

**Appendix E**  
**Informational Videos**

**Study Overview Video**

[coastalstudy.texas.gov](http://coastalstudy.texas.gov)

or

[www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=1&v=6XyVyqN8sVk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=6XyVyqN8sVk)

**Tentatively Selected Plan Video**

<https://youtu.be/loVOogofsp8>

## **Appendix F**

### **Meeting Presentation**

# COASTAL TX PROTECTION AND RESTORATION FEASIBILITY STUDY

## Public Meetings

Dr. Kelly A. Burks-Copes, Project Manager  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
Galveston District

Lower Coast: November 27-29, 2018

Upper Coast: December 11-18, 2018

*"The views, opinions and findings contained in this report are those of the authors(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision, unless so designated by other official documentation."*



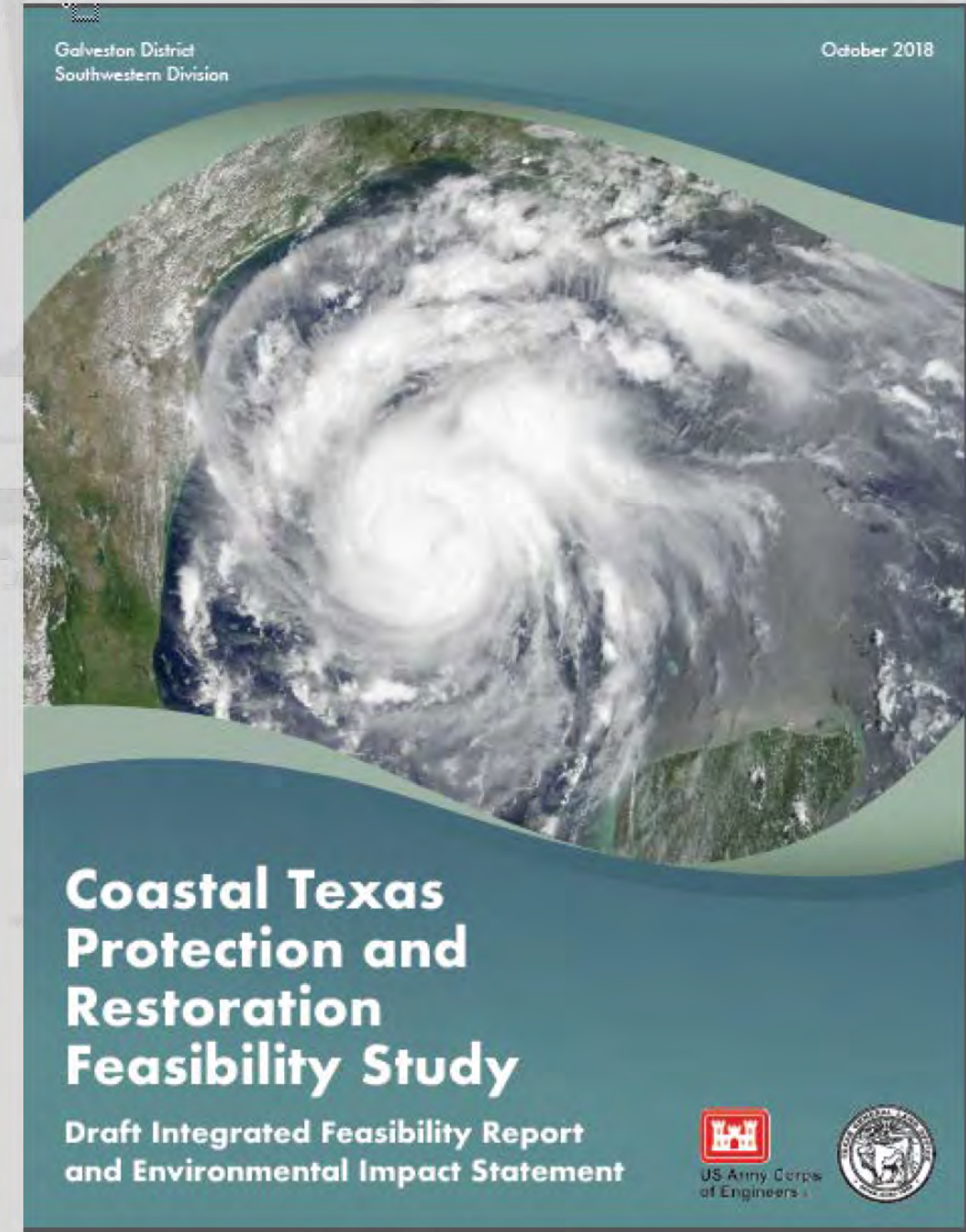
US Army Corps  
of Engineers





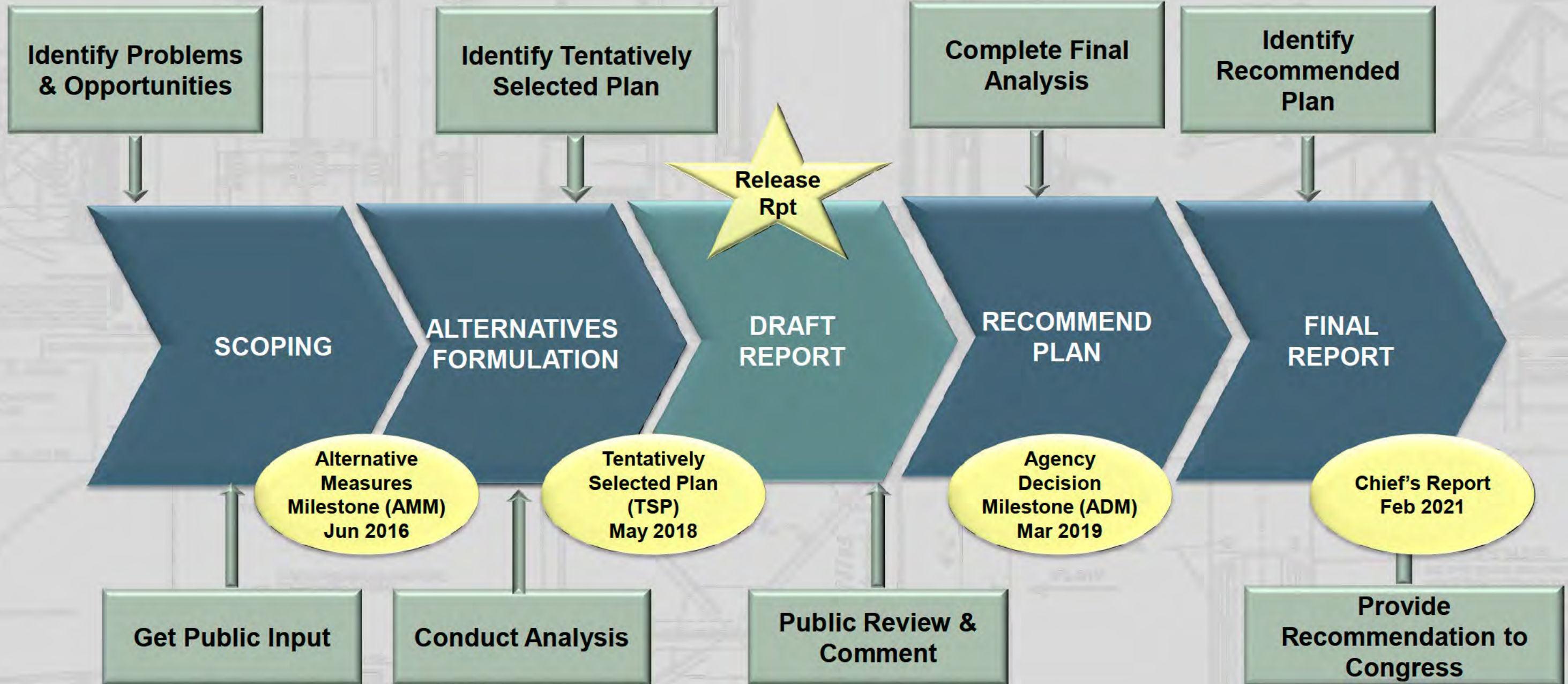
## Why are we here?

1. **Provide** a status update on the study
2. **Describe** the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process
3. **Describe** the USACE study process
4. **Identify** the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP)
5. **Describe** the potential impacts, costs, & benefits of the TSP
6. **Receive** public comments





# WHERE WE ARE TODAY



**Upcoming Public Meetings:**

Lower Coast: Nov 2018  
 Upper Coast: Dec 2018



US Army Corps  
of Engineers.

# PUBLIC & AGENCY REVIEW



## 75-day review period

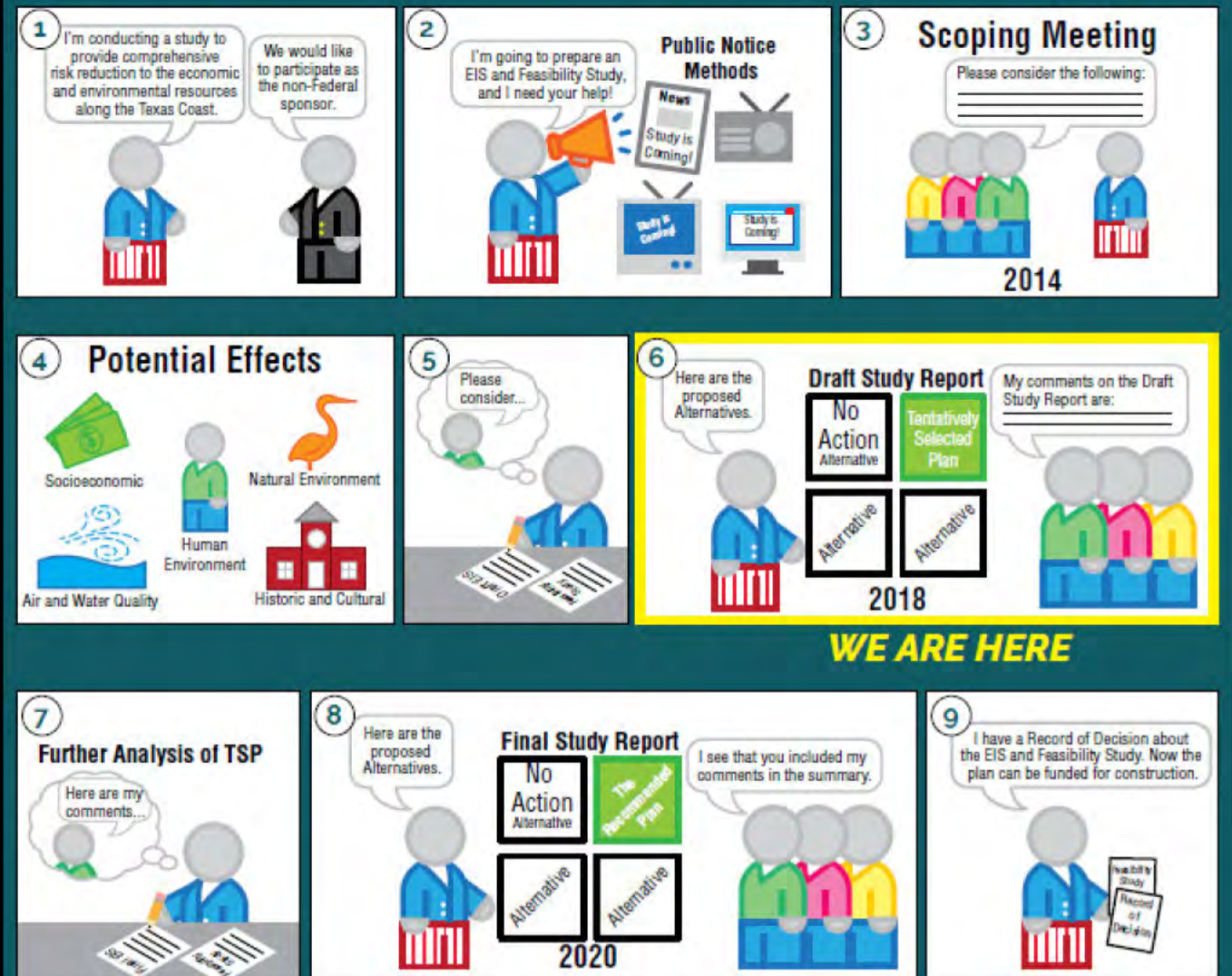
- Began: **October 26, 2018**
- Concludes: **January 9, 2019**

- Inviting public comment is **required by NEPA**
- All comments are **welcome** – positive or negative
- Remember: The **more specific** your feedback, the easier it will be for us to understand and address the issue(s)
- Public and agency input **informs decisions**
- **All comments** are fully evaluated prior to decision making
- Review & comment ensures decisions are based on the **best available information**

## THE NEPA AND FEASIBILITY STUDY PROCESS

The EIS preparation and Feasibility Study are being conducted concurrently to result in a single Integrated Feasibility Report and EIS document, or a DIFR-EIS.

### THE STUDY TEAM AND PUBLIC





US Army Corps of Engineers

# PROBLEMS



**Economic damage from coastal storm surge**



**Inland shoreline erosion**



**Gulf shoreline erosion**



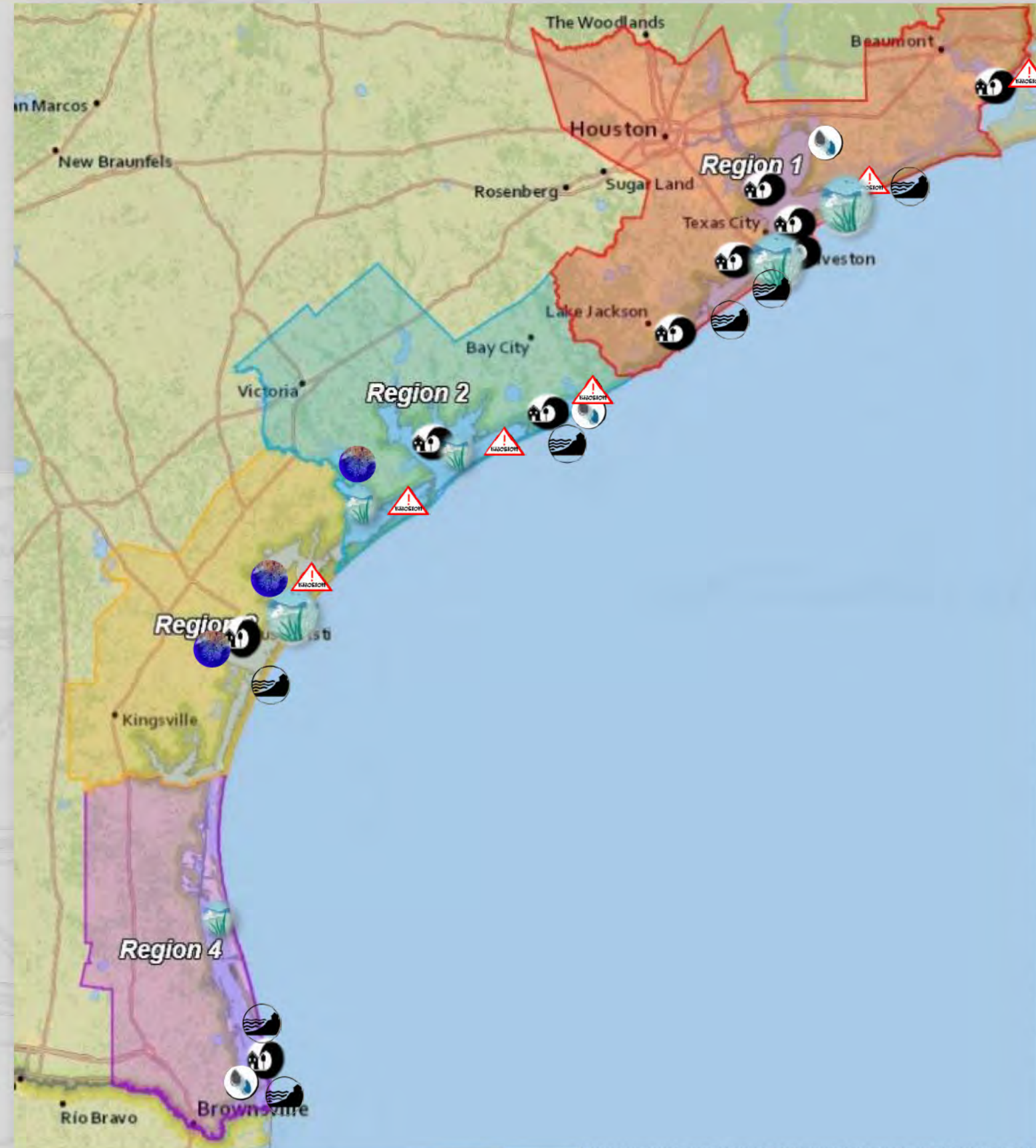
**Loss of T&E Critical Habitats**



**Loss of Natural Delta Processes**



**Disrupted Hydrology**





# PROJECT GOALS & OBJECTIVES



## Goals

### Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRM)

Develop and evaluate **coastal storm damage risk reduction** measures for coastal Texas residents, industries and businesses which are critical to the nation's economy.

### Ecosystem Restoration (ER)

Increase the net quantity and quality of coastal ecosystem resources by maintaining, **protecting, and restoring coastal Texas ecosystems** and fish and wildlife habitat

## Objectives

- **Reduce economic damage** from coastal storm surge flooding to business, residents and infrastructure through 2085
- **Reduce risk to critical infrastructure** (e.g. medical centers, government facilities, universities, and schools) from coastal storm surge flooding to the maximum extent practical and reduce emergency costs
- **Reduce risk to public health and safety** from storm surge
- **Increase the resilience** of communities, the economy, coastal ecosystems, and infrastructure, including existing coastal storm risk reduction systems, from sea level rise and coastal storm surge
- **Enhance and restore coastal landforms** along Galveston Island and Bolivar Peninsula that contribute to reducing the risks of coastal storm surge damages
- **Improve hydrologic connectivity** of area wetlands in the Texas-Louisiana coastal marshes, mid-coast barrier islands and coastal marshes
- **Improve and sustain coastal marshes and bay shorelines** on barrier island and estuarine systems





US Army Corps  
of Engineers.

# NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE



## Population Centers

- 18 coastal counties
- 6.1 million residents
- >24% of the TX population



## Navigation

- Nationally ranked deep-draft ports
  - Houston
  - Beaumont
  - Corpus Christi
  - Texas City
- 450 miles of Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW)



## Industry

- 40% of the Nation's petrochemical industry
- 25% of national petroleum-refining capacity



## Critical Infrastructure

- NASA
- UTMB – Level 4 Viral Laboratory





# SIGNIFICANT NATURAL RESOURCES



- **Critical coastal ecosystems** including wetlands, seagrass beds, oyster reefs, and sea turtle nesting habitat
- **Critical Habitat** threatened and endangered species
- 2 of 28 **National Estuary Program sites** - Galveston & Corpus Christi Bays
- **Central Flyway Migration Corridor**
- The **Laguna Madre** - a rare hypersaline lagoon
- **Nursery habitat and significant commercial fisheries** for oysters, shrimp, and finfish
- **Padre Island National Seashore**
- **12 National Wildlife Refuges**

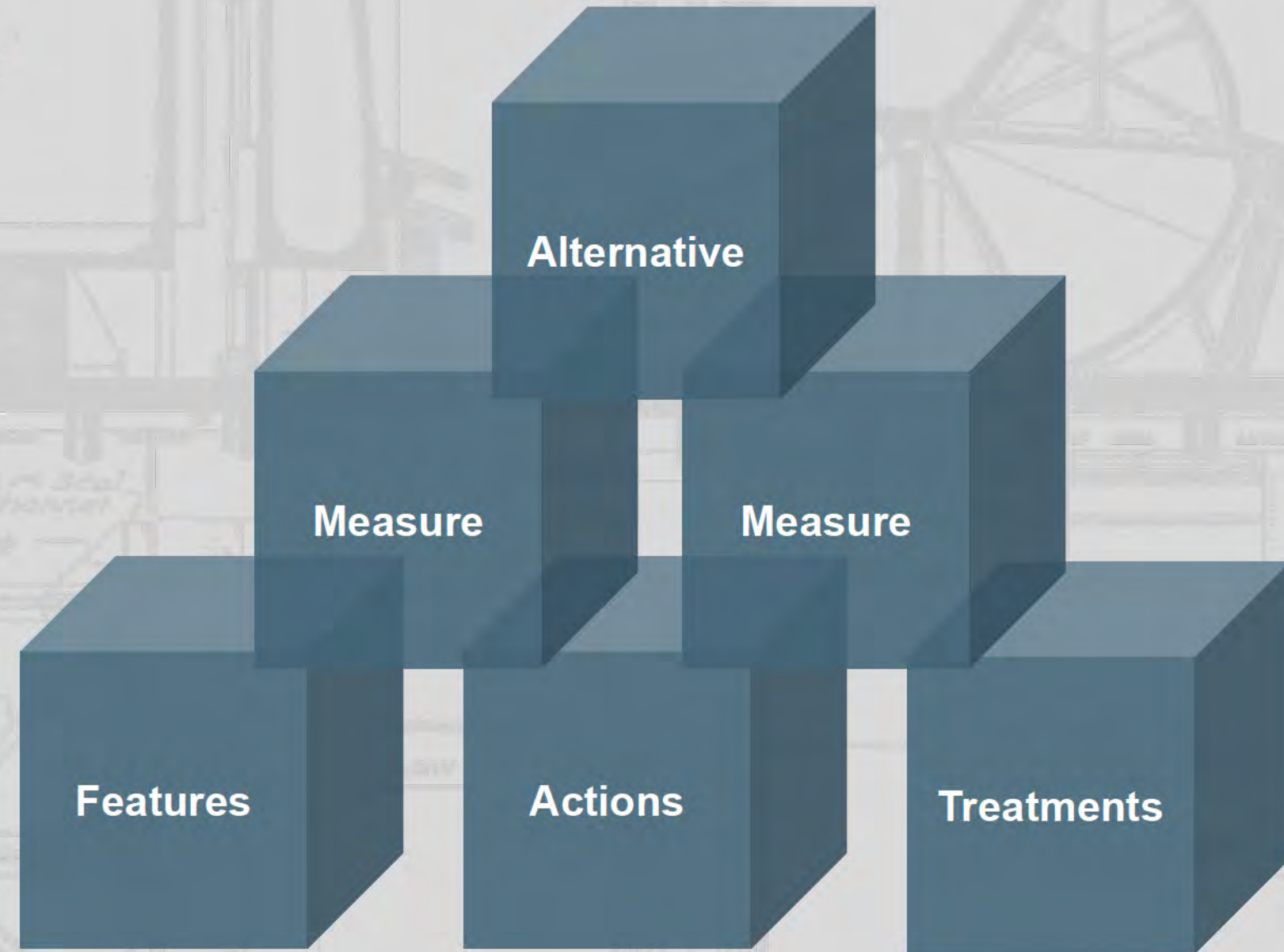




# USACE PLAN FORMULATION



- In USACE-speak. . . .
  - **Features** => levees, marshes, gates, etc
  - **Actions** => restoration, construction, raisings, etc.
  - **Treatments** => nourishments, plantings, etc
- Are combined to produce **Measures**
- Combinations of Measures generate **Alternatives**





US Army Corps  
of Engineers.

