

**The Woodlands Township  
Drainage Task Force Meeting  
Meeting Summary  
February 25, 2020**

**Purpose of this Document:** This document is designed to capture the essence of the discussion, and will serve to summarize the results, actions, and follow-up items agreed to during the meeting.

**Call meeting to order / Introductions / Chairman's Report – The Woodlands Township**

Task Force members and visitors were welcomed by Task Force Chairman Bruce Rieser – Director, The Woodlands Township. Members in attendance included: Alan Black, Harris County Flood Control District; Laura Norton, Mark Vonderau, Albert Tomchesson, and Roland Johnson, Montgomery County MUDs; Emil Jacobs, Harris-Montgomery County MUD 386; Jackie Chance, Sr., TL/TR WCID #1; Antonio Paz, Howard Hughes Corporation; Kyle Brown, The Woodlands Country Club; and, Burton Johnson and Don Norrell, The Woodlands Township.

Copies of meeting sign-in sheets for members, visitors and public comments are included in **Attachment 1**.

Chairman Rieser noted that intended plans to meet with HARC to discuss subsidence study will be scheduled at a later date.

**Receive a report from Harris County Flood Control District on the Harris County Bond Projects for Flood Control**

Mr. Black reported on the status of projects for HCFCD:

- 193 projects are underway, representing approximately \$3.3B in project value; average spending \$40M per month over the last 3 months (compared to \$10M per month prior to Hurricane Harvey) and expected to increase with demand for projects, right of way and other construction costs.
- Local funds in the amount of \$259M have been authorized
- HCFCD is scheduled to advertise more than \$568M in construction projects in 2020.
- Partnering with National Resource Conservation Service for repair projects, and have found the cost of some materials have tripled – projects may include flood damage reduction projects, building flood plain easements, and flood plain preservation.
- Draft documents for TWDB raised concerns over funding eligibility for loans only; meeting with TWDB for better understanding. It was noted that similar responses to TWDB were submitted by others, including The Woodlands Township Board of Directors, Senator Creighton, Representative Toth, Judge Keough, and Commissioner Noack.

San Jacinto River study:

- Project team is working on preliminary alternative modeling for the siting study
- Workshop held January 14<sup>th</sup> went well – team is following up on comments received during the public engagement period

- Workshop in March planned to brief study partners and emergency managers on findings, communications protocols, evacuation routes, and infrastructure within the projected flood inundated areas.
- Additional public engagement efforts planned for early-/mid- summer – details to be provided later.

Harris County Commissioner's Court will conduct a nationwide search to replace current budget officer Bill Jackson; he will continue to serve until a replacement is named. Mr. Jackson has served for 8 years, following the previous budget officer, Dick Raycraft, who had served more than 30 years.

**Review the status of the proposed regional flood mitigation study for the San Jacinto basin which includes Spring Creek** - see notes above.

**Receive reports from Task Force agencies**

**Woodlands Water Agency (WWA) / Montgomery County MUD's** -- Mr. Vonderau provided an update on: Panther Branch/Research Forest project, which involves the high school and the Capstone area: the engineering reports have been received and will be reviewed by Mr. Stinson, to plan a stakeholders meeting for construction phase; Research Forest/Sundance Park: cost estimates to enlarge culverts are being finalized by LJA and will be reviewed by Mr. Stinson, to share with Precinct 2 Commissioner's office; have received preliminary engineering reports on a culvert situation in Grogan's Point/MUD 46 – pursuing additional studies to determine whether enlarging the culvert would prevent flooding.

Ms. Norton reported MUD 47 has approved a \$90K project to enlarge storm drain from Panther Branch Tributary #2 to street behind Kroger in Alden Bridge.

**Harris-Montgomery County MUD 386** – none

**San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA)** – none

**Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD)** – see notes above.

**Updates from Task Force Members** – Mr. Chance reported his district has signed on with the HARC program, noting recent well tests have shown a loss of approximately 10 ft. of water in one year since the caps were taken off; the HARC study is designed show the amount of subsidence, if any. The Subsidence district has reached out to HCFCD as a technical peer for assistance with a similar study on the potential flooding. Discussion surrounding detention basins, and responsibility for ongoing maintenance: primarily, maintenance is the responsibility of the property owner if private property or in some cases, the neighborhood association; public agency (i.e., city, county, MUD) if public water supply is involved.

**Public comment** – Mr. Peter Bartok asked about using previous LiDar data for predictive purposes and learned that the report he seeks is available. In addition, a website was suggested for viewing 2018 LiDar modeling information for Harris County ([www.maapnext.org](http://www.maapnext.org)) which uses Atlas 14 rainfall data.

**Confirm date and time for the next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in March (March 24, 2020) – 3:30 p.m.