# THE ADVOCATE

Issue 11

### Barker Flood Prevention Newsletter



### **Harvey Third Anniversary Addition**

On this eventful anniversary week we feel it's important to take stock of our progress of all that has been accomplished but given we dodged yet another bullet with Laura, re-emphasize the need to keep pressing. There is strength in numbers and with over 700 Facebook followers, we hope you will join us for an even more forceful voice with our elected and government officials.

#### **Texas Legislation Ballot Measures Passed**

- Proposition 2 Allows the Texas Water Development Board to issue up to \$200 million in bonds.
- Proposition 3— Authorizes temporary property tax exemption for disaster areas.
- Proposition 8— Creates a Flood Infrastructure Fund

For more information go to - https://ballotpedia.org/Texas\_2019\_ballot\_measures

#### Fort Bend County \$83 Million Flood Bond Referendum Approved

Allows the Fort Bend County Drainage District to borrow money for 25 flooding and drainage projects. As a result, the district will not have to raise taxes. Many of the projects are based on approval of state or federal grant money. The grant money will translate into nearly \$260 million worth of projects.

For more information, go to — https://www.fortbendcountytx.gov/recovery-and-mitigation-report

#### Willow Fork Drainage District

Completed \$5.2M in desilting work on the diversion channel in the Cinco Ranch area of Katy. To date approximately 310K cubic yards of silt have been removed with 3,300 yards remaining.

For more information go to: https://www.willowforkdrainagedistrict.com/drainage/hurricane-harvey-recovery/

#### Harris County \$2.5 Billion Flood Bond Referendum Approved

In addition to multiple completed and ongoing projects to increase conveyance along Buffalo Bayou downstream of Barker Dam, the following will directly affect Barker Reservoir:

- Partnership Project with Fort Bend County on Right-Of-Way Acquisition, Design, and Construction of General Drainage Improvements along Clodine Ditch. Will begin between November 2020 and July 2021.
- Rehabilitation of Channels Inside of Barker Reservoir to Restore Channel Conveyance Capacity. Will begin between July 2020 For a detailed map of projects go to https://www.barkerfloodprevention.org/2020-07-17-construction-advisory-de-silt-program/

#### Flood Tunnel Passes Initial Feasibility Study

Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) has released the Phase One Final Report for the flood tunnel which, if constructed, will provide the much needed conveyance out of the Barker and Addick's Reservoirs. Initial findings are favorable, and HCFCD will continue with phase 2 of the 3 part study. Please use the link below to learn more details.

https://www.hcfcd.org/Z08-Tunnel-Study/Prel.-Opinion

#### **Army Corps of Engineers Projects**

- Though initiated before Harvey, completion of outlet structures at both dams is 92% complete. 100% by January 2021.
- Buffalo Bayou & Tributaries, Resiliency Study- in partnership with the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD), as the non-Federal sponsor, is undertaking the study to evaluate the feasibility of reducing flood risks on Buffalo Bayou upstream

#### Vote!

To ensure our progress continues see our website for the list candidates in our area who, if elected on November 3, will have significant influence on Barker Reservoir flood control direction and funding.

## **Barker Flood Prevention Updates**

**Congratulations** to Barker Flood Prevention's Steering Committee Member, Patrick L. Friend, Ph.D., P.G. who was recently named the Estuarine & Coastal Sciences Association (ECSA) Ambassador for the United States. As Ambassador, Dr. Friend will promote ECSA awareness within existing academic, governmental, and consultancy groups, and importantly among young coastal and estuarine scientists. https://www.patrick-friend-named-ecsa-ambassador-for-the-u-s/

#### **Barker Flood Prevention Mission Statement:**

Barker Flood Prevention is a non-partisan volunteer group advocating flood management solutions for the Barker Reservoir watershed by coordinating with public agencies and elected officials, educating the community about flood management projects and policies, and encouraging timely implementation of effective projects.

Join us by going to barkerfloodprevention.org/join

Like and follow us on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/barkerfloodprevention/">https://www.facebook.com/barkerfloodprevention/</a>