# USACE PLAN FORMULATION



## 1. Data was produced by:

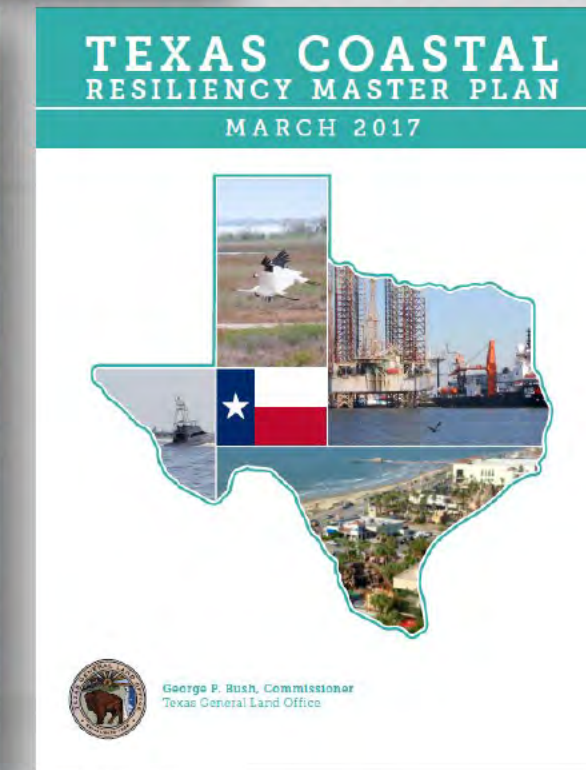
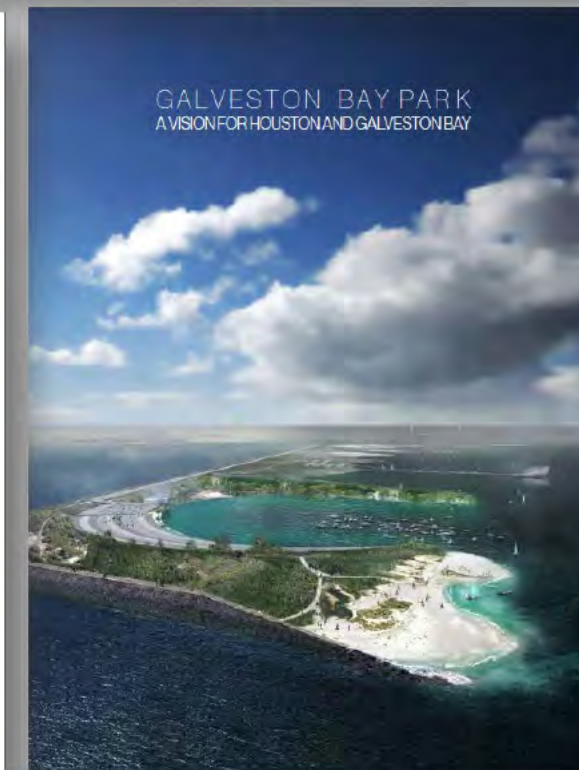
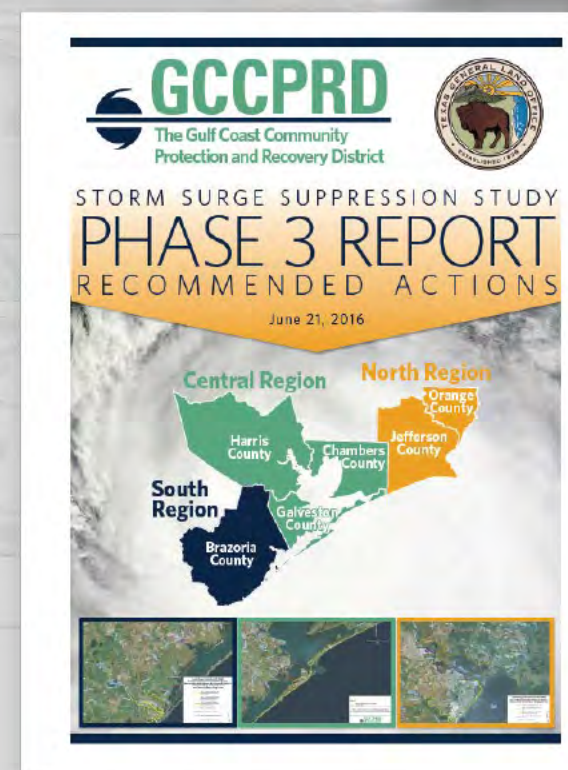
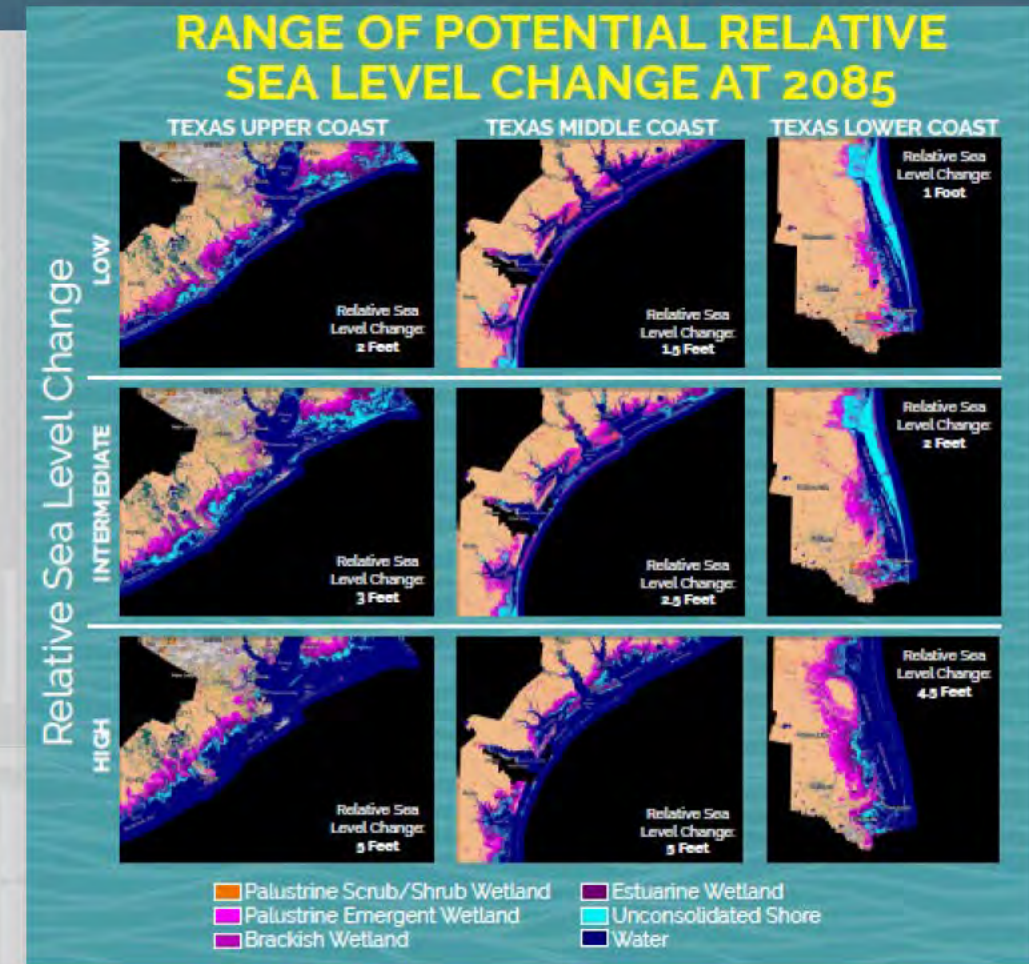
- NOAA Sea Level Rise Viewer
- Texas Shoreline Change Rates
- National Structure Inventory Database
- FEMA Inundation Mapping
- NOAA's Sea Lake and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) Model

## 2. Features/actions/treatments were developed based on existing & past studies from:

- GCCPRD
- Texas A&M
- SSPEED Center
- USACE
- GLO

## 3. AND from scoping meetings held in 2014.

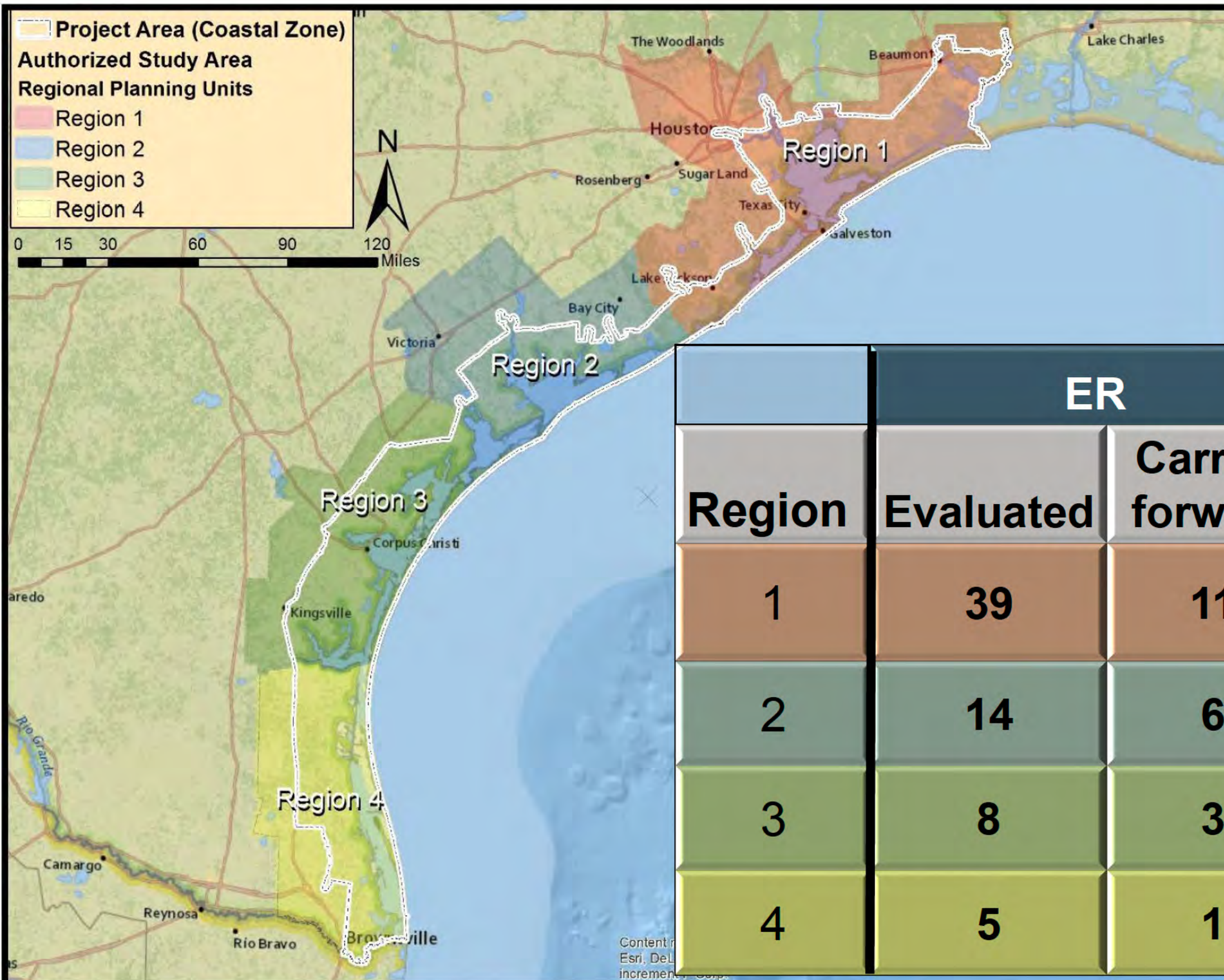
## 4. Measures were then formulated meet the goals and objectives.





US Army Corps of Engineers

# MEASURE SCREENING



	ER		CSRMM	
Region	Evaluated	Carried forward	Evaluated	Carried Forward
1	39	11	18	13
2	14	6	4	2
3	8	3	2	0
4	5	1	1	1



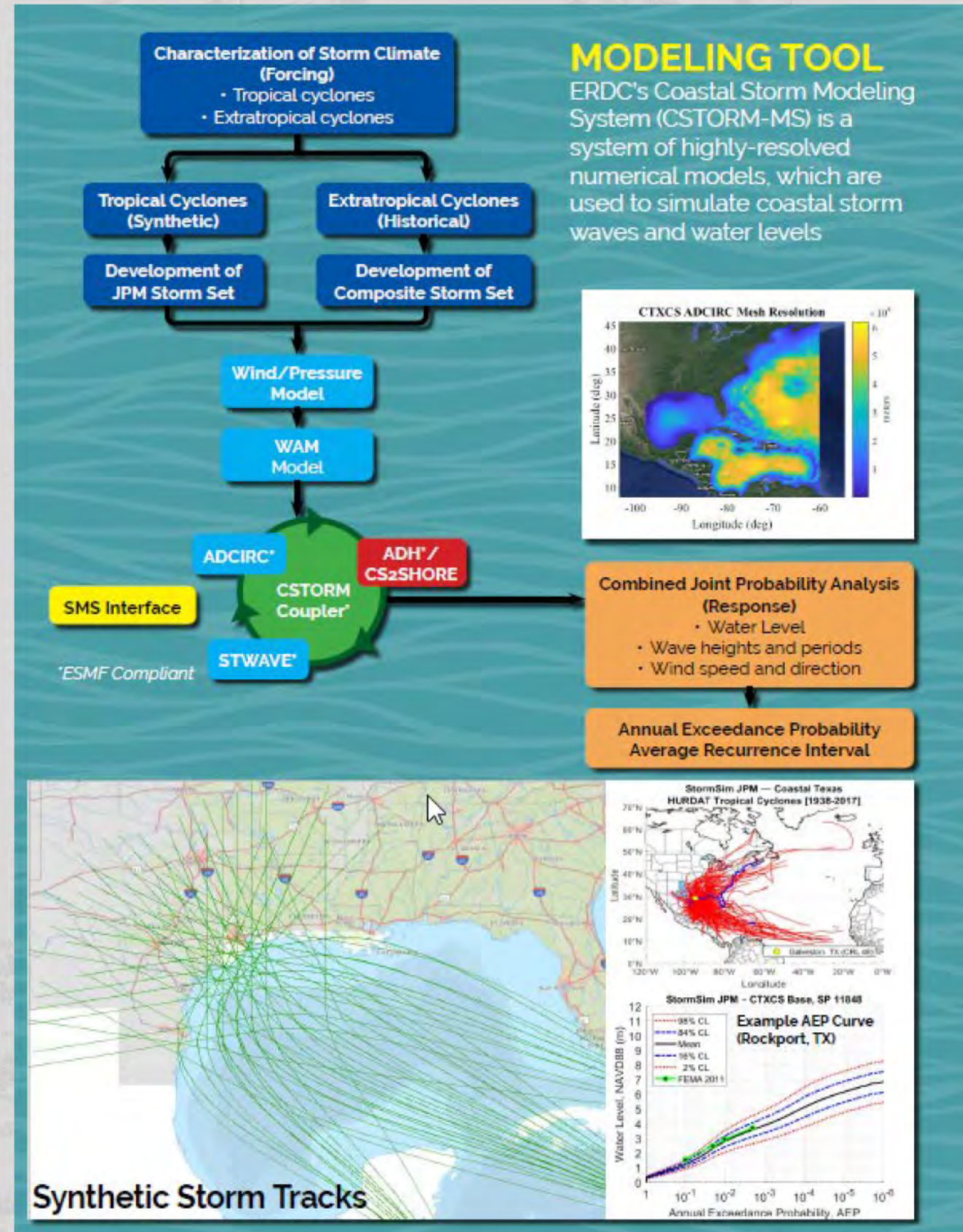
US Army Corps  
of Engineers.

# PLAN EVALUATION & COMPARISONS

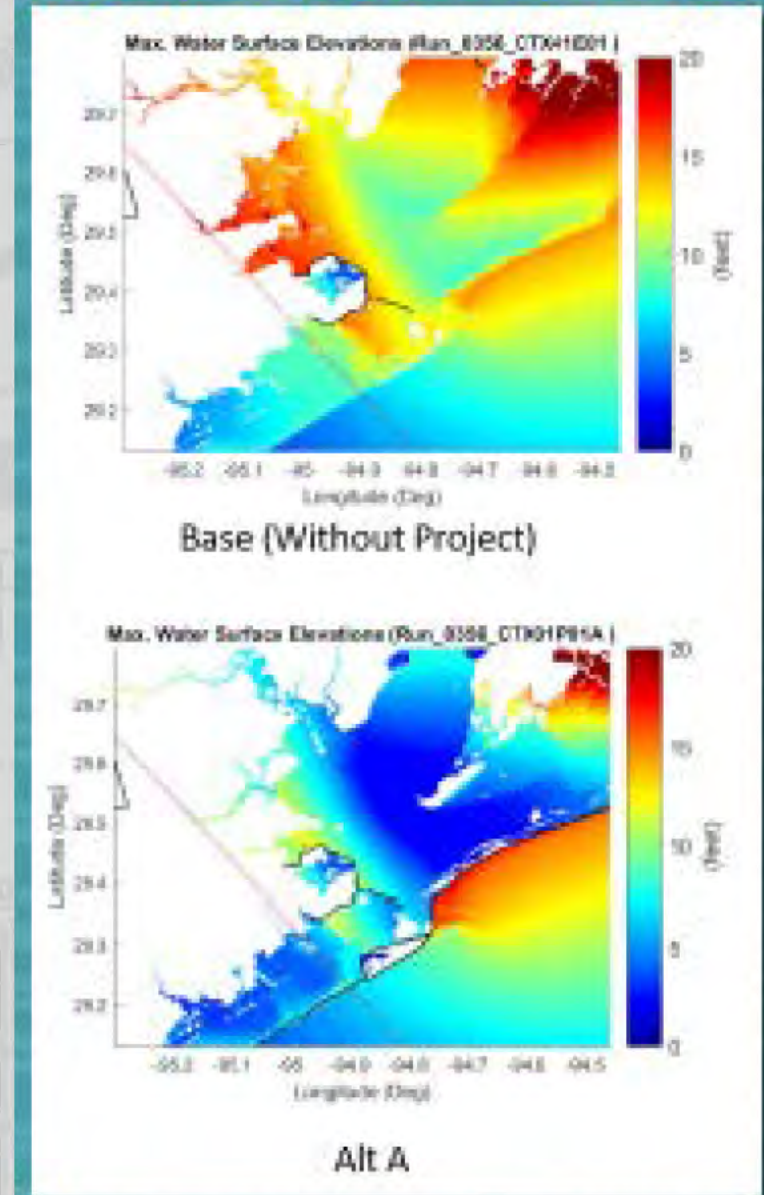


Feasibility studies evaluate alternatives to identify a plans that are:

- ✓ Engineeringly sound
- ✓ Environmentally acceptable
- ✓ Economically justified



## RESPONSE FROM A REPRESENTATIVE STORM



CAT 4 storm, (CP- 915 mb, Rmax - 24.6 nm). Maximum wind speeds reached 152 mph. Landfall was just south of Galveston Island but north of Freeport, TX, with an almost perpendicular angle of coastline. Significant reduction in storm surge has been observed with alternative A.



