

# THE ADVOCATE

## Barker Flood Prevention Newsletter



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### Events

**Barker Flood Prevention Community Meeting**— was held last month. The US Army Corps of Engineers was the featured presenter. Sheri Willey, Deputy Chief of Project Management discussed current Corps projects related to our reservoirs and watersheds.

To review a copy of the presentation go to: <https://www.barkerfloodprevention.org/blog/2019-03-07-feb-26-community-meeting-update/>

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### In The News

#### From the 86th Session of the Texas State Legislature:

- The Texas House unanimously passed its version of SB 500, “[the Budget Bill](#)”. The bill contains over \$2 billion related to Hurricane Harvey including matching funds for FEMA programs. This House version of SB 500 left out \$840 million for future flood mitigation that was in the senate version. The house will likely address this funding in [HB 13](#), which is in calendars right now.
- The Texas Senate unanimously approved a bipartisan package of bills including SB6, SB7 and SB8 that would pull \$1.8 billion from the state's rainy day fund to aid in Hurricane Harvey recovery and plan for and protect against future storms. The legislation was [named](#) a top priority by Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick. You can also reference <https://www.barkerfloodprevention.org/legislation>
- To learn more about these and other flood related legislative activities go to: <https://www.texastribune.org/2019/03/20/texas-senate-hurricane-harvey-disaster-relief-bills/>

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**US Army Corps of Engineers Spring 2019 Stakeholder Partnering Forum** - On Wednesday March 27th, the Corps held its semi-annual Stakeholder Partnering Forum on a number of Hurricane Harvey related topics including:

- [Addicks/Barker Study](#)
- [Annual Civil Works and Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 Program Execution](#)
- For this and other Corps of Engineers activities go to: <https://www.swg.usace.army.mil/About/Partners/Stakeholder-Summer-2018-Partnering-Forum/>

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**Harris County Flood Control District** is considering speeding up the remaining 104 [flood bond projects](#) (of 237). This will likely mean additional costs but it will also mean that more communities will be protected faster (see [HCFCD flood mapping tool](#) to see where your home is in relation to the floodplain; [buy flood insurance](#) today). The City of Houston and County are also considering joint flood control standards that they would like to adopt this summer.

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**The Greater Houston Flood Mitigation Consortium** released a second [report](#) this week, which focuses on hard-hit vulnerable neighbors. The report makes a number of recommendations, most of which relate to affordable housing.

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### 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.

#### Action Items:

1. Increase conveyance within the Barker Reservoir watershed and surrounding area through de-silting and channel realignment projects
2. Increase capacity in Barker Reservoir through selective or mass excavation
3. Increase conveyance out of Barker Reservoir by building a flood tunnel or other means
4. Manage the Cypress Creek overflow by building a third reservoir or other means

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