



## Employee Spotlight: Storm Patrol Team

We all remember the devastating rainstorms in late January and early February that brought excess rain and flooding to many parts of San Diego County. Overall, Chula Vista fared well during the storms in part due to a proactive approach by our Public Works teams. Led by Public Works Manager, Mark Sanchez, stormwater and wastewater division employees prepared by producing nearly 15,000 sandbags for distribution to Chula Vista residents! The "storm patrol team" also performed pre- and post-storm inspections and patrolled potential locations of concern during the storms.

Over the course of nine days, the team distributed more than 10,000 sandbags with 8,300 of those bags handed out in three days! The City actually fills the sandbags with gravel, and the bags perform well when placed at doorsteps, on patios and in other locations. Each bag weighs approximately 25 pounds.

The storm patrol team is proud of the work they do every day, but especially during inclement weather. Hector Gutierrez, Equipment Operator, said, "we are ready and available to assist our community in any natural disaster. We are skilled and prepared." Richard Fernandez, Senior Maintenance Worker, stated, "our residents can have peace of mind knowing they will be safe." Adrian Obaid, Senior Maintenance Worker, added, "since I grew up here and live here, it feels good to help the residents of my community."

When not on storm patrol and preparing sandbags, the team performs routine duties including sewer maintenance, inspection, and repair and regular storm drain maintenance, inspection, and repair. Team members have completed major storm drain repairs that prevent erosion and loss of property. As a result of these proactive duties, Chula Vista has one of the best records in the county and Southern California when it comes to avoiding sewer overflows. In addition, the team performs minor sidewalk concrete repairs, utility mark outs, minor asphalt work and supports other divisions such as Parks and Streets as needed.



We offer a big round of applause to these hard-working, dedicated Public Works employees for their efforts every day, listed here by position. **Supervisors:** Joseph Burgos, Nelson Rivera, Michael Capone, Jesse Gomez, and Hector Flores. **Equipment Operators:** Claudio Estrada, Hector Gutierrez, and Juan Torres. **Senior Maintenance Workers:** Enrique Bonillas, Felix Chavez, BJ Clonch, Richard Fernandez, Richard Garcia, Adrian Herrera, Trevor Jordan, Karen Krause, Erik Monroy, Adrian Obaid, Sergio Padilla, Danny Salazar, Tony Sanchez, Raymond Tovar, Michael Trollinger, Albert Ulloa, Keith Wilcox, and Josh Wolfgramm. **Maintenance Worker I and II:** Matthew Aquino, Dominic Camacho, Adolfo Chavarria, Marco Cisneros, Juan Enriquez, Salvador Gonzalez, Osbaldo Martinez, Eric McManus, Levi Mendez, Michael Otero, Julian Valdez, Reyes Valdivia, Aaron Zaragoza, Javon Garrido, and Jacob Hinojos.

Not sure what to do with those sandbags once the rains are over? Suggestions are to keep them for next year, spread the gravel around your property in a decorative fashion, or use to help keep weeds at bay. Thank you, storm patrol team!