US Army Corps of Engineers

# ALTERNATIVE A: COASTAL BARRIER

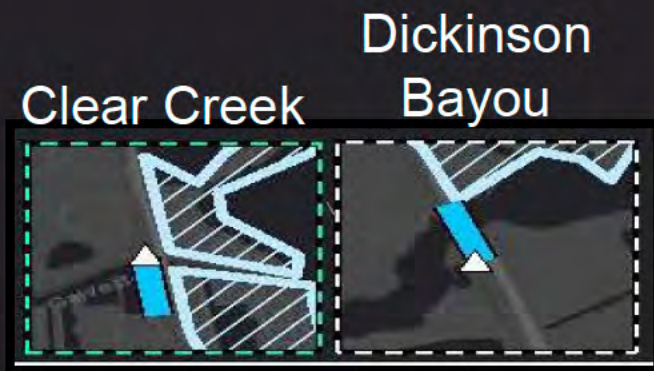
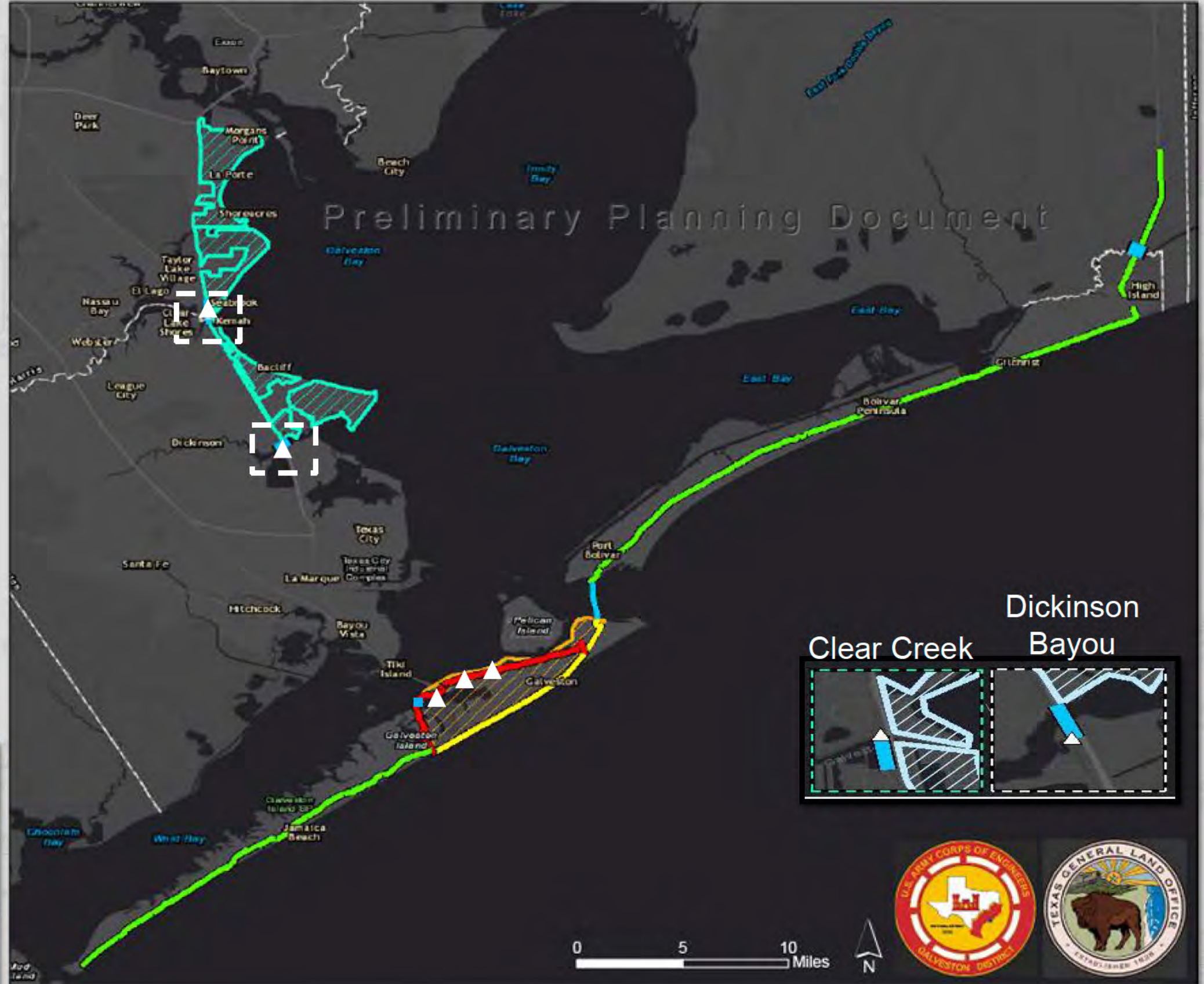


## Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

### Alternative A

-  Navigation and Environmental Gates
-  Levees/Floodwalls
-  Galveston Ring Levee
-  Galveston Seawall Improvements
-  Galveston Island Nonstructural Improvements
-  Nonstructural Improvements

\* One or both of these features may be selected





US Army Corps of Engineers



# ALTERNATIVE D2: BAY RIM

## Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

### Alternative D2

-  Navigation and Environmental Gates
-  Levees/Floodwalls
-  Galveston Ring Levee
-  Galveston Seawall Improvements
-  Texas City Hurricane Flood Protection Levee Improvements
-  Navigation Gate
-  Environmental Gate







# UPPER COAST CSRM PLAN COMPARISONS



## Plan A

- Region wide CSRM system **focusing on all benefit categories**, Measured and Unmeasurable
- Provides **risk reduction** to the regions **critical navigation features**
- Potential induced damages in areas **where structures are already raised**
- The **Galveston Ring Levee** is only needed to address **wind driven surges** from the north.
- **As the regions population expands** westward and eastward the system provides **some level of risk reduction**
- **Maintains** the regions critical landscape features
- **Provides** risk reduction the regions **evacuation routes**
- **System can easily be adapted** to address extreme events due the bay's storage capacity

## Plan D2

- Region wide CSRM system **focusing on dense industrial and commercial benefit area**
- **Leaves** the regions **critical navigation features outside** of the system
- Potential induced damages in areas **where surge can flank the system**
- The **Galveston Ring Levee** to address **wind driven surges** from the north **AND induced stages**
- **As the regions population expands** westward and eastward the system **leaves the population out**
- **System could be closed off** to address nuisance flooding if RSLR becomes an issue
- **Under extreme events** when the system is overtopped the **area is immediately inundated** increasing the life safety risk

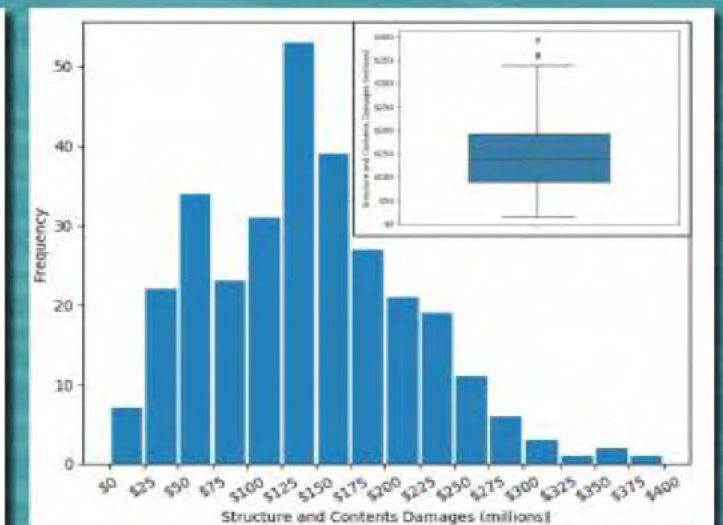
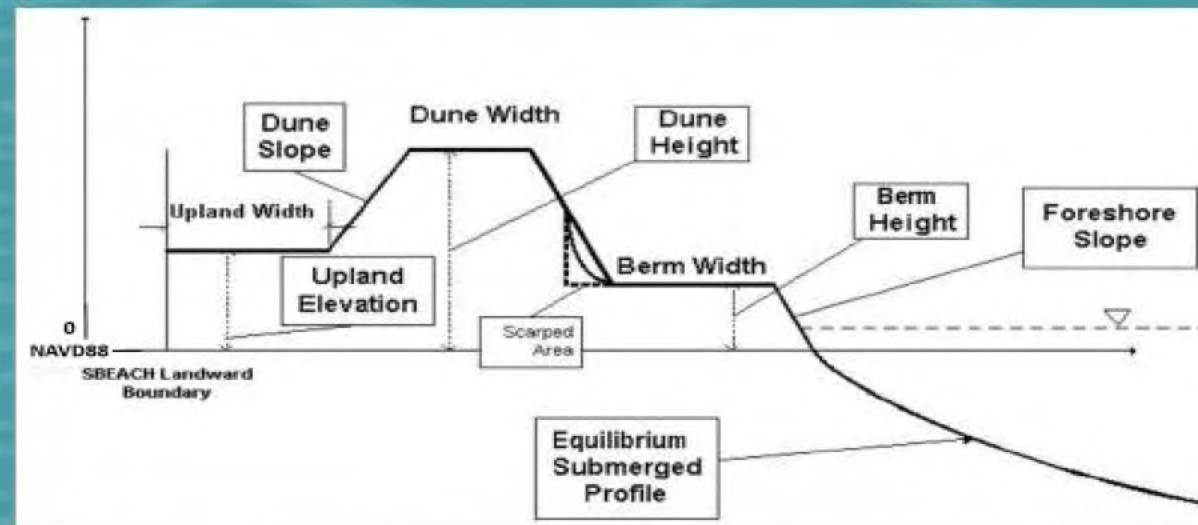


US Army Corps  
of Engineers.

# LOWER COAST CSRM SOUTH PADRE ISLAND



- Beneficial Use (BU) of dredge material has been used historically to offset long term erosion since 1988
- BU efforts uncertain when timing and funding is limited
- 2 miles of 12.5' x 100' dune
- 10-year renourishment cycles





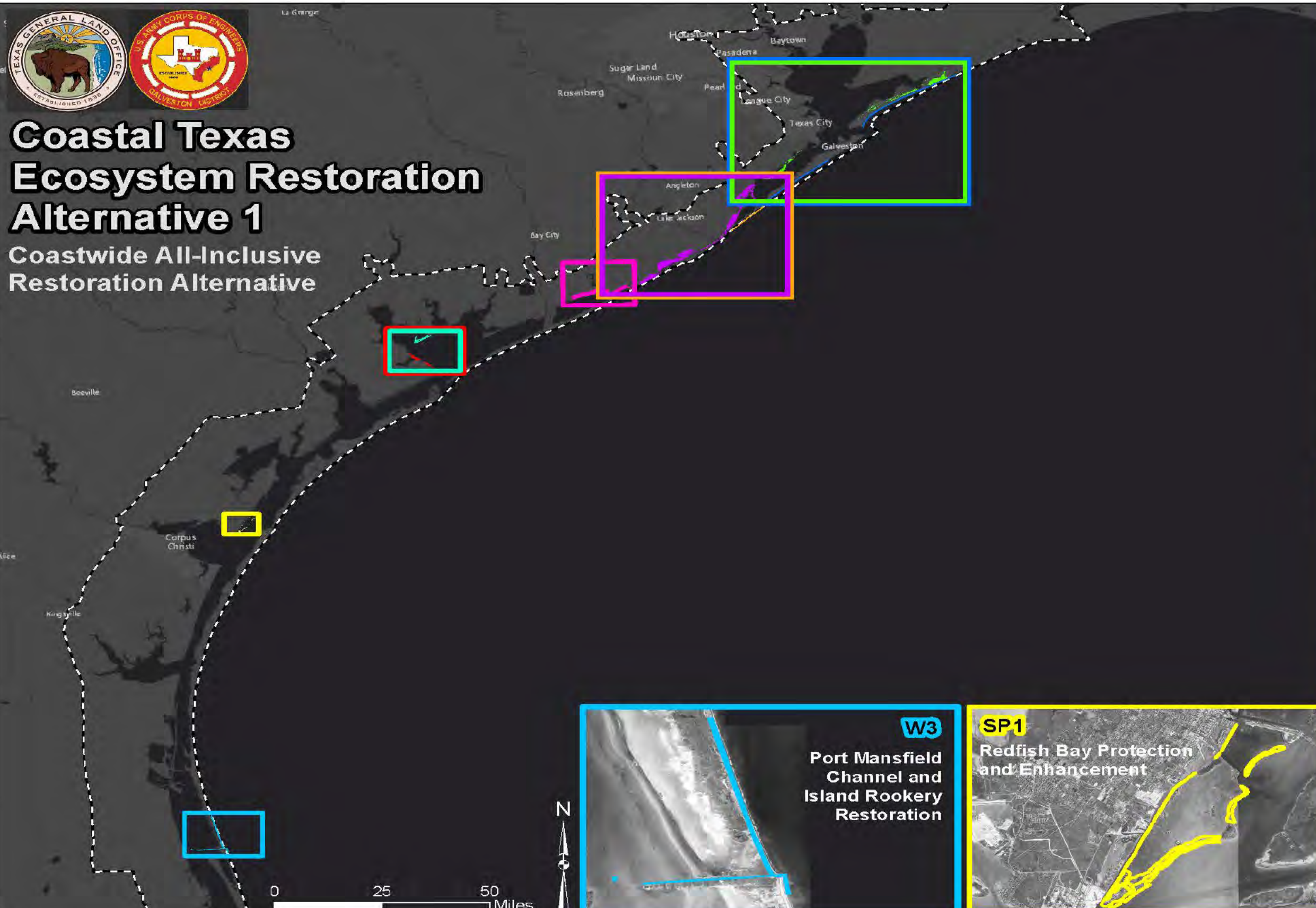
US Army Corps of Engineers

# ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION MEASURES



## Coastal Texas Ecosystem Restoration Alternative 1

Coastwide All-Inclusive Restoration Alternative



**G28**  
Bolivar Peninsula and West Bay GIWW Shoreline and Island Protection

**G5**  
Bolivar Peninsula/Galveston Island Gulf and Beach Dune Restoration

**B12**  
Bastrop Bay, Oyster Lake, West Bay, and GIWW Shoreline Restoration

**B2**  
Follets Island Gulf Beach and Dune Restoration

**M8**  
East Matagorda Bay Shoreline Protection

**W3**  
Port Mansfield Channel and Island Rookery Restoration

**SP1**  
Redfish Bay Protection and Enhancement

**CA5**  
Keller Bay Restoration

**CA6**  
Magnolia to Port O'Connor Shoreline Protection and Restoration



US Army Corps of Engineers

# THE TENTATIVELY SELECTED PLAN (TSP)



Coast-wide system of ecosystem restoration and storm-risk management features

TSP supports the resilience of coastal communities and natural habitats in Coastal Texas

**Coastwide:**

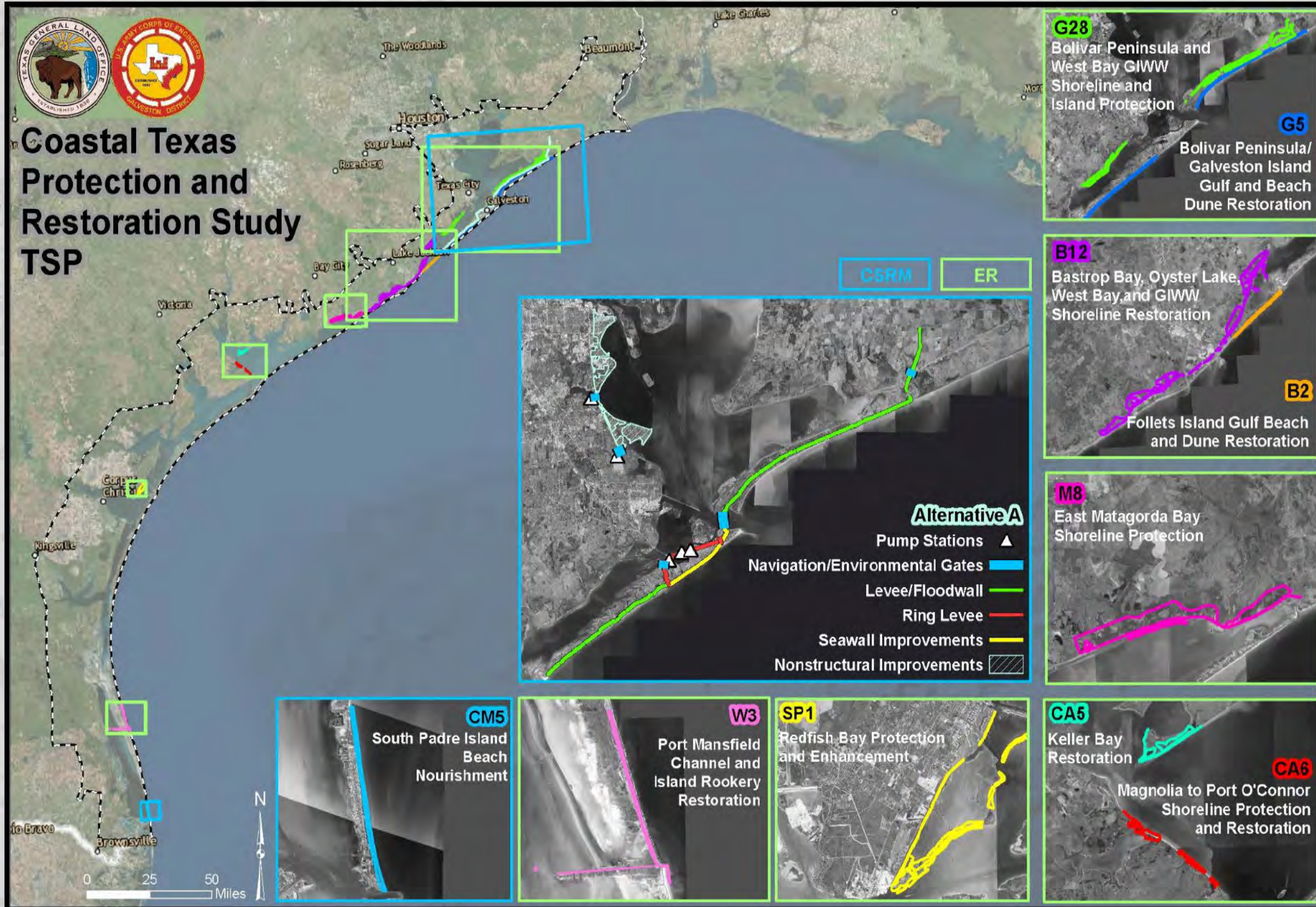
Large scale ER features which focus on critical landscape features and areas of threatened biologically diverse ecosystems

**Lower Coast:**

CSRM Dune and beach restoration project on South Padre Island

**Upper Coast:**

CSRM surge barrier system to protect the Houston-Galveston Region (Coastal Spine)





# TSP TOTAL PROJECT COST



**ESTIMATED  
TOTAL  
COST FOR  
TSP  
\$23B - \$32B**

**COASTWIDE ER  
MEASURES**

ER (ALT 1-2) = \$8.9B – \$11.9B

**LOWER COASTWIDE CSR  
MEASURES**

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND  
(REACHES 3 & 4) =  
\$71.6M – \$83.1M

