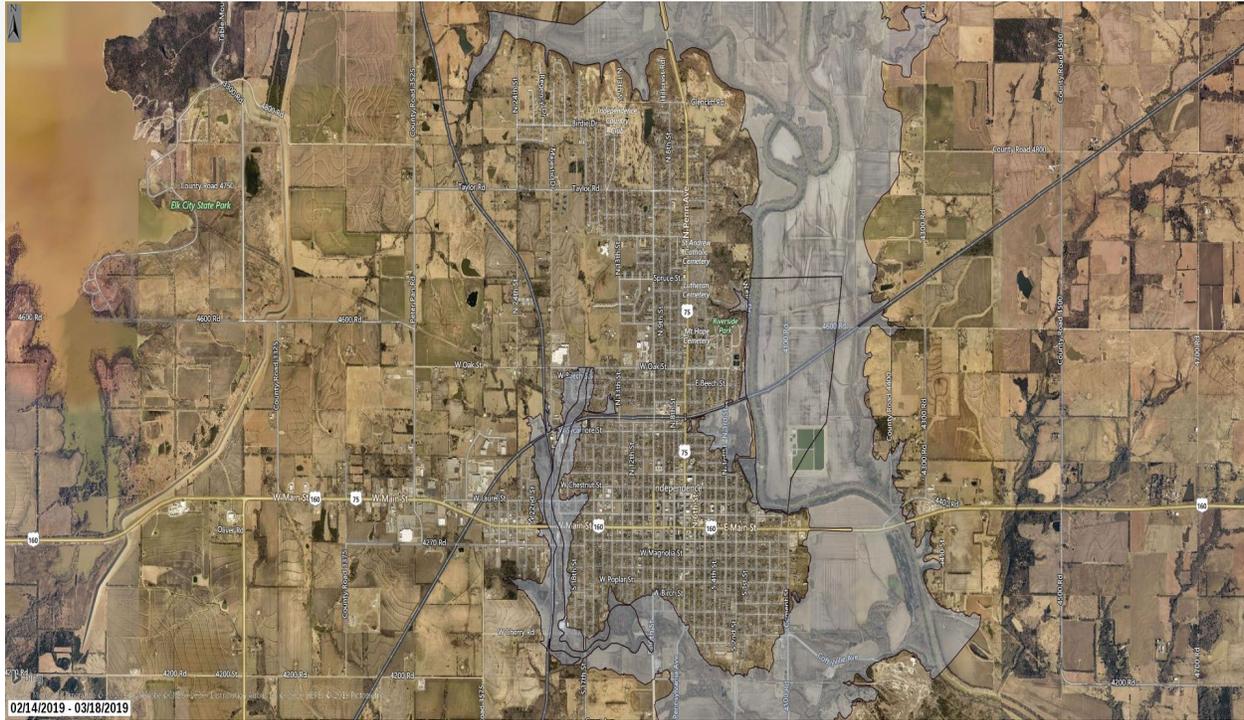
Elevation Level of 45.0 ‘ at Water Plant or 761.63’ at River Bridge

River level at the water plant is 37.0’ on the tower and North Park Blvd will be flooded in the 900 blk of North Park Blvd.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Action</u>
Flash Flooding Event	Identified flooding by Public Safety Officers or Citizens report
Communication	Notification through social media alerting of North Park Blvd flooding and closing and So. 10 th street at City limits – City Alert Notification
Equipment	Street dept. for signage, closure of City Dam access. Signage and barricades for closed streets
Residential Sandbagging	Offer sandbags for use by the public, per the City Fee Schedule
City EOP	City EM activation and command center established.
City Manager / Council	Notification to the CM of the event and situation
Agency Coordination	Command notifies county EM of the event and status. Informs NWS.
Infrastructure Protection	Notfiy Utilities of flooding (Atmos & Eevery) – Notify water-sewer – protect lift stations
Water Quality	Monitor but no action needed
Communications	Monitor weather, rainfall estimations, river levels and update social media, webpage and media contacts. Internal staff briefings as needed



100 Year Flood Plain



200-Year Flood Plain