**UPPER COASTWIDE CSR  
MEASURES**

ALTERNATIVE A  
(COASTAL BARRIER) =  
\$14.2B – \$19.9B



# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS & MITIGATION



- **Direct Impacts**

Alt A (TSP): 4,525.3 acres

Alt D2: 2,334.3 acres

South Padre: 365.8 acres

- **Indirect Impacts:**

- Altered tidal exchange
- Reduced velocities in Galveston Bay

- **Ecosystem Restoration Benefits**

- 160,000 acres of marsh, islands, dunes, beaches & oyster reefs



**TOTAL MITIGATION COST RANGE:**

**\$676 M – \$906 M**



US Army Corps  
of Engineers

# ALTERNATIVE A: COASTAL BARRIER

## PHASED DESIGN & OPTIMIZATION



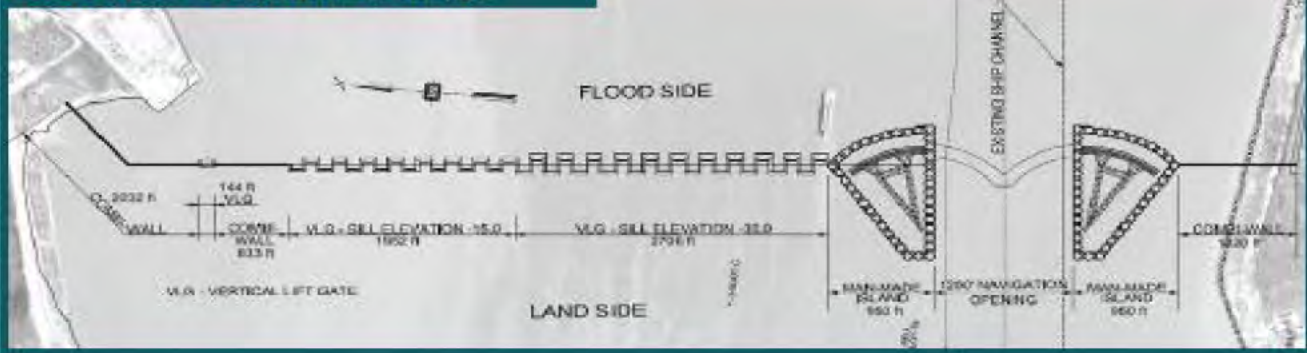
### Coastal Texas Study DIFR-EIS

- Used for Baseline Design and Cost development for alternative identification and evaluation
- Used to inform baseline Environmental Impacts
- Based on known designs and risk, based on existing projects

### Conceptual Design Features



### Conceptual Design Drawings



### Conceptual Construction Position Within Navigation Areas



Post Public/  
Independent/  
Policy Review &  
Contingent on  
Agency Decision  
Milestone  
Approval

### Focus on Scaling Measures and Features

- Continue to focus on avoiding, minimizing and reducing environmental impacts
- Focus on Risk and Reliability
- Focus on Operation Concerns
- Focus on Construction Cost Concerns

Maeslant Storm Barrier Rotterdam



Eastern Scheldt Barrier



Venice Mose Barrier



Ramspol Barrier





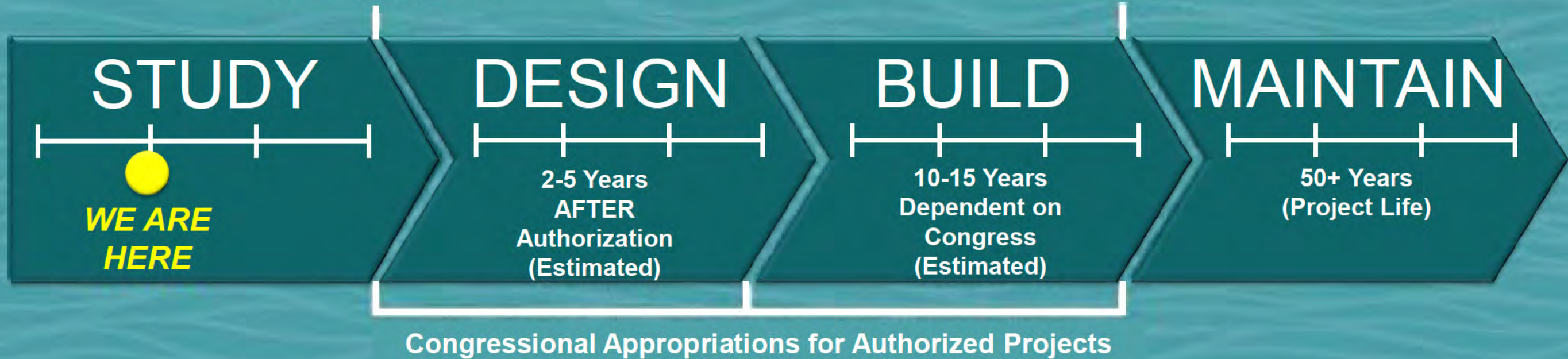
# NEXT STEPS



## ESTIMATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

Study Complete - Request Congressional Authorization for Project(s) 2021

Local Sponsor(s) Maintain Project







# COMMENT SUBMISSION OPTIONS



## #1 - Attend a Public Meeting

### Lower Coast

**27-Nov** | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | **Port LaVaca**

Bauer Community Center  
2300 TX-35, Port Lavaca, TX 77979



**28-Nov** | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | **Corpus Christi**

Harte Research Institute Texas A&M Corpus Christi  
6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78412



**29-Nov** | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | **Port Isabel**

Port Isabel Event & Cultural Center  
309 Railroad Avenue, Port Isabel, TX 78578



### Upper Coast

**11-Dec** | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | **Winnie**

Winnie Community Building  
335 South Park Street, Winnie, TX 77665



**12-Dec** | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | **Galveston**

Galveston Island Convention Center  
5600 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77551



**15-Dec** | 1:00pm – 4:00pm | **Crystal Beach**

Crenshaw Elementary and Middle School  
416 State Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX 77650



**18-Dec** | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | **Seabrook**

Bay Area Community Center  
5002 E NASA Parkway, Seabrook, TX 77586



## #2 - Send a Letter

MAIL TO:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Galveston District  
Attn: Ms. Jennifer Morgan  
Environmental Compliance Branch  
Regional Planning and Environmental  
Center  
P.O. Box 1229  
Galveston, TX 77553-1229

## #3 - Send an Email

[CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil](mailto:CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil)

**Deadline:**

**January 9, 2019**



US Army Corps of Engineers

# COASTALSTUDY.TEXAS.GOV



COASTAL TEXAS STUDY

Overview Alternatives Get Involved Resources Contacts



## Coastal Texas Protection & Restoration Feasibility Study

**Planning and Environmental Documents for Public Review:  
Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement**

The community is invited to review the plans and participate in a series of public meetings:

[LEARN MORE](#)



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in partnership with the Texas General Land Office, began an examination in November 2015 of the feasibility of constructing projects for coastal storm risk management and ecosystem restoration along the Texas coast.

The Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study, also known as the Coastal Texas Study, will involve engineering, economic and environmental analyses on large-scale projects, which may be considered by Congress for authorization and funding.

The feasibility study and report will be complete in 2021. The Coastal Texas Study recommendations will enhance resiliency in coastal communities and improve our capabilities to prepare for, resist, recover and adapt to coastal hazards.



### Coastal Storm Risk Management

Develop and evaluate coastal storm risk management solutions to reduce the damage from tropical storms and hurricanes incurred by coastal communities and industries.


[MORE](#)



### Ecosystem Restoration

Increase the net quality and quantity of coastal ecosystem resources by maintaining, protecting and restoring coastal Texas ecosystems, and fish and wildlife habitat.

[MORE](#)




### Environmental Impact Analyses

An environmental impact statement will be completed under the procedures of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

[MORE](#)



Galveston District  
Southwestern Division

October 2018



# Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

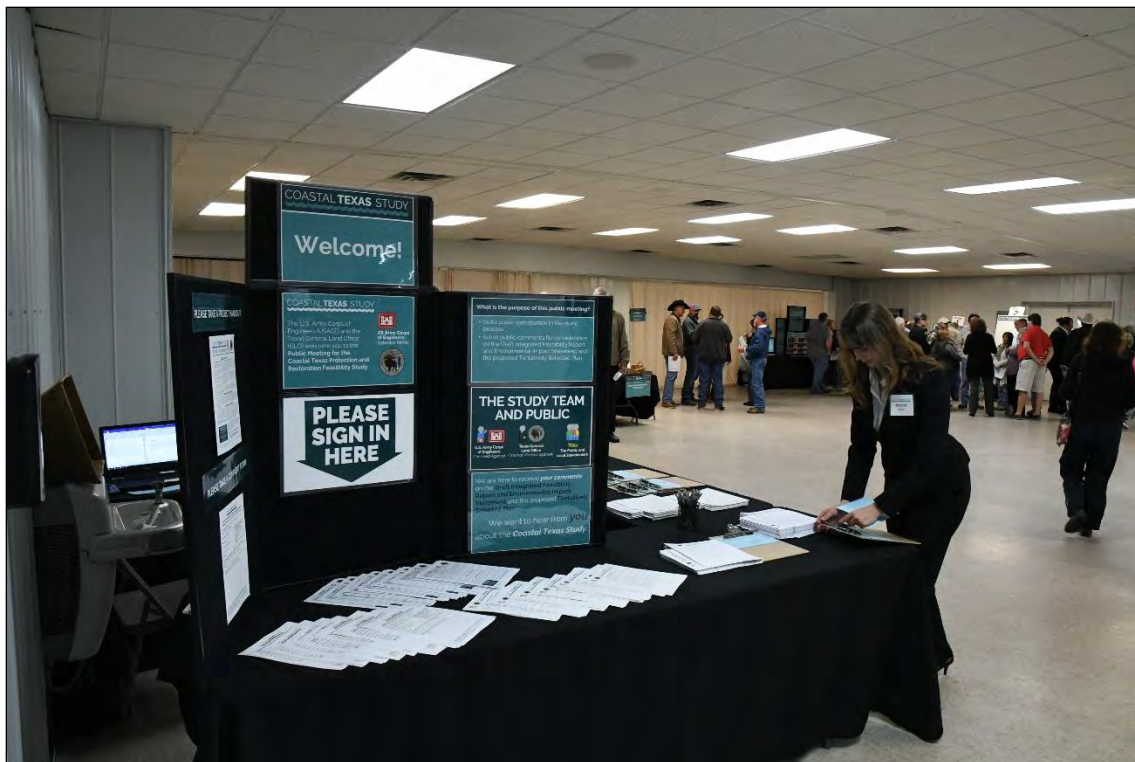
## Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement

US Army Corps of Engineers

## **Appendix G**

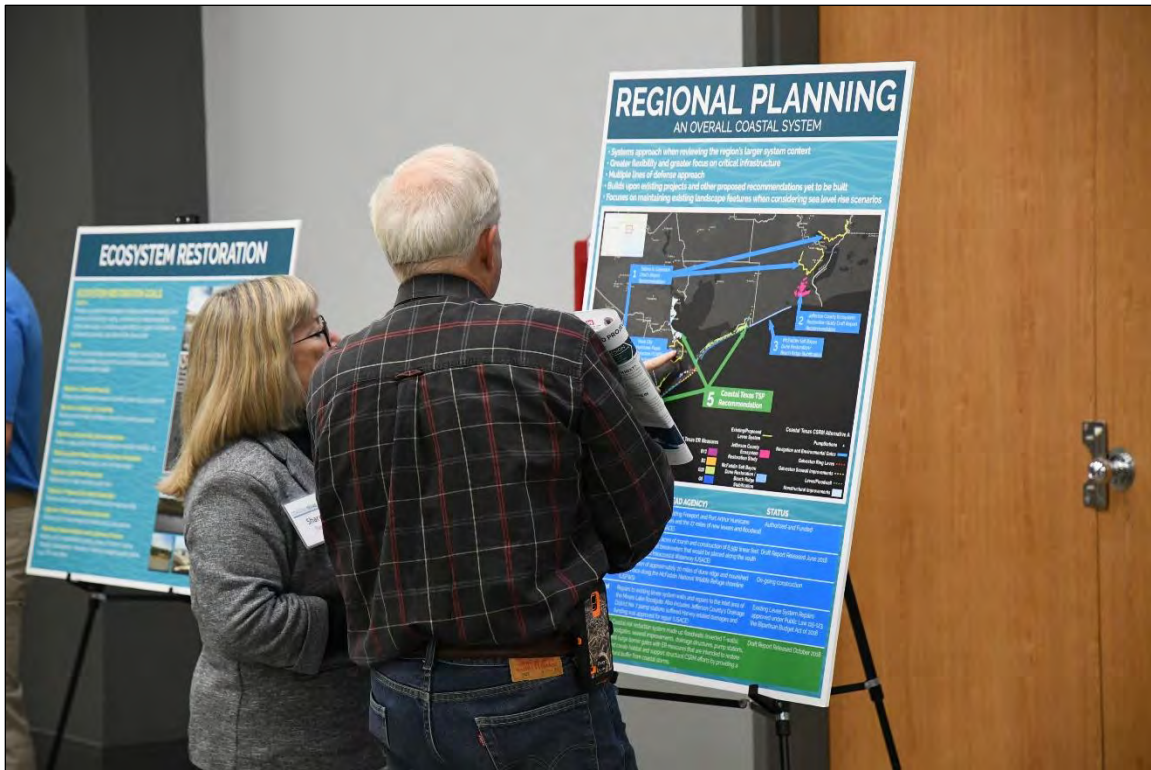
### **Meeting Photographs**



Public meetings were held for the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study in November and December 2018. The public meetings were held in a combined open house and town hall style.



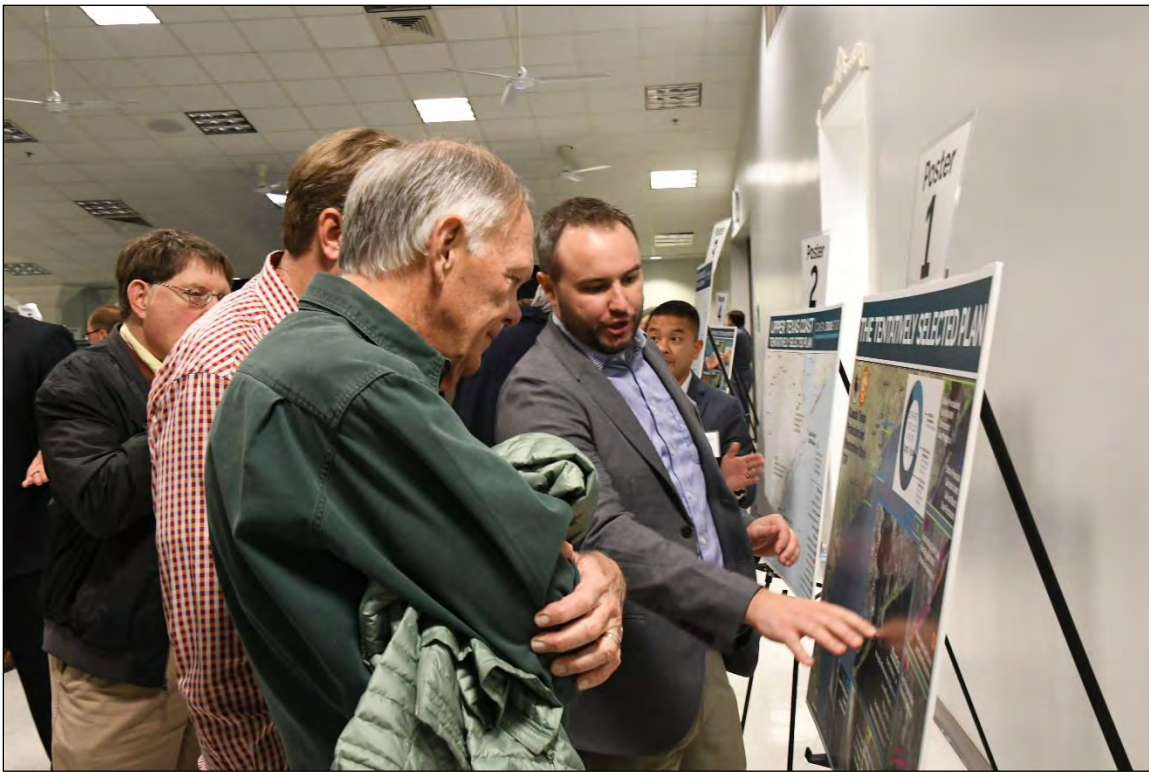
Upon arrival, attendees were asked to complete an attendee card and were provided with meeting materials including an agenda, comment form, and study summary handout.



During the open house portion of the meeting, attendees were invited to view the informational displays arranged around the meeting space.



Attendees were encouraged to discuss the study with available study team representatives.



Study team representatives were available to answer questions at each of the informational displays.



Attendees were encouraged to view the approximately 20-minute-long informational video about the study's Tentatively Selected Plan. The informational study video was played on a loop during the open house portion of the meeting.



Following the open house, a study overview video was presented to attendees before beginning the formal presentation.



At the conclusion of the study overview video presentation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Galveston District provided opening remarks to the meeting attendees.



The Texas General Land Office also provided opening remarks before beginning the formal presentation.



Following opening remarks, the USACE Project Manager for the study gave a formal presentation that included information about the study focus, plan formulation, alternatives for consideration, study alternatives, the TSP, effects on environmental quality, and the study process.





At the conclusion of the formal presentation, attendees had the opportunity to provide oral comments. Commenters were given one minute to speak and were called in the order in which they registered.



Oral comments were recorded and documented by certified court reporter during each public meeting.

## **Appendix H**

### **Public Notices & Stakeholder Mailing List**

## **Federal Register Notice of Availability**

**BILLING CODE: 3720-58**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers**

**Joint Notice of Availability for the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study Draft  
Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (USACE) announces the release of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS) for the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study, Texas. The DIFR-EIS documents the existing condition of environmental resources in and around areas considered for development, and potential impacts on those resources as a result of implementing the alternatives.

This public notice is also issued for the purpose of advising all known interested parties that there is pending before the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) a decision on water quality certification. A copy of the public notice, with a description of work, has been made available for review in the TCEQ's Austin office.

**DATES:** USACE will accept written public comments on the DIFR-EIS from October 26, 2018 to January 9, 2019. Comments on the DIFR-EIS must be postmarked by January 9, 2019.

**ADDRESSES:** Public comments can be mailed to: USACE, Galveston District, Attn: Mrs. Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and Environmental

Center, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229 or emailed to

*CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil*. See website: <http://coastalstudy.texas.gov/> for additional information.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mrs. Jennifer Morgan, (409) 766-3131.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Authority:** The lead agency for this proposed action is the USACE. This study has been prepared under the standing authority of Section 4091, Water Resources Development Act of 2007, Public Law 110-114. The non-Federal sponsor is the Texas General Land Office.

**Background:** This DIFR-EIS was prepared as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to present an evaluation of potential impacts associated with the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study (Coastal Texas) TSP. The USACE and the non-Federal sponsor for the study, the Texas General Land Office (GLO), have conducted this study and prepared the DIFR-EIS.

The study area for the Coastal Texas Study consists of the entire Texas Gulf coast from the mouth of the Sabine River to the mouth of the Rio Grande, and includes the Gulf and tidal waters, barrier islands, estuaries, coastal wetlands, rivers and streams, borrow sources, and adjacent areas that make up the interrelated ecosystems along the coast of Texas. The study area encompasses 18 coastal counties along the Gulf coast and bayfronts.

This report presents the proposed alternatives that would reduce the risk of storm damage to industries and businesses critical to the Nation's economy and protect the health and safety of Texas coastal communities. The study analyzed alternatives that involved structural and nonstructural measures. Additionally, the report discusses alternatives intended to address critical coastal ecosystems in need of restoration, including wetlands, seagrass beds, sea turtle nesting habitat, piping

plover critical habitat, and bird rookery islands, as well as numerous Federal and State wildlife refuges.

**Tentatively Selected Plan:** The TSP consists of the Coastal Barrier Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRМ) System, South Padre Island CSRМ measure, and a comprehensive set of ecosystem restoration (ER) measures. The Coastal Barrier is a risk reduction system made up of the following features: floodwalls, floodgates, seawall improvements, drainage structures, pump stations, and surge barrier gates. One fundamental feature of the TSP is surge barrier structures that include floating sector gates for navigation traffic and environmental lift gates across the span at Bolivar Roads between Bolivar Peninsula and Galveston Island. The alternative includes four reaches: Eastern Tie-in Reach, Bolivar Peninsula Reach, Galveston Ring Levee/Floodwall Reach, and West Galveston Island Reach in addition to features located at Clear Creek Channel and Dickinson Bayou. The South Padre Island CSRМ measure consists of approximately 2.2 miles of dune and beach restoration along the barrier island on the Gulf, including renourishment cycles. The ER component of the TSP has been formulated to address the habitat loss and degradation from coastal processes. ER measures restore and create habitat and support structural CSRМ efforts by providing a natural buffer from coastal storms. ER measures proposed in this study include a combination of features formulated in specific geographic locations to restore diverse habitats and coastal features that provide multiple lines of defense against coastal storms and long term coastal processes. Restoration measures include beach and dune complexes, oyster reefs, bird rookery islands, wetland and marsh complexes, and protection of submerged aquatic vegetation.

A final decision will be made following the reviews and higher-level coordination within the USACE to select a plan for feasibility-level design and recommendation for implementation.

The decision will be documented in the Final Integrated Feasibility Report (FIFR)-EIS.

Coordination with the natural resource agencies will continue throughout the study process.

**Project Impacts and Environmental Compliance:** Preliminary studies indicate that the recommended plan's surge barrier gates (proposed as features of the Coastal Barrier) may alter wetland functions by constricting tidal exchange and associated sediment transport, altering hydrosalinity gradients, reducing flow into and out of Galveston Bay, and increasing velocities near the gate openings at specific times. The TSP was formulated to reduce the risk of damages from coastal storms as well as avoid disturbance to environmentally significant resources.

Where impacts could not be avoided, they were quantified, and a conceptual mitigation plan was formulated. Impacts would be fully compensated with the restoration of palustrine and estuarine emergent marsh in the amount determined during final feasibility planning. The Coastal Barrier would provide a level of protection to tidal and freshwater wetlands north of the barrier location by serving as a physical barrier against storm surge during coastal storms. The South Padre Island CSRM feature would restore the beach and dune complex; therefore, providing reduced risk to the area while sustaining and increasing beach habitat, and helping preserve existing wetland habitat on the bayside of the measure. Ecosystem restoration measures would restore the natural features of the Texas coast that provide habitat for many Federally threatened and endangered species and State species of concern. These measures will also maintain a natural buffer for upland areas from coastal processes, relative sea level rise (RSLR), and storm surge, while stabilizing the coastline by absorbing energy from waves and vessel wakes.

The DIFR-EIS presents an evaluation of the potential impacts to soils, waterbottoms, water quality, protected wildlife species, benthic organisms, essential fish habitat, coastal barrier resources, air quality, and noise. Additionally, potential impacts to floodplains, flood control,

protected/managed lands, and minority or low-income populations have been evaluated. Steps would be taken to avoid, minimize, and mitigate any potential impacts to the best extent practicable. The USACE is proposing to execute a Programmatic Agreement among USACE, the Texas State Historic Preservation Office, and any NFS, in coordination with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and Tribal Nations, to address the identification and discovery of cultural resources that may occur during the construction and maintenance of proposed or existing facilities.

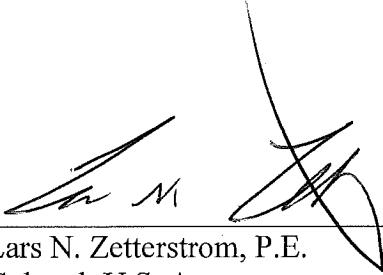
**Solicitation of Comments:** The USACE is soliciting comments from the public, Federal, State, and local agencies, elected officials, Tribal Nations, and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Comments will be used in preparation of the FIFR-EIS. Any comments concerning water quality certification may be submitted to the TCEQ, 401 Coordinator, MSC-150, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087.

**Meetings:** The Galveston District will hold public meetings at 5:30 p.m. for the DIFR-EIS on the following dates and locations: November 27, 2018 at Bauer Community Center, 2300 TX-35, Port Lavaca, TX 77979; November 28, 2018 at Harte Research Institute at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78412; November 29, 2018 at Port Isabel Event & Cultural Center, 309 Railroad Ave, Port Isabel, TX 78578; December 11, 2018 at Winnie Community Building, 335 South Park St, Winnie, TX 77665; December 12, 2018 at Galveston Island Convention Center, 5600 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77551; and December 18, 2018 at Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E NASA Parkway, Seabrook, TX 77586.

**Document Availability:** Compact disc copies of the DIFR-EIS are available for viewing at county libraries throughout the 18 county study area. The document can also be viewed and



downloaded from the Galveston District website: <http://www.swg.usace.army.mil/Business-With-Us/Planning-Environmental-Branch/Documents-for-Public-Review/>.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lars N. Zetterstrom', written over a horizontal line.

Lars N. Zetterstrom, P.E.  
Colonel, U.S. Army  
Commanding

## Mailed Notices



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, GALVESTON DISTRICT  
P. O. BOX 1229  
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77553-1229

**JOINT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
DRAFT INTEGRATED FEASIBILITY REPORT &  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR THE PROPOSED U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
COASTAL TEXAS PROTECTION AND RESTORATION STUDY, TEXAS  
October 2018**

The public is hereby notified of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS) for the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study, Texas prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (USACE) in partnership with the Texas General Land Office. The study was Authorized by Congress in Section 4091, Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law [P.L.] 110-114), as amended. The report will be available at the following URL address:

**<http://coastalstudy.texas.gov/>**

Compact disc (CD) copies of the report can be requested from Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229. In addition, CDs of the report are available for viewing at the following libraries:

- Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy St, Galveston, TX 77550
- Friendswood Public Library, 416 S Friendswood Dr., Friendswood, TX 77546
- Moore Memorial Public Library, 1701 9th Ave N, Texas City, TX 77590
- La Porte Library, 600 S Broadway St., La Porte, TX 77571
- La Marque Public Library, 1111 Bayou Road, La Marque, TX 77568
- Deer Park Library, 3009 Center Street, Deer Park, TX 77536
- Mae S Bruce Library, 13302 6th St, Santa Fe, TX 77510
- Pasadena Central Public Library, 1201 Jeff Ginn Memorial Dr., Pasadena, TX 77506
- Hitchcock Public Library, 8005 Barry Ave, Hitchcock, TX 77563
- Sterling Municipal Library, 1 Mary Elizabeth Wilbanks Ave, Baytown, TX 77520
- Dickinson Public Library, 4411 TX-3, Dickinson, TX 77539

- North Channel Library, 15741 Wallisville Road, Houston, TX 77049
- Evelyn Meador Library, 2400 North Meyer Avenue, Seabrook, TX 77586
- Chambers County Library, 202 Cummings Street, Anahuac, TX 77514
- Helen Hall Public Library, 100 W. Walker, League City, TX 77573
- Freeport Branch Library, 410 Brazosport Blvd., Freeport, TX 77541
- Clear Lake City-County Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Ln, Houston, TX 77062
- Clute Branch Library, 215 North Shanks, Clute, TX 77531
- Lake Jackson Library, 250 Circle Way, Lake Jackson, TX 77566
- Aransas County Public Library, 701 E Mimosa St, Rockport, TX 78382
- Ed & Hazel Richmond Public Library, 110 N Lamont St., Aransas Pass, TX 78336
- Ellis Memorial Library, 700 W Ave A, Port Aransas, TX 78373
- Bay City Public Library, 1100 7th St, Bay City, TX 77414
- Port Isabel Public Library, 213 North Yturria St, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- Brazoria Library, 620 South Brooks Street, Brazoria, TX 77422
- Ingleside Public Library, 2775 Waco Street, Ingleside, TX 78362
- Sweeny Library, 205 West Ashley Wilson Road, Sweeny, TX 77480
- Bell Whittington Public Library, 2400 Memorial Pkwy, Portland, TX 78374
- Palacios Library, 326 Main Street, Palacios, TX 77465
- Corpus Christi Cllr-Times Library, 820 North Lower Broadway St, Corpus Christi, TX 78401
- Calhoun County Branch Library, 1 Lamar Street #1, Point Comfort, TX 77978
- Reber Memorial Library, 190 North 4th Street, Raymondville, TX 78580
- Laguna Vista Public Library, 1300 Palm Blvd, Laguna Vista, TX 78578
- Anita and W.T. Neyland Public Library, 1230 Carmel Parkway, Corpus Christi, TX 78401

**Information meetings will be held along the Texas Coast during the public comment period:**

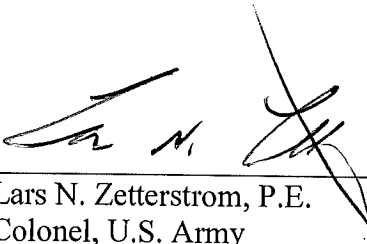
- 5:30 PM - Tuesday, November 27, 2018 - Bauer Community Center, 2300 TX-35, Port Lavaca, TX 77979
- 5:30 PM - Wednesday, November 28, 2018 - Harte Research Institute at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Dr., Corpus Christi, TX 78412
- 5:30 PM - Thursday, November 29, 2018- Port Isabel Event & Cultural Center, 309 Railroad Ave, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- 5:30 PM - Tuesday, December 11, 2018 - Winnie Community Building, 335 South Park St, Winnie, TX 77665
- 5:30 PM - Wednesday, December 12, 2018 - Galveston Island Convention Center, 5600 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77551
- 5:30 PM - Tuesday, December 18, 2018 - Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E NASA Parkway, Seabrook, TX 77586

The USACE will accept written public comments on the integrated report for a **75-day period** starting on **October 26, 2018** and continuing through **January 9, 2019**. Comments on the report must be **postmarked by January 9, 2019**. You may send written comments or questions to the USACE, Galveston District, Attn: Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229, or you may email comments to: [CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil](mailto:CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil)

This public notice is also issued for the purpose of advising all known interested parties that there is pending before the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) a decision on water quality certification. **Any comments concerning this application may be submitted to the TCEQ, 401 Coordinator, MSC-150, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087.** A copy of the public notice, with a description of work, has been made available for review in the TCEQ's Austin office.

17 OCT 18

Date



Lars N. Zetterstrom, P.E.  
Colonel, U.S. Army  
Commanding

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. Army Engineer District, Galveston  
Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 1229  
Galveston, Texas 77553-1229

---

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
ATTN: CESWF-PEC-CC

## **Stakeholder Mailing List**

[REDACTED] SUTJAK, LLC [REDACTED]	TRAVIS, NELLIE R [REDACTED]
TANG, MERCEDES [REDACTED]	TREVINO, REYNALDO R & MARIA I [REDACTED]
TANGNEY, KAY & PATRICK J BOOMS [REDACTED]	TRIBBLE, RICKY & CYNTHIA [REDACTED]
TANNER, TROY LEE & JENNELLE KAY [REDACTED]	TRUONG, NGA N & TUYET N [REDACTED] 9
TAYLOR, BETTY S, Est C/OSCOTT MILLER EXEC [REDACTED]	TURCO, STEVE & MERRI [REDACTED]
TAYLOR, JAMES F & PAMELA A [REDACTED]	VEGA, OTTMAR TED [REDACTED]
TAYLOR, MICHAEL C [REDACTED]	VERDUN, DAVID RENE' & ERIC WADE VERDUN AND GERALD ANDRE' VERDUN [REDACTED]
TELLER, LAURENCE M, JR [REDACTED]	VERRILL, MICHAEL & LORA [REDACTED]
TEMPLE, WALTER S & KAY F [REDACTED]	VEST, ROLLIN C & MARY L [REDACTED]
TEMPLETON, JOHN FOSTER & ALLIE CHENG [REDACTED]	VEZOS, EVDOKIA & LEONIDAS [REDACTED]
TERAN, JOSE L MIERY & KIMBERLY A VERNON [REDACTED]	VICKERS, RODNEY C & LAURA [REDACTED]
TEXAS DIVERSIFICATIONS LLC C/ORICHARD ROSS [REDACTED] 2	VICKERY, DUANE TR [REDACTED]
TEXAS FIRST BANK GALVESTON [REDACTED]	VICKERY, DUANE TRUSTEE [REDACTED]
TEXAS FROG FEST [REDACTED]	VILLA, DE MATEL [REDACTED] 69
THOMAS, CHARLES RAY [REDACTED]	VRATIS, GEORGE & LINDA CAREY [REDACTED] 650
THOMAS, EUGENIA MCDONALD [REDACTED]	VU, DAVID H & CHRISTINA HAI [REDACTED]
THOMAS, GAYLYNN [REDACTED]	W&J SMITH FAMILY PRTNSHIP LTD [REDACTED]



## **Newspaper Notices**

Anahuac Progress – The Vindicator – November 13, 2018

Brownsville Herald – November 9, 2018

Corpus Christi Caller Times – November 11, 2018

Galveston County Daily News – November 8, 2018

Houston Chronicle – November 9, 2018

Port Isabel-South Padre Press, November 9, 2018

Port Lavaca Wave – November 14, 2018

Valley Morning Star – November 9, 2018

Victoria Advocate – November 9, 2018

# THE VINDICATOR



★ LIBERTY COUNTY ★  
LIBERTY • BRYLEY • HARDY • HULL • DAKETTA • BAYWOOD • AMES • DENZIS • MOSS HILL • KEAETICK

thevindicator.com

P. O. Box 9189 • 1939 Trinity, Liberty, TX 77575 • 936-336-3611 • Fax: 936-336-3345 • publisher@thevindicator.com

## PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

State of Texas  
County of Liberty

BEFORE ME, THE UNDERSIGNED NOTARY, Jennifer Richardson  
ON THIS 13 NOV, 2019, PERSONALLY APPEARED  
Calynn Owens, KNOWN TO ME TO BE A CREDIBLE PERSON AND OF  
LAWFUL AGE, WHO BEING BY ME FIRST DULY SWORN, ON HIS/HER OATH, DEPOSES  
AND SAYS:

The attached: Public Meeting

Approved by: Crunch Enuira

Appeared in THE VINDICATOR, a newspaper printed in LIBERTY, with General Circulation in  
LIBERTY COUNTY, Texas for one week(s).

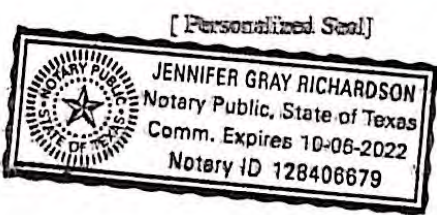
Starting: 11/9 and ending: 11/9

Publisher's Cost: \$ 423.50

Name: Calynn Owens (Publisher's Rep.)

Signed: Calynn Owens (Publisher's Rep.)

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME ON THE 13 day of NOV,  
2019, BY Calynn Owens [name of affiant]



Jennifer Richardson  
Notary Public's Signature



BROWNSVILLE  
**The Herald**

**PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT**

**STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF CAMERON**

I Jose Andres Carrizales, being duly sworn on his oath states that he is a representative of The Brownsville Herald and that the attached notice appeared in the following issues:

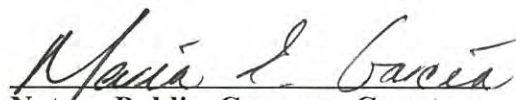
Date: NOVEMBER 09, 2018

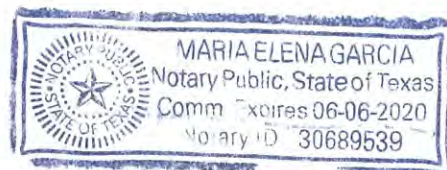
Acct: 83005008 CROUCH ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES / COASTAL TEXAS  
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICES

Ticket: 30107283

  
JOSE A. CARRIZALES III

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018.

  
Notary Public, Cameron County  
State of Texas





# Caller Times

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

## Certificate of Publication

In Matter of Publication of:

a

CROUCH ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.  
402 TEETSHORN STREET

HOUSTON, TX 77009

State of Wisconsin)

))§

County of Brown)

I, being first duly sworn, upon oath depose and say that I am a legal clerk and employee of the publisher, namely, the Corpus Christi Caller-Times, a daily newspaper published at Corpus Christi in said City and State, generally circulated in Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio, and San Patricio, Counties, and that the publication of which the annexed is a true copy, was inserted in the Corpus Christi Caller-Times on the following dates:

November 11, 2018

*Kazeme J*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Clerk

On this November 12, 2018, I certify that the attached document is a true and exact copy made by publisher.

*Vicky Felty 9-19-21*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, State of Wisconsin, County of Brown



Ad#: 2160904  
P.O.:  
# of Affidavits: 0

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
GALVESTON DISTRICT CORPS  
OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 1279  
GALVESTON, TEXAS  
75533-1279

### JOINT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY DRAFT INTEGRATED FEASIBILITY REPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE COASTAL TEXAS PROTECTION AND RESTORATION STUDY

October 2018  
The public is hereby notified of the draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (IFR/EIS) for the tentative Selected Plan of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study, prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (USACE) in partnership with the Texas General Land Office, authorized by Congress in Section 4054, Water Resources Development Act of 2002 (Public Law (P.L.) 107-116), as amended. The draft report investigates and recommends efforts to reduce the risk of coastal storm damage to industries and businesses critical to the Nation's economy and increase resiliency of Texas coastal communities. The report is available to view and download at:

<http://coastaltexas.gov>  
The report is available for viewing at the following libraries:

- Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy St. Galveston, TX 77550
  - Friendswood Public Library, 415 S Friendswood Dr. Friendswood, TX 77546
  - Nancy Memorial Public Library, 3281 9th Ave N. Texas City, TX 77590
  - La Porte Library, 609 S Broadway St. La Porte, TX 77571
  - La Marque Public Library, 111 Bayou Rd. La Marque, TX 77643
  - Deer Park Library, 2002 Center St. Deer Park, TX 77630
  - Mac S Bruce Library, 1302 28th St. Santa Fe, TX 77450
  - Pasadena Central Public Library, 1241 Jeff Cram Memorial Dr. Pasadena, TX 77666
  - Silschook Public Library, 8021 Mary Ave. Hitchcock, TX 77543
  - Seelye Memorial Library, 1 Mary Elizabeth Wilkins Ave. Baytown, TX 77528
  - Dickinson Public Library, 4411 E. 3rd Street, TX 77559
  - North Channel Library, 15741 Wynnville Rd. Houston, TX 77049
  - Wolfy Meadow Library, 2400 North Meyer Ave. Seabrook, TX 77646
  - Chambers County Library, 202 Cummings St. Anahuac, TX 77514
  - Hider Hall Public Library, 100 W. Walker, League City, TX 77573
  - Freepart Branch Library, 410 Brazzard Blvd. Freeport, TX 77541
  - Clear Lake City-County Freeman Branch Library, 1644 Plaza Ln. Houston, TX 77024
  - Gode Branch Library, 200 North Shanes, Cleer, TX 77531
  - Lake Jackson Library, 210 Circle Way, Lake Jackson, TX 77546
  - Aransas County Public Library, 701 E. Mimosa St. Rockport, TX 75842
  - F & H Hardin Public Library, 110 N. Lamont St. Aransas Pass, TX 77406
  - Ellis Memorial Library, 709 W. Ave. A. Port Aransas, TX 78123
  - Bay City Public Library, 1100 7th St. Bay City, TX 77418
  - Fort Isabel Public Library, 211 North Turner St. Port Isabel, TX 78378
  - Brazoria Library, 620 South Brooks St. Brazoria, TX 77627
  - Ingleside Public Library, 2775 Waco St. Ingleside, TX 78642
  - Severy Library, 205 West Archer, Wilson Road, Severy, TX 77678
  - Beth Whittington Public Library, 488 Memorial Pkwy. Portland, TX 78274
  - Galveston Library, 325 Main St. Galveston, TX 77550
  - Corpus Christi Caller-Times Library, 620 North Lower Broadway St. Corpus Christi, TX 78401
  - Calhoun County Branch Library, 1 Lamo St #1, Point Comfort, TX 77974
  - Reber Memorial Library, 150 North 4th St. Rockport, TX 75840
  - Laguna Vista Public Library, 1302 Palm Blvd. Laguna Vista, TX 78128
  - Anita and W.T. Newland Public Library, 1310 Carmel Pkwy. Corpus Christi, TX 78401
- Seven public information meetings will be held along the Texas coast during the public comment period:
- Tuesday, November 13, 5:30 - 8:00 PM - Baker Community Center, 2180 TX-36, Port Lavaca, TX 77979
  - Wednesday, November 28, 5:30 - 8:00 PM - Harle Research Institute at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, 1300 Ocean Dr. Corpus Christi, TX 78412
  - Thursday November 29, 5:30 - 8:00 PM - Fort Hughes (David A Cultural Center, 309 Railroad Ave. Port Isabel, TX 78378
  - Tuesday, December 11, 5:30 - 8:00 PM - Monie Community Building, 215 South Park St. Wrens, TX 77665
  - Wednesday, December 12, 5:30 - 8:00 PM - Galveston Island Convention Center, 1629 Seawall Blvd. Galveston, TX 77551
  - Saturday December 15, 1:00 - 4:00 PM - Crenshaw Elementary and Middle School, 414 1st St. Crystal Beach, TX 77523
  - Tuesday, December 18, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Bay Area Community Center, 502 E. 45th Pkwy. Seabrook, TX 77586
- Formal presentations will begin at 6:30 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 7:00 PM. For the meeting to be held on Saturday, December 15, formal presentations will begin at 2:00 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 2:30 PM.
- The USACE will accept written public comments on the report for a 75-day period starting on October 26, 2018 and continuing through January 9, 2019. Comments on the report must be postmarked by January 9, 2019. You may send written comments or questions to the USACE, Galveston District, Attn: Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, 2-D, Box 1279 Galveston, TX 77553-1279, or you may email comments to [staff@tx.usace.army.mil](mailto:staff@tx.usace.army.mil).
- This public notice is also issued for the purpose of advising all known interested persons that there is pending before the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) a decision on water quality certification. Any comments concerning this application may be submitted to the TCEQ, 4811 Greenway, MFC-102, P.O. Box 13667, Austin, TX 78713-3667. A copy of the public notice, with a description of work, has been made available for review in the TCEQ's Austin office.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
GALVESTON DISTRICT, CORPS  
OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 1229  
GALVESTON, TEXAS  
77553-1229  
JOINT NOTICE OF  
AVAILABILITY DRAFT  
INTEGRATED FEASIBILITY  
REPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR THE COASTAL TEXAS  
PROTECTION AND  
RESTORATION STUDY  
October 2018**

The public is hereby notified of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS) for the Tentatively Selected Plan of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study, prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (USACE) in partnership with the Texas General Land Office. Authorized by Congress in Section 4091, Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law [P.L.] 110- 114), as amended, the draft report investigates and recommends efforts to reduce the risk of coastal storm damage to industries and businesses critical to the Nation's economy and increase resiliency of Texas coastal communities. The report is available to view and download at:

<http://coastalstudy.texas.gov>  
The report is available for viewing at the following libraries:

- Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy St, Galveston, TX 77550
- Friendswood Public Library, 416 S Friendswood Dr, Friendswood, TX 77546
- Moore Memorial Public Library, 1701 9th Ave N, Texas City, TX 77590
- La Porte Library, 600 S Broadway St, La Porte, TX 77571
- La Marque Public Library, 1111 Bayou Rd, La Marque, TX 77568
- Deer Park Library, 3009 Center St, Deer Park, TX 77536
- Mae S Bruce Library, 13302 6th St, Santa Fe, TX 77510
- Pasadena Central Public Library, 1201 Jeff Ginn Memorial Dr, Pasadena, TX 77506
- Hitchcock Public Library, 8005 Barry Ave, Hitchcock, TX 77563
- Sterling Municipal Library, 1 Mary Elizabeth Wilbanks Ave, Baytown, TX 77520
- Dickinson Public Library, 4411 TX-3, Dickinson, TX 77539
- North Channel Library, 15741 Wallisville Rd, Houston, TX 77049
- Evelyn Meador Library, 2400 North Meyer Ave, Seabrook, TX 77586
- Chambers County Library, 202 Cummings St, Anahuac, TX 77514
- Heien Hall Public Library, 100 W. Walker, League City, TX 77573
- Freeport Branch Library, 410 Brazosport Blvd, Freeport, TX 77541
- Clear Lake City-County Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Ln, Houston, TX 77062
- Clute Branch Library, 215 North Shanks, Clute, TX 77531
- Lake Jackson Library, 250 Circle Way, Lake Jackson, TX 77566
- Aransas County Public

Aransas Pass, TX 78336

- Ellis Memorial Library, 700 W Ave A, Port Aransas, TX 78373
- Bay City Public Library, 1100 7th St, Bay City, TX 77414
- Port Isabel Public Library, 213 North Yturria St, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- Brazoria Library, 620 South Brooks St, Brazoria, TX 77422
- Ingleside Public Library, 2775 Waco St, Ingleside, TX 78362
- Sweeny Library, 205 West Ashley Wilson Road, Sweeny, TX 77480
- Bell Whittington Public Library, 2400 Memorial Pkwy, Portland, TX 78374
- Palacios Library, 326 Main St, Palacios, TX 77465
- Corpus Christi Caller-Times Library, 820 North Lower Broadway St, Corpus Christi, TX 78401
- Calhoun County Branch Library, 1 Lamar St #1, Point Comfort, TX 77978
- Reber Memorial Library, 190 North 4th St, Raymondville, TX 78580
- Laguna Vista Public Library, 1300 Palm Blvd, Laguna Vista, TX 78578
- Anita and W.T. Neyland Public Library, 1230 Carmel Pkwy, Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Seven public information meetings will be held along the Texas coast during the public comment period:

- Tuesday, November 27, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Bauer Community Center, 2300 TX-35, Port Lavaca, TX 77979
- Wednesday, November 28, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Harte Research Institute at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78412
- Thursday, November 29, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Port Isabel Event & Cultural Center, 309 Railroad Ave, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- Tuesday, December 11, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Winnie Community Building, 335 South Park St, Winnie, TX 77665
- Wednesday, December 12, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Galveston Island Convention Center, 5600 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77551
- Saturday, December 15, 1:00 - 4:30 PM - Crenshaw Elementary and Middle School, 416 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX 77650
- Tuesday, December 18, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E NASA Pkwy, Seabrook, TX 77586

Formal presentations will begin at 6:30 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 7:00 PM. For the meeting to be held on Saturday, December 15, formal presentations will begin at 2:00 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 2:30 PM.

The USACE will accept written public comments on the report for a 75-day period starting on October 26, 2018 and continuing through January 9, 2019. Comments on the report must be postmarked by January 9, 2019. You may send written comments or questions to the USACE, Galveston District, Attn: Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229, or you

advising all known interested persons that there is pending before the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) a decision on water quality certification. Any comments concerning this application may be submitted to the TCEQ, 401 Coordinator, MSC-150, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087. A copy of the public notice, with a description of work, has been made available for review in the TCEQ's Austin office.

AFFP  
Corp of Engineers

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
GALVESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 1229  
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77553-1229

JOINT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
DRAFT INTEGRATED FEASIBILITY REPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
STATEMENT  
FOR THE COASTAL TEXAS PROTECTION AND RESTORATION STUDY  
October 2018

**Affidavit of Publication**

STATE OF TX }  
COUNTY OF GALVESTON } SS

Donna Rhoades, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Donna Rhoades of the The Galveston County Daily News, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Galveston, Galveston County, TX; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:  
November 08, 2018


That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



Donna Rhoades

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 8th day of November 2018.

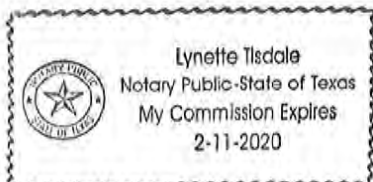


Lynette Tisdale, Notary Public, State of Texas, Galveston County, TX

My commission expires: February 11, 2020

18128307 00462972

Crouch Environmental Services, Inc.  
402 Teetshorn St  
Houston, TX 77009



The public is hereby notified of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS) for the Tentatively Selected Plan of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study, prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (USACE) in partnership with the Texas General Land Office. Authorized by Congress in Section 4091, Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law [P.L.] 110-114), as amended, the draft report investigates and recommends efforts to reduce the risk of coastal storm damage to industries and businesses critical to the Nation's economy and increase resiliency of Texas coastal communities. The report is available to view and download at:

<http://coastalstudy.texas.gov>

The report is available for viewing at the following libraries:

- Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy St, Galveston, TX 77550
- Friendswood Public Library, 416 S Friendswood Dr, Friendswood, TX 77546
- Moore Memorial Public Library, 1701 9th Ave N, Texas City, TX 77590
- La Porte Library, 600 S Broadway St, La Porte, TX 77571
- La Marque Public Library, 1111 Bayou Rd, La Marque, TX 77568
- Deer Park Library, 3009 Center St, Deer Park, TX 77536
- Misa S Bruce Library, 13302 6th St, Santa Fe, TX 77510
- Pasadena Central Public Library, 1201 Jeff Ginn Memorial Dr, Pasadena, TX 77506
- Hitchcock Public Library, 8005 Barry Ave, Hitchcock, TX 77563
- Sterling Municipal Library, 1 Mary Elizabeth Wilbanks Ave, Baytown, TX 77520
- Dickinson Public Library, 4411 TX-3, Dickinson, TX 77539
- North Channel Library, 15741 Walkville Rd, Houston, TX 77049
- Evelyn Meador Library, 2400 North Meyer Ave, Seabrook, TX 77566
- Chambers County Library, 202 Cummings St, Anahuac, TX 77514
- Helen Hall Public Library, 100 W Walker, League City, TX 77573
- Freeport Branch Library, 410 Brazosport Blvd, Freeport, TX 77541
- Clear Lake City/County Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Ln, Houston, TX 77062
- Clute Branch Library, 215 North Shanks, Clute, TX 77531
- Lake Jackson Library, 250 Circle Way, Lake Jackson, TX 77566
- Aransas County Public Library, 701 E Mimosa St, Rockport, TX 78382
- Ed & Hazel Richmond Public Library, 110 N Lamont St, Aransas Pass, TX 78336
- Ellis Memorial Library, 700 W Ave A, Port Aransas, TX 78373
- Bay City Public Library, 1100 7th St, Bay City, TX 77414
- Port Isabel Public Library, 213 North Ylurria St, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- Brazoria Library, 620 South Brooks St, Brazoria, TX 77422
- Ingleside Public Library, 2775 Waco St, Ingleside, TX 78362
- Sweeny Library, 205 West Ashley Wilson Road, Sweeny, TX 77480
- Bell Whittington Public Library, 2400 Memorial Pkwy, Portland, TX 78374
- Palacios Library, 326 Main St, Palacios, TX 77465
- Corpus Christi Collier-Limes Library, 820 North Lower Broadway St, Corpus Christi, TX 78401
- Calhoun County Branch Library, 1 Lamar St #1, Port Comfort, TX 77978
- Reber Memorial Library, 190 North 4th St, Raymondville, TX 78580
- Laguna Vista Public Library, 1300 Palm Blvd, Laguna Vista, TX 78578
- Anita and W.T. Neyland Public Library, 1230 Carmel Pkwy, Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Seven public information meetings will be held along the Texas coast during the public comment period:

- Tuesday, November 27, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Bauer Community Center, 2380 TX-35, Port Lavaca, TX 77979
- Wednesday, November 28, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Harle Research Institute at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78412
- Thursday, November 29, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Port Isabel Event & Cultural Center, 309 Railroad Ave, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- Tuesday, December 11, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Winnie Community Building, 335 South Park St, Winnie, TX 77665
- Wednesday, December 12, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Galveston Island Convention Center, 5600 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77551
- Saturday, December 15, 1:00 - 4:30 PM - Crenshaw Elementary and Middle School, 416 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX 77650
- Tuesday, December 18, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E NASA Pkwy, Seabrook, TX 77586

Formal presentations will begin at 6:30 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 7:00 PM. For the meeting to be held on Saturday, December 15, formal presentations will begin at 2:00 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 2:30 PM.

The USACE will accept written public comments on the report for a 75-day period starting on October 26, 2018 and continuing through January 9, 2019. Comments on the report must be postmarked by January 9, 2019. You may send written comments or questions to the USACE, Galveston District, Attn: Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229, or you may email comments to: [CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil](mailto:CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil).

This public notice is also issued for the purpose of advising all known interested persons that there is pending before the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) a decision on water quality certification. Any comments concerning this application may be submitted to the TCEQ, 401 Coordinator, MSC-150, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087. A copy of the public notice, with a description of work, has been made available for review at the TCEQ's Austin office.







AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS:

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared, the Newspaper Representative at the HOUSTON CHRONICLE, a daily newspaper published in Harris County, Texas, and generally circulated in the Counties of: HARRIS, TRINITY, WALKER, GRIMES, POLK, SAN JACINTO, WASHINGTON, MONTGOMERY, LIBERTY, AUSTIN, WALLER, CHAMBERS, COLORADO, BRAZORIA, FORT BEND, GALVESTON, WHARTON, JACKSON, and MATAGORDA and that the publication, of which the annexed herein, or attached to, is a true and correct copy, was published to-wit:

CROUCH ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE      0000183207      HC010446225  
RAN A LEGAL NOTICE  
SIZE BEING: 3 x116 L

Product	Date	Class	Page
Houston Chronicle	Nov 9 2018	Legal Notices	B 4

Victoria Bond AIR Clerk  
NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVE

Sworn and subscribed to before me, this 9th Day of November A.D. 2018



Charles E. Walichowski  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

# Legal Notices

To place legal notices  
email [legals@chron.com](mailto:legals@chron.com) or call 713.224.6868.

BIDS & PROPOSALS	BIDS & PROPOSALS	BIDS & PROPOSALS	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES	LEGAL NOTICES
------------------	------------------	------------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------

**NOTICE OF COMPETITIVE BIDS**

Harris County is requesting offers for the projects listed below. Offer requirements, including item description(s), submission due dates and times, type of pricing, payment method, and any bonding requirements, may be obtained on line at <https://purchasing.harriscountytx.gov> or in the Purchasing Agent's Office. Return offers to Harris County Purchasing Agent, 1001 Preston, Suite 670, Houston, Texas 77002, no later than 2:00 p.m. local time in Houston, Texas on specified due dates.

**Bids/Proposals Due November 12, 2018**

Job	18/0222	Nuclear Medicine Radiopharmaceuticals and Associated Pharmaceuticals
Job	18/0253	Fertilizer, Grass Seed, Insecticide and Related Items Reinsurance
Job	18/0313	Asphalt Overlay on Various Roads (2019-Package 1), Precinct 3
Job	18/0326	Construction of Water Distribution System along Surles Drive, Seymour Drive, McDermott Drive and Lee Road, Precinct 2
Job	18/0327	Build-Out of Warehouse at the Harris County Sheriff's Office Annex on the South Loop East
Job	18/0333	Legal Services for the Collection of Delinquent Taxes, Penalties, Interest and Costs
Job	18/0336	Installation of Remote Monitoring System at Bear Creek Pioneers Park Lift Station
Job	18/0337	GLO Project No. D2015-008, Precinct 3
Job	18/0338	Installation of Remote Monitoring System at Bear Creek Pioneers Park Lift Station
Job	18/0341	Tires, Tubes and Related Items
Job	18/0342	Inspection, Prevention Maintenance, Repair and Related Items for Storm Water Pump Stations

**Bids/Proposals Due November 19, 2018**

Job	18/0231	Data Circuits for Co-Location Sites
Job	18/0329	Electrical Upgrades at the Wilshire Office
Job	18/0340	Construction of Entry Monuments for Jess Jones Park and Farm League Park, Precinct 4
Job	18/0347	Steam Distilled and Drinking Bottled Water and Rental of Water Coolers

**Bids/Proposals Due November 26, 2018**

Job	18/0203	Site Clearing Preparation and Associated Improvements
Job	18/0332	Computer Maintenance Management System for Biomedical and Facility Engineering System Assets

**Bids/Proposals Due December 03, 2018**

Job	18/0343	Renovation and Refurbishment of Parking Lot at the Baytown Health Center
Job	18/0344	Channel Modifications and Bridge Construction at Brays Bayou Discrete Segment 108B (Federal Flood Control Project-Greenbriar Bridge Replacement)
Job	18/0345	Flood and Drainage Improvements at East Mount Houston Road, Beaumont Place and Northline Terrace
Job	18/0346	Subdivisions (GLO Project No. D2015-006), Precinct Repair and Refurbishment of Fire and Water Tank at Ben Taub Hospital (Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference and Site Visit on Monday, November 19, 2018)
Job	18/0348	Marketplace Enrollment Assistance Program

**Bids/Proposals Due December 10, 2018**

Job	18/0349	Playground Equipment at Sand Canyon Park (Phase II), Precinct 3
-----	---------	---

DeWight Doplauf,  
C.P.M., CPPO Purchasing Agent

**Harris County - Astrodome Revitalization Project (Phase 1) - Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing Enabling Package**

J. T. Vaughn Construction, LLC, is requesting proposals for the above reference project located at 8400 Kirby Houston, TX 77054. The following trade packages will be available for bid: General Works and Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing Enabling. All competitive bids are due on November 19, 2018 between the hours of 9:00am - 2:00pm at 10355 Westpark Dr. Houston, TX 77042, or emailed to [astrodomebids@vaughnconstruction.com](mailto:astrodomebids@vaughnconstruction.com). Bid Documents can be viewed at [www.jsatf.com](http://www.jsatf.com) (project ID 6204922); see supplemental CM Specifications included in bid documents for additional details. Contact Pete Ives at [pives@vaughnconstruction.com](mailto:pives@vaughnconstruction.com) or 281-904-4099 for any questions regarding bid.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

Harris County Department of Education (HCDPE) is accepting Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for RFP #19/010YR Contracted Services for Adult Education. Interested proposers may go to <https://hcdpebid.gov> and register to download the solicitation or call 713-696-8212. Proposals are due at 2:00 p.m. CT on December 4, 2018. It is HCDPE policy not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, limited English proficiency or handicapping condition in its programs.

November 7, 2018  
**Houston Community College**  
Request for Proposals (RFP-C)  
Commercial Truck & Trailer Parts & Repair Services  
Project No. 19-21  
Sealed proposals will be received in Procurement Operations (3100 Main Street, Room No. 1101, Houston, Texas 77002) until 2:00PM (local time) on Friday, December 7, 2018.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

**Notice To Creditors Ad \$74.00\***

Call the Legals Team  
713-224-6868  
Ext. 6435 or 4204

\*\$74.00 includes first 36 lines and 1 Affidavit of Publication  
\*\$1.92 per line over 36 lines

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Documents can be obtained at: [www.hccs.edu/about/hccp/procurement/](http://www.hccs.edu/about/hccp/procurement/)

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of EDWARD S. PITTS, Deceased, were issued on August 6, 2018, in Cause No. 4684-25, pending in the Probate Court No. 2, Harris County, Texas, to: GAIL WILSON.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: A. G. Crouch Attorney at Law  
235 W. Sealy Street  
Alvin, Texas 77511  
Telephone: (281) 331-5288  
Facsimile: (281) 331-9346  
E-mail: [agcrouch@crouchlawoffice.com](mailto:agcrouch@crouchlawoffice.com)

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT ABANDONED VEHICLE AUCTION**

Notice is hereby given to the owners and lien holders of the vehicles listed below that unless such vehicles are redeemed within 20 days of the date of this notice, they may be sold at public auction. Failure of the owner or lienholder to exercise their right to reclaim the vehicle within the time provided constitutes a waiver by the owner and lien holder of all rights, title and interest in the vehicle at public auction. The last registered owner/lien holder could not be determined on the following vehicles.

YR	MAKE/MODEL	VEHICLE ID NO
'04	PONT	2G2WP922741334378
'15	NISS	3N1AB7AP9FL650320
'01	NISS	5N1ED28T21C562689
'01	HOND	1HGCCG56681A013546
'95	TOYD	2T1AE99B05C111036
'14	NISS	3N1AB7AP4EY294909
'12	CHEV	1G1PFS3C37192066
'05	CHEV	1G1ZS52F45F336179
'07	CHEV	2G1WT58KX79108414
'05	HWDE TL	
'00	DODG	1B4G5P4LYB560936
'10	FORD	2FMDK3K3C3ABA69720
'07	HWME TL	5J3B8H11X7E028907
'01	NISS	JN8DR09Y21W587854
'80	FORD	U1SGLH40646
'00	HOMA TRAI	NOVINHOMEMADE
'05	DODG	1D4G6P4R06B213575
'06	JEEP	1J4G54K76C330483
'08	NISS	1N4AL21E78C216543
'99	NISS	1N4AB1D7XC7010907
'97	TOYO	4T1BF12BXXU184709
'02	ISUZ	JACDJS58X827J08266

AUCTIONS ARE HELD DAILY.  
FOR TIMES AND LOCATIONS  
CALL 713-247-5812  
TERMS ARE CASH AT TIME OF SALE.

**LEGAL NOTICES**

To place a legal notice e-mail [legals@chron.com](mailto:legals@chron.com) or call 713.224.6868

City of Houston  
Annual List of Significant Industrial Users that Are in Significant Noncompliance with Pretreatment Standards or Requirements

Pursuant to Code of Federal Regulations 40 CFR Part 403.8 (f)(2)(viii), the City of Houston is required to publish annually a list of industrial users of the City's sanitary sewer system which, during the last twelve-month reporting period, were in significant noncompliance with the discharge limits, reporting requirements or other pretreatment requirements. Based on the criteria established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the following industrial users were significantly noncompliant during the twelve-month period of October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018:

**SIGNIFICANTLY NONCOMPLIANT:**

COMPANY NAME	ADDRESS
BONNEY FORGE LP DBA WFI INTERNATIONAL	4407 HAYGOOD
COCA-COLA SOUTHWEST BEVERAGES, LLC	2800 BISSONNET STREET
COCA-COLA SOUTHWEST BEVERAGES, LLC	2819 BERKLEY STREET
DEL'S PLATING WORKS	8735 SCHUMACHER LANE
GSF ENERGY LLC	9416 LEY ROAD
LIQUID ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS OF TEXAS	250 GELHORN
MAUSER CORPORATION	4004 HOMESTEAD ROAD
MCCARTY ROAD LANDFILL	5757A OATES ROAD
METAL COATINGS CORPORATION	3700, 3700-D DUNVALE ROAD
NEW TURN-KEY COATINGS, LLC DBA TURN-KEY COATINGS	8411 RANNIE ROAD
QUALAWASH HOLDINGS, LLC	1710 CENTRAL STREET
RESULT ENTERPRISES, INC. DBA HIGH TECH FINISHING	6218 ROYALTON STREET
RKI, INC.	4301 CENTRAL PARKWAY
S & S PLATING COMPANY	5614 HEISER STREET
SERVICE TRANSPORT COMPANY	7900 ALMEDA GENOA ROAD
SURFACE TECHNIQUES, INC	1545 BLALOCK

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
GALVESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 1229  
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77553-1229

**JOINT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY**  
DRAFT INTEGRATED FEASIBILITY REPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR THE COASTAL TEXAS PROTECTION AND RESTORATION STUDY  
October 2018

The public is hereby notified of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS) for the Tentatively Selected Plan of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study, prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (USACE) in partnership with the Texas General Land Office. Authorized by Congress in Section 4091, Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law [P.L.] 110-114), as amended, the draft report investigates and recommends efforts to reduce the risk of coastal storm damage to industries and businesses critical to the Nation's economy and increase resiliency of Texas coastal communities. The report is available to view and download at:  
<http://coastalstudy.texas.gov>

The report is available for viewing at the following libraries:

- Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy St. Galveston, TX 77550
- Friendswood Public Library, 416 S Friendswood Dr, Friendswood, TX 77546
- Moore Memorial Public Library, 1701 9th Ave N, Texas City, TX 77590
- La Porte Library, 600 S Broadway St, La Porte, TX 77571
- La Marque Public Library, 1111 Bayou Rd, La Marque, TX 77568
- Deer Park Library, 3009 Center St, Deer Park, TX 77536
- Mae S Bruce Library, 13302 6th St, Santa Fe, TX 77414
- Pasadena Central Public Library, 1201 Jeff Ginn Memorial Dr, Pasadena, TX 77506
- Hitchcock Public Library, 8005 Barry Ave, Hitchcock, TX 77563
- Sterling Municipal Library, 1 Mary Elizabeth Wilbanks Ave, Baytown, TX 77520
- Dickinson Public Library, 4411 TX-3, Dickinson, TX 77539
- North Channel Library, 15741 Wallisville Rd, Houston, TX 77049
- Evelyn Meador Library, 2400 North Meyer Ave, Seabrook, TX 77586
- Chambers County Library, 202 Cummings St, Anahuac, TX 77514
- Helen Hall Public Library, 100 W. Walker, League City, TX 77573
- Freepore Branch Library, 410 Brazosport Blvd, Freepore, TX 77541
- Clear Lake City-County Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Ln, Houston, TX 77062
- Lake Jackson Library, 215 North Shanks, Clute, TX 77531
- Lake Jackson Library, 250 Circle Way, Lake Jackson, TX 77566
- Aransas County Public Library, 701 E Mimosa St, Rockport, TX 78382
- Ed & Hazel Richmond Public Library, 110 N Lamont St, Aransas Pass, TX 78336
- Ellis Memorial Library, 700 W Ave A, Port Aransas, TX 78373
- Bay City Public Library, 1100 7th St, Bay City, TX 77414
- Port Isabel Public Library, 213 North Yturria St, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- Brazoria Library, 620 South Brooks St, Brazoria, TX 77422
- Ingleside Public Library, 2775 Waco St, Ingleside, TX 78362
- Sweeny Library, 205 West Ashley Wilson Road, Sweeny, TX 77480
- Bell Whittington Public Library, 2400 Memorial Pkwy, Portland, TX 78374
- Palacios Library, 326 Main St, Palacios, TX 77465
- Corpus Christi Caller-Times Library, 820 North Lower Broadway St, Corpus Christi, TX 78401
- Calloun County Branch Library, 1 Lamar St #1, Point Comfort, TX 77978
- Reber Memorial Library, 190 North 4th St, Raymondville, TX 78580
- Laguna Vista Public Library, 1300 Palm Blvd, Laguna Vista, TX 78578
- Anita and W.T. Neyland Public Library, 1230 Carmel Pkwy, Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Seven public information meetings will be held along the Texas coast during the public comment period:

- Tuesday, November 27, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Bauer Community Center, 2300 TX-35, Port Lavaca, TX 77979
- Wednesday, November 28, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Harle Research Institute at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78412
- Thursday, November 29, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Port Isabel Event & Cultural Center, 309 Railroad Ave, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- Tuesday, December 11, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Winnie Community Building, 335 South Park St, Winnie, TX 77665
- Wednesday, December 12, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Galveston Island Convention Center, 5600 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77551
- Saturday, December 15, 1:00 - 4:30 PM - Crenshaw Elementary and Middle School, 416 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX 77650
- Tuesday, December 18, 5:30 - 9:00 PM - Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E NASA Pkwy, Seabrook, TX 77586

Formal presentations will be made at 6:30 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 7:00 PM. For the meeting to be held on Saturday, December 15, formal presentations will begin at 2:00 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 2:30 PM.

The USACE will accept written public comments on the report for a 75-day period starting on October 26, 2018 and continuing through January 9, 2019. Comments on the report must be postmarked by January 9, 2019. You may send written comments or questions to the USACE, Galveston District, Attn: Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229, or you may email comments to: [CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil](mailto:CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil).

This public notice is also issued for the purpose of advising all known interested persons that there is pending before the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) a decision on water quality certification. Any comments concerning this application may be submitted to the TCEQ, 401 Coordinator, MSC-150, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087. A copy of the public notice, with a description of work, has been made available for review in the TCEQ's Austin office.

**NOTICE OF SALE**

**HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 419**  
(A political subdivision of the State of Texas located within Harris County)

**\$5,000,000**

**Unlimited Tax Road Bonds, Series 2018**

**"Not Qualified Tax-Exempt Obligations"**

The Board of Directors of Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 419 (the "District") will publicly receive sealed bids on up to \$5,000,000 Unlimited Tax Road Bonds, Series 2018 (the "Bonds") on Monday, November 19, 2018 at 9:30 A.M., Central Standard Time, at the offices of Masterson Advisors LLC, 4400 Post Oak Parkway, Suite 2370, Houston, Texas 77027. At a Board of Directors meeting on Monday, November 19, 2018 at 11:00 A.M., Central Standard Time, at the District's meeting place, at the offices of Schwartz, Page & Harding, L.L.P., 1300 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1400, Houston, Texas 77056, the Board will immediately take action to reject any and all bids or accept the bid resulting in the lowest net interest cost to the District.

A bid for the Bonds, may be delivered to the District electronically, by telephone or delivered directly to the District in a sealed envelope addressed to the "President and Board of Directors, Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 419" at the above address of Masterson Advisors LLC. All bidders must submit a signed "Official Bid Form" and a bank Cashier's Check in the amount of \$100,000 payable to the order of "Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 419" as a Good Faith Deposit. Additional terms and conditions related to the submission of a bid for the Bonds are included in the "Official Notice of Sale."

The Bonds will mature serially on September 1, 2020 through 2042 and will be dated December 1, 2018. The "Official Notice of Sale," "Preliminary Official Statement," and "Official Bid Form" may be obtained from the District's Financial Advisor, Masterson Advisors LLC, 4400 Post Oak Parkway, Suite 2370, Houston, Texas 77027. This notice does not constitute an offer to sell the Bonds but is merely notice of sale of the Bonds as required by law. The offer to sell the Bonds will be made by means of the "Official Notice of Sale," "Preliminary Official Statement," and "Official Bid Form."

Mr. Robert G. Thomas  
President, Board of Directors  
Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 419  
Harris County, Texas

**NOTICE OF SALE**

**CLEAR LAKE CITY WATER AUTHORITY**  
(A Political Subdivision of the State of Texas  
Located Primarily within Harris County, Texas)

\$16,150,000

Waterworks and Sewer System Combination  
Unlimited Tax and Revenue Bonds, Series 2018

**Bids to be Submitted: 12:00 P.M., Central Time**  
**Bids to be Opened: 7:00 P.M., Central Time**  
**Tuesday, November 20, 2018**

**Place and Time of Sale:** The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Clear Lake City Water Authority (the "Authority") will receive and publicly read bids for the purchase of the Bonds at the designated meeting place inside the boundaries of the Authority, at 500 Bay Area Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77058 at 7:00 P.M., Central Time, Tuesday, November 20, 2018.

**Address of Bids:** Bids, which must be submitted in duplicate on the Official Bid Form and plainly marked "Bid for Bonds," should be addressed to "President and Board of Directors of Clear Lake City Water Authority," and delivered to the Authority's Financial Advisor, Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated, 1331 Lamar Street, Suite 1360, Houston, Texas 77010 prior to 12:00 P.M., Central Time, on the date of the bid opening. Any bid received after 12:00 P.M. Central Time, on Tuesday, November 20, 2018, will not be accepted and will be returned unopened. All bids must be accompanied by a Bank Cashier's Check in the amount of \$323,000 payable to the order of the Authority as a good faith deposit.

**Information:** The Bonds are more completely described in the "Official Notice of Sale" and the "Preliminary Official Statement" which may be obtained from Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated, 1331 Lamar Street, Suite 1360, Houston, Texas 77010; Financial Advisor to the Authority. The Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all irregularities except time of filing. This notice does not constitute an offer to sell the Bonds but is merely notice of sale of the Bonds as required by law. The offer to sell the Bonds will be made only by means of the "Official Notice of Sale," "Preliminary Official Statement," and the "Official Bid Form."

Board of Directors  
Clear Lake City Water Authority

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE OF SALE**

**HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 489**  
(A political subdivision of the State of Texas located within Harris County)

**\$5,000,000**

**Unlimited Tax Road Bonds, Series 2018**

**"Qualified Tax-Exempt Obligations"**

The Board of Directors of Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 489 (the "District") will publicly receive sealed bids on up to \$5,000,000 Unlimited Tax Road Bonds, Series 2018 (the "Bonds") on Monday, November 19, 2018, at 9:30 A.M., Houston Time, at the offices of Masterson Advisors LLC, 4400 Post Oak Parkway, Suite 2370, Houston, Texas 77027. At a Board of Directors meeting on Monday, November 19, 2018, at 11:00 A.M. Houston Time, at the offices of Schwartz, Page & Harding, L.L.P., 1300 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1400, Houston, Texas 77056, the Board will immediately take action to reject any and all bids or accept the bid resulting in the lowest net interest cost to the District.

A bid for the Bonds, may be delivered to the District electronically, by telephone or delivered directly to the District in a sealed envelope addressed to the "President and Board of Directors, Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 489" at the above address of Masterson Advisors LLC. All bidders must submit a signed "Official Bid Form" and a bank Cashier's Check in the amount of \$100,000 payable to the order of "Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 489" as a Good Faith Deposit. Additional terms and conditions related to the submission of a bid for the Bonds are included in the "Official Notice of Sale."

The Bonds will mature serially on September 1, 2020 through 2044, and will be dated December 1, 2018. The "Official Notice of Sale," "Preliminary Official Statement," and "Official Bid Form" may be obtained from the District's Financial Advisor, Masterson Advisors LLC, 4400 Post Oak Parkway, Suite 2370, Houston, Texas 77027. This notice does not constitute an offer to sell the Bonds but is merely notice of sale of the Bonds as required by law. The offer to sell the Bonds will be made by means of the "Official Notice of Sale," "Preliminary Official Statement," and "Official Bid Form."

Mr. Gregory J. Henry  
President, Board of Directors  
Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 489  
Harris County, Texas

**NOTICE OF SALE**

**CORNERSTONES MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT**  
(A Political Subdivision of the State of Texas  
Located within Harris and Fort Bend Counties, Texas)

\$3,185,000

Unlimited Tax Bonds, Series 2018

**Bids to be Submitted: 1:00 P.M., Central Time**  
**Bids to be Opened: 5:30 P.M., Central Time**  
**Monday, November 19, 2018**

**Place and Time of Sale:** The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Cornerstones Municipal Utility District (the "District") will receive and publicly read bids for the purchase of the Bonds at the designated meeting place outside the boundaries of the District, at 805 Hidden Canyon, Katy, Harris County, Texas 77450 at 5:30 P.M., Central Time, Monday, November 19, 2018.

**Address of Bids:** Bids, which must be submitted in duplicate on the Official Bid Form and plainly marked "Bid for Bonds," should be addressed to "President and Board of Directors of Cornerstones Municipal Utility District," and delivered to the District's Financial Advisor, Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated, 1331 Lamar Street, Suite 1360, Houston, Texas 77010 prior to 1:00 P.M., Central Time on the date of the bid opening. Any bid received after 1:00 P.M. Central Time, Monday, November 19, 2018, will not be accepted and will be returned unopened. All bids must be accompanied by a Bank Cashier's Check in the amount of \$63,700 payable to the order of the District as a good faith deposit.

**Information:** The Bonds are more completely described in the "Official Notice of Sale" and the "Preliminary Official Statement" which may be obtained from Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated, 1331 Lamar Street, Suite 1360, Houston, Texas 77010; Financial Advisor to the District. The District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all irregularities except time of filing. This notice does not constitute an offer to sell the Bonds but is merely notice of sale of the Bonds as required by law. The offer to sell the Bonds will be made only by means of the "Official Notice of Sale," "Preliminary Official Statement," and the "Official Bid Form."

Board of Director  
Cornerstones Municipal Utility District

**LEGAL NOTICE**

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPLAINT OF RLB CONTRACTING, INC., AS OWNER AND OPERATOR OF THE BAYOU CHEVRON AND JOHNATHON KING BOYD, FOR EXONERATION FROM OR LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

**CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:18-cv-3844**  
**ADMIRALTY RULE 9(b)**

**NOTICE OF VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR EXONERATION FROM OR LIMITATION OF LIABILITY FILED ON OCTOBER 12, 2018**

Notice is hereby given that RLB Contracting, Inc. has filed a Verified Complaint pursuant to 46 U.S.C. § 30501 et seq., claiming the right to exoneration from or limitation of liability for all claims, loss, damage, injury, death, or destruction arising out of an April 17, 2018 incident whereby a spud of the dredge JOHNATHON KING BOYD allegedly contacted a submerged pipeline in Matagorda Bay, Texas resulting in the destruction by fire of the JOHNNATHON KING BOYD and the pusher tug BAYOU CHEVRON and/or otherwise arising out of the voyage which the Vessels were expected to conclude thereafter, as referred to in the Verified Complaint in the above-captioned action.

All persons having any claims arising out of the April 17, 2018 incident whereby a spud of the JOHNATHON KING BOYD allegedly contacted a submerged pipeline in Matagorda Bay, Texas resulting in the destruction by fire of the JOHNNATHON KING BOYD and the BAYOU CHEVRON and/or otherwise arising out of the voyage which the Vessels were expected to conclude thereafter must file their, under oath, as provided in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, with the Clerk of the Court, and serve on or mail to RLB Contracting, Inc.'s attorney, Richard A. Branca, Royston, Royston, Vickers, & Williams, L.L.P., 1600 Smith Street, Suite 5000, Houston, Texas 77002, a copy thereof on or before the 17th day of December, 2018 or be defaulted. Personal attendance is not required.

Any Claimant desiring to contest the allegations of RLB Contracting, Inc. must file an answer to the Verified Complaint, as required by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Orders of this Honorable Court on or before or before the 17th day of December, 2018 and serve a copy thereof on or mail to the attorneys for RLB Contracting, Inc. or be defaulted.

By Motion of the United States District Court Clerk for the Southern District of Texas - Houston Division, dated October 17th, 2018.

Harris County - Astrodome Revitalization Project (Phase 1) - Bid Package #2 - Demolition

J. T. Vaughn Construction, LLC, is requesting proposals for the above referenced project located at 8400 Kirby Houston, TX 77054. The following trade packages will be available for bid: General Works, Demolition, Temporary Fencing, and Existing Structure Strengthening. All competitive bids are due on December 6, 2018 between the hours of 9:00am - 2:00pm at 10355 Westpark Dr. Houston, TX 77042, or emailed to [astrodomebids@vaughnconstruction.com](mailto:astrodomebids@vaughnconstruction.com). Bid Documents can be viewed at [www.jsatf.com](http://www.jsatf.com) (project ID 6205982); see supplemental CM Specifications included in bid documents for additional details. Contact Pete Ives at [pives@vaughnconstruction.com](mailto:pives@vaughnconstruction.com) or 281-904-4099 for any questions regarding bid.

To place bids or proposal notices email [legals@chron.com](mailto:legals@chron.com)

Chronicle Classifieds  
Where More People  
Go To Work  
713-224-6868

**Chron** Breaking News at Chron.com

# AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF TEXAS )  
COUNTY OF CAMERON )


Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for  
Cameron County, Texas, personally appeared

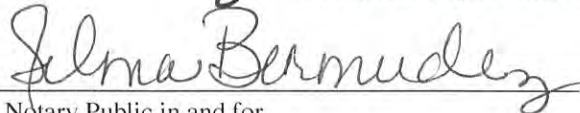
**AURELIO QUIROGA**

known to me to be Representative of The Port Isabel-South  
Padre Press, who solemnly swears that the attached is a true  
copy of the publication appearing in said newspaper, a weekly,  
published in the City of Port Isabel, Cameron County, Texas,  
continuously for more than one year, and that said publication  
appeared on the following dates:

November 8 20 18  
\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_

Port Isabel-South Padre Press

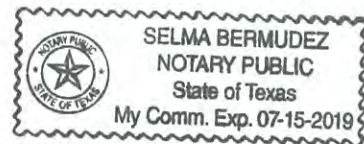
By   
Newspaper Representative

Signed   
Notary Public in and for  
Cameron County, Texas

Dated at Port Isabel, Texas November 9 20 18

My Commission Expires JULY 15, 2019

(Seal)



**NOTE:**

costs of this publication excluding Notary fee totals the sum of  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_, which is now payable to

**THE PORT ISABEL-SOUTH PADRE PRESS**  
Port Isabel, Texas 78578

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
GALVESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 1229  
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77553-1229

**JOINT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY DRAFT INTEGRATED FEASIBILITY  
REPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR THE COASTAL TEXAS PROTECTION AND RESTORATION STUDY  
October 2018**

The public is hereby notified of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS) for the Tentatively Selected Plan of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study, prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (USACE) in partnership with the Texas General Land Office. Authorized by Congress in Section 4091, Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law [P.L.] 110- 114), as amended, the draft report investigates and recommends efforts to reduce the risk of coastal storm damage to industries and businesses critical to the Nation's economy and increase resiliency of Texas coastal communities. The report is available to view and download at:

<http://coastalstudy.texas.gov>

The report is available for viewing at the following libraries:

- Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy St, Galveston, TX 77550
- Friendswood Public Library, 416 S Friendswood Dr, Friendswood, TX 77546
- Moore Memorial Public Library, 1701 9th Ave N, Texas City, TX 77590
- La Porte Library, 600 S Broadway St, La Porte, TX 77571
- La Marque Public Library, 1111 Bayou Rd, La Marque, TX 77568
- Deer Park Library, 3009 Center St, Deer Park, TX 77536
- Mae S Bruce Library, 13302 6th St, Santa Fe, TX 77510
- Pasadena Central Public Library, 1201 Jeff Ginn Memorial Dr, Pasadena, TX 77506
- Hitchcock Public Library, 8005 Barry Ave, Hitchcock, TX 77563
- Sterling Municipal Library, 1 Mary Elizabeth Wilbanks Ave, Baytown, TX 77520
- Dickinson Public Library, 4411 TX-3, Dickinson, TX 77539
- North Channel Library, 15741 Wallisville Rd, Houston, TX 77049
- Evelyn Meador Library, 2400 North Meyer Ave, Seabrook, TX 77586
- Chambers County Library, 202 Cummings St, Anahuac, TX 77514
- Helen Hall Public Library, 100 W. Walker, League City, TX 77573
- Freeport Branch Library, 410 Brazosport Blvd, Freeport, TX 77541
- Clear Lake City-County Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Ln, Houston, TX 77062
- Clute Branch Library, 215 North Shanks, Clute, TX 77531
- Lake Jackson Library, 250 Circle Way, Lake Jackson, TX 77566
- Aransas County Public Library, 701 E Mimosa St, Rockport, TX 78382
- Ed & Hazel Richmond Public Library, 110 N Lamont St, Aransas Pass, TX 78336
- Ellis Memorial Library, 700 W Ave A, Port Aransas, TX 78373
- Bay City Public Library, 1100 7th St, Bay City, TX 77414
- Port Isabel Public Library, 213 North Yturria St, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- Brazoria Library, 620 South Brooks St, Brazoria, TX 77422
- Ingleside Public Library, 2775 Waco St, Ingleside, TX 78362
- Sweeny Library, 205 West Ashley Wilson Road, Sweeny, TX 77480
- Bell Whittington Public Library, 2400 Memorial Pkwy, Portland, TX 78374
- Palacios Library, 326 Main St, Palacios, TX 77465
- Corpus Christi Caller-Times Library, 820 North Lower Broadway St, Corpus Christi, TX 78401
- Calhoun County Branch Library, 1 Lamar St #1, Point Comfort, TX 77978
- Reber Memorial Library, 190 North 4th St, Raymondville, TX 78580
- Laguna Vista Public Library, 1300 Palm Blvd, Laguna Vista, TX 78578
- Anita and W.T. Neyland Public Library, 1230 Carmel Pkwy, Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Seven public information meetings will be held along the Texas coast during the public comment period:

- Tuesday, November 27, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Bauer Community Center, 2300 TX-35, Port Lavaca, TX 77979
- Wednesday, November 28, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Harte Research Institute at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78412
- Thursday, November 29, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Port Isabel Event & Cultural Center, 309 Railroad Ave, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- Tuesday, December 11, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Winnie Community Building, 335 South Park St, Winnie, TX 77665
- Wednesday, December 12, 5:30-9:00 PM - Galveston Island Convention Center, 5600 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77551
- Saturday, December 15, 1:00 – 4:30 PM – Crenshaw Elementary and Middle School, 416 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX 77650
- Tuesday, December 18, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E NASA Pkwy, Seabrook, TX 77586

Formal presentations will begin at 6:30 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 7:00 PM. For the meeting to be held on Saturday, December 15, formal presentations will begin at 2:00 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 2:30 PM.

The USACE will accept written public comments on the report for a 75-day period starting on October 26, 2018 and continuing through January 9, 2019. Comments on the report must be postmarked by January 9, 2019. You may send written comments or questions to the USACE, Galveston District, Attn: Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229, or you may email comments to: [CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil](mailto:CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil).

This public notice is also issued for the purpose of advising all known interested persons that there is pending before the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) a decision on water quality certification. Any comments concerning this application may be submitted to the TCEQ, 401 Coordinator, MSC-150, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087. A copy of the public notice, with a description of work, has been made available for review in the TCEQ's Austin office.

# PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

THE STATE OF TEXAS §  
COUNTY OF CALHOUN §

Shelley Bartels, being duly sworn on his/her oath states that he/she is an authorized representative of The Port Lavaca Wave and that said newspaper meets the requirements of Section 2051.044 of the Texas Government code, to wit:

1. It devotes not less than twenty-five percent (25%) of its total column lineage to general interest items;
2. It is published at least once each week;
3. It is entered as second-class postal matter in the county where it is published;
4. It has been published regularly and continuously since 1891;
5. It is generally circulated within Calhoun County.

(CLIPPING)(S)

#  
1206

Representative further deposes and says that the attached notice was published in said newspaper on the following date(s) to wit:

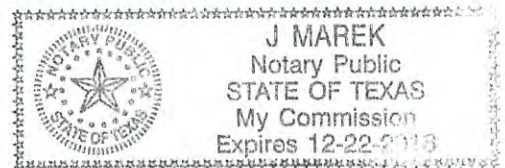
11/14, A.D. 2018

Shelley Bartels

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME by

Shelley Bartels

a) is personally known to me, or  
 b) provided the following evidence to establish his or her identity \_\_\_\_\_



On this the 14 day of Nov., A.D. 2018,  
to certify which witness my hand and seal of office

J Marek  
Judy Marek  
Notary Public, State of Texas

**Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Restaurant Permit with Food and Beverage Certificate by Martin Franek dba Texas Traditions Grill & Bar, to be located at 234 E Main St., Port Lavaca, Calhoun County, Texas. The Managing member of said limited liability company THE WESTON PAUL is Martin Franek.**

(#1202)

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
GALVESTON DISTRICT,  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 1229  
GALVESTON, TEXAS  
77553-1229**

**JOINT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
DRAFT INTEGRATED  
FEASIBILITY REPORT &  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT  
STATEMENT FOR THE COASTAL  
TEXAS PROTECTION  
AND RESTORATION  
STUDY  
October 2018**

The public is hereby notified of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS) for the Tentatively Selected Plan of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study, prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (USACE) in partnership with the Texas General Land Office. Authorized by Congress in Section 4091, Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law [P.L.] 110-114), as amended, the draft report investigates and recommends efforts to reduce the risk of coastal storm damage to industries and businesses critical to the Nation's economy and increase resiliency of Texas coastal communities. The report is available to view and download at:

<http://coastalstudy.texas.gov>

The report is available for viewing at the following libraries:

•Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy St, Galveston, TX 77550  
•Friendswood Public Library, 416 S Friendswood Dr, Friendswood, TX

Library, 1701 9th Ave N, Texas City, TX 77590  
•La Porte Library, 800 S Broadway St, La Porte, TX 77571  
•La Marque Public Library, 1111 Bayou Rd, La Marque, TX 77588  
•Deer Park Library, 3009 Center St, Deer Park, TX 77536  
•Mae S Bruce Library, 13302 8th St, Santa Fe, TX 77510  
•Pasadena Central Public Library, 1201 Jeff Ginn Memorial Dr, Pasadena, TX 77506  
•Hitchcock Public Library, 8005 Barry Ave, Hitchcock, TX 77563  
•Sterling Municipal Library, 1 Mary Elizabeth Wilbanks Ave, Baytown, TX 77520  
•Dickinson Public Library, 4411 TX-3, Dickinson, TX 77539

•North Channel Library, 15741 Wallisville Rd, Houston, TX 77049  
•Evelyn Meador Library, 2400 North Meyer Ave, Seabrook, TX 77586  
•Chambers County Library, 202 Cummings St, Anahuac, TX 77514  
•Helen Hall Public Library, 100 W. Walker, League City, TX 77573  
•Freeport Branch Library, 410 Brazosport Blvd, Freeport, TX 77541  
•Clear Lake City-County Freeman Branch Library, 18816 Diana Ln, Houston, TX 77082  
•Clute Branch Library, 215 North Shanks, Clute, TX 77531  
•Lake Jackson Library, 250 Circle Way, Lake Jackson, TX 77588

•Aransas County Public Library, 701 E Mimosa St, Rockport, TX 78382  
•Ed & Hazel Richmond Public Library, 110 N Lamont St, Aransas Pass, TX 78338  
•Ellis Memorial Library, 700 W Ave A, Port Aransas, TX 78373  
•Bay City Public Library, 1100 7th St, Bay City, TX 77414  
•Port Isabel Public Library, 213 North Yturria St, Port Isabel, TX 78578  
•Brazoria Library, 620 South Brooks St, Brazoria, TX 77422  
•Ingleside Public Library, 2775 Waco St, Ingleside, TX 78362  
•Sweeny Library, 205 West Ashley Wilson Road, Sweeny, TX 77480  
•Bell Whittington Public Library, 2400 Memorial Pkwy, Portland, TX 78374  
•Palacios Library, 328 Main St, Palacios, TX 77465

•Corpus Christi Callertimes Library, 620 North Lower Broadway St, Corpus Christi, TX 78401  
•Calhoun County Branch Library, 1 Lamar St #1, Point Comfort, TX 77978  
•Reber Memorial Library,

mondville, TX 78580  
•Laguna Vista Public Library, 1300 Palm Blvd, Laguna Vista, TX 78578  
•Anita and W.T. Neyland Public Library, 1230 Carmel Pkwy, Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Seven public information meetings will be held along the Texas coast during the public comment period:

•Tuesday, November 27, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Bauer Community Center, 2300 TX-35, Port Lavaca, TX 77979

•Wednesday, November 28, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Harte Research Institute at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, 8300 Ocean Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78412

•Thursday, November 29, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Port Isabel Event & Cultural Center, 309 Railroad Ave, Port Isabel, TX 78578

•Tuesday, December 11, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Winnie Community Building, 335 South Park St, Winnie, TX 77665

•Wednesday, December 12, 5:30-9:00 PM - Galveston Island Convention Center, 5600 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77551

•Saturday, December 15, 1:00 – 4:30 PM - Crenshaw Elementary and Middle School, 416 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX 77650

•Tuesday, December 18, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E NASA Pkwy, Seabrook, TX 77586

Formal presentations will begin at 6:30 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 7:00 PM. For the meeting to be held on Saturday, December 15, formal presentations will begin at 2:00 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 2:30 PM.

The USACE will accept written public comments on the report for a 75-day period starting on October 26, 2018 and continuing through January 9, 2019. Comments on the report must be postmarked by January 9, 2019. You may send written comments or questions to the USACE, Galveston District, Attn: Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, P.O. Box 1229,

Galveston, TX 77553-1229, or you may email comments to: [Coastal-Texas@usace.army.mil](mailto:Coastal-Texas@usace.army.mil)

This public notice is also issued for the purpose of advising all known interested persons that there is pending before the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) a decision on water quality certification. Any comments concerning this application may be submitted to the TCEQ, 401 Coordinator, MSC-150, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087. A copy of the public notice, with a description of work, has been made available for review in the TCEQ's Austin office.

(#1206)

**PUBLIC HEARING.  
CITY OF SEADRIFT  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
BLOCK GRANT  
(CDBG)**

The City of Seadrift will hold a public hearing at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 19, 2018, at Seadrift City Hall, 501 S. Main Street, Seadrift, Texas 77983 regarding the CDBG Program administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture. Citizens are encouraged to attend to discuss the citizen participation plan, local housing, community development needs, available funding, eligible activities, past use of funds, and development of CDBG applications. Written comments may also be submitted to the City Secretary at the address above. Persons with disabilities or others requiring auxiliary aids or services to participate in this hearing should make arrangements with the City Secretary at 361-785-2251 at least two days before the hearing. Este aviso se puede encontrar en inglés y en español en las oficinas municipales de la Ciudad.

**AVISO PARA OBTENER  
COMENTARIOS  
PUBLICOS**

**CIUDAD DE SEADRIFT  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
BLOCK GRANT**  
La Ciudad de Seadrift tendrá una audiencia pública el día 19 de Noviembre 2018, a las 5 pm en la sala municipal, 501 South Main Street,

Seadrift, Texas 77983, en relación con los programas CDBG administrados por el Departamento de Agricultura. Se anima a los ciudadanos a asistir a discutir el plan de participación ciudadana, la vivienda local, el desarrollo de la comunidad, los fondos disponibles, las actividades elegibles, el uso pasado de fondos, y el desarrollo de solicitudes de CDBG. Comentarios por escrito se pueden enviar a la Secretaría de la Ciudad a la dirección que figura arriba. Las personas con discapacidades u otras personas que requieran ayudas o servicios auxiliares para participar en esta audiencia deben hacer arreglos con la Secretaría de la Ciudad al 361-785-2251 al menos dos días antes de la audiencia. Residentes que necesiten un intérprete deben comunicarse con la ciudad por lo menos 24 horas antes de la audiencia pública.

(#1207)

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners' Court of Calhoun County, Texas will receive proposals for:

**2018 CALHOUN  
COUNTY ROOF  
PAIRS**

**A MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING** shall be held at 10:00 am, Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at G&W Engineers, Inc., 205 W. Live Oak St., Port Lavaca, Texas. Attendance at this meeting by all prospective bidders is required and is a prerequisite to providing a bonafide bid.

A background check is required to access the roof through the Adult Detention Center. Call (361)553-4475 to obtain background check prior to the Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting.

**SEALED BIDS** are due on or before 10:00 am, Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at the County Judge's office, 211 S. Ann Street, Third Floor, Ste. 301, Port Lavaca, Texas 77979. At that time, all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. The bids will be considered for award on Wednesday, December 19,



**FALL  
MOVE-IN SPECIAL  
\$100 OFF**





## PUBLISHER'S AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF CAMERON

I Jose Andres Carrizales, being duly sworn on his oath states that he is a representative of The Valley Morning Star and that the attached notice appeared in the following issues:

Date: NOVEMBER 09, 2018

Acct: 83005008 CROUCH ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES / COASTAL TEXAS  
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICES

Ticket: 30107284

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOSE A. CARRIZALES III

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public, Cameron County  
State of Texas



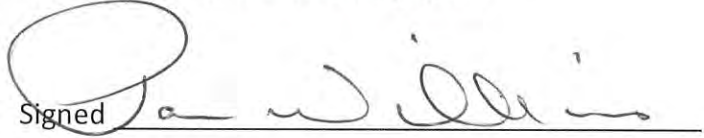





STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF VICTORIA

Before me, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, this day personally appeared PAMELA WILLIAMS, Multi Media Sales Assistant for the VICTORIA ADVOCATE published by the VICTORIA ADVOCATE in VICTORIA County, Texas and distributed in other surrounding Counties (Calhoun, Dewitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Jackson, Karnes, Lavaca, Matagorda, Refugio and Wharton); and who, after being duly sworn, did dispose and say that the following clipping of an advertisement was published in the above named paper on the following dates:

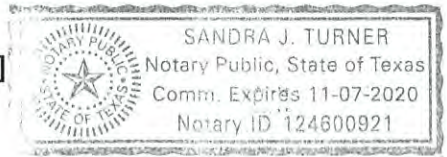
Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Signed 

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of November 2018.

Notary Public   
VICTORIA County, TX

[place notary seal here]



[attach actual copy of  
Newspaper ad clipping]

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
GALVESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P.O. BOX 1229  
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77553-1229

JOINT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
DRAFT INTEGRATED FEASIBILITY REPORT & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR THE COASTAL TEXAS PROTECTION AND RESTORATION STUDY  
October 2018

The public is hereby notified of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement (DIFR-EIS) for the Tentatively Selected Plan of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study, prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District (USACE) in partnership with the Texas General Land Office. Authorized by Congress in Section 4091, Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (Public Law [P.L.] 110- 114), as amended, the draft report investigates and recommends efforts to reduce the risk of coastal storm damage to industries and businesses critical to the Nation's economy and increase resiliency of Texas coastal communities. The report is available to view and download at:

<http://coastalstudy.texas.gov>

The report is available for viewing at the following libraries:

- Rosenberg Library, 2310 Sealy St, Galveston, TX 77550
- Friendswood Public Library, 416 S Friendswood Dr, Friendswood, TX 77546
- Moore Memorial Public Library, 1701 9th Ave N, Texas City, TX 77590
- La Porte Library, 600 S Broadway St, La Porte, TX 77571
- La Marque Public Library, 1111 Bayou Rd, La Marque, TX 77568
- Deer Park Library, 3009 Center St, Deer Park, TX 77536
- Mae S Bruce Library, 13302 6th St, Santa Fe, TX 77510
- Pasadena Central Public Library, 1201 Jeff Ginn Memorial Dr, Pasadena, TX 77506
- Hitchcock Public Library, 8005 Barry Ave, Hitchcock, TX 77563
- Sterling Municipal Library, 1 Mary Elizabeth Wilbanks Ave, Baytown, TX 77520
- Dickinson Public Library, 4411 TX-3, Dickinson, TX 77539
- North Channel Library, 15741 Wallisville Rd, Houston, TX 77049
- Evelyn Meador Library, 2400 North Meyer Ave, Seabrook, TX 77586
- Chambers County Library, 202 Cummings St, Anahuac, TX 77514
- Helen Hall Public Library, 100 W. Walker, League City, TX 77573
- Freeport Branch Library, 410 Brazosport Blvd, Freeport, TX 77541
- Clear Lake City-County Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Ln, Houston, TX 77062
- Clute Branch Library, 215 North Shanks, Clute, TX 77531
- Lake Jackson Library, 250 Circle Way, Lake Jackson, TX 77566
- Aransas County Public Library, 701 E Mimosa St, Rockport, TX 78382
- Ed & Hazel Richmond Public Library, 110 N Lamont St, Aransas Pass, TX 78336
- Ellis Memorial Library, 700 W Ave A, Port Aransas, TX 78373
- Bay City Public Library, 1100 7th St, Bay City, TX 77414
- Port Isabel Public Library, 213 North Yturria St, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- Brazoria Library, 620 South Brooks St, Brazoria, TX 77422
- Ingleside Public Library, 2775 Waco St, Ingleside, TX 78362
- Sweeny Library, 205 West Ashley Wilson Road, Sweeny, TX 77480
- Bell Whittington Public Library, 2400 Memorial Pkwy, Portland, TX 78374
- Palacios Library, 326 Main St, Palacios, TX 77465
- Corpus Christi Caller-Times Library, 820 North Lower Broadway St, Corpus Christi, TX 78401
- Calhoun County Branch Library, 1 Lamar St #1, Point Comfort, TX 77978
- Reber Memorial Library, 190 North 4th St, Raymondville, TX 78580
- Laguna Vista Public Library, 1300 Palm Blvd, Laguna Vista, TX 78578
- Anita and W.T. Neyland Public Library, 1230 Carmel Pkwy, Corpus Christi, TX 78401

Seven public information meetings will be held along the Texas coast during the public comment period:

- Tuesday, November 27, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Bauer Community Center, 2300 TX-35, Port Lavaca, TX 77979
- Wednesday, November 28, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Harte Research Institute at Texas A&M Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78412
- Thursday, November 29, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Port Isabel Event & Cultural Center, 309 Railroad Ave, Port Isabel, TX 78578
- Tuesday, December 11, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Winnie Community Building, 335 South Park St, Winnie, TX 77665
- Wednesday, December 12, 5:30 -9:00 PM - Galveston Island Convention Center, 5600 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77551
- Saturday, December 15, 1:00 – 4:30 PM – Crenshaw Elementary and Middle School, 416 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX 77650
- Tuesday, December 18, 5:30 – 9:00 PM - Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E NASA Pkwy, Seabrook, TX 77586

Formal presentations will begin at 6:30 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 7:00 PM. For the meeting to be held on Saturday, December 15, formal presentations will begin at 2:00 PM and a verbal comment period will begin at 2:30 PM.

The USACE will accept written public comments on the report for a 75-day period starting on October 26, 2018 and continuing through January 9, 2019. Comments on the report must be postmarked by January 9, 2019. You may send written comments or questions to the USACE, Galveston District, Attn: Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229, or you may email comments to: [CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil](mailto:CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil).

## **News Release - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**



**US Army Corps of Engineers**  
**BUILDING STRONG®**

General Land Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Release Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement

*Posted 10/26/2018*

Release no. 18-050

AUSTIN, Texas (October 26, 2018) – Today The Texas General Land Office (GLO) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) announce the release of the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Study Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement, a milestone in the effort to reduce the risk along the Texas coast from dangerous storm surges and other threats. Since 2015, GLO and USACE have worked cooperatively on a first-of-its-kind feasibility study formulating risk reduction solutions to address coastal storm risks to the vast and important Texas coastline. A copy of the report can be downloaded here <http://coastalstudy.texas.gov/>.

“Texas is not a state that happens to have a coast, Texas is a true coastal state,” said **Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush**. “One storm can cost many lives and billions of dollars in damage, so the expense of doing nothing far outweighs the investment to protect and enhance our coast. Texas’ coast is home to one in every four Texans and 30% of the American oil refining sector resides here. The Coastal Texas Study is about protecting our people, our economy and our national security. The options selected are proven to be effective in mitigating the deadly effects of storm surge on our state. I thank the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and look forward to continuing this vital cooperative effort.”

“The Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study builds on the work of scientists, engineers and other experts from Rice University’s Severe Storm Prediction and Evacuation from Disasters (SSPEED) Center, Texas A&M University Galveston (TAMUG), Gulf Coast Community Protection and Recovery District (GCCPRD),” said **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Galveston District Commander Col. Lars Zetterstrom**. This is the only study to fully identify the environmental impacts and required mitigation of the proposed plan. The study also includes results and lessons learned from methods used to mitigate the dangerous impacts of floods and storm surges worldwide.”

The draft environmental impact statement released today includes the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) which uses a multiple lines of defense strategy to reduce risks to our communities and infrastructure along the entire Texas coastline. The TSP develops an integrated comprehensive plan for the coast of Texas that includes constructing surge gates to reduce coastal storm damage risks to the Houston Ship Channel, levees along Bolivar Peninsula and Galveston Island, beach and dune renourishment along the lower coast, and nine landscape scale ecosystem restoration projects to increase resilience and reduce risks to the coast of Texas. The features will work together to greatly increase the resiliency of the Texas Coast. The estimated cost is \$23 to \$31 billion.

The Coastal Texas Study complies with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and considers the impacts the project will have on natural, economic, social and cultural resources. The GLO and USACE entered into a cooperative agreement to create the Coastal Texas Study in 2015. The final feasibility report and EIS is expected in 2021.

The community is invited to review the plans and participate in a series of public meetings:

### **Lower Coast**

*27-Nov | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | Port LaVaca*

Bauer Community Center

2300 TX-35

Port Lavaca, TX 77979

*28-Nov | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | Corpus Christi*

Harte Research Institute Texas A&M Corpus Christi

6300 Ocean Dr

Corpus Christi, TX 78412

*29-Nov | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | Port Isabel*

Port Isabel Event & Cultural Center

309 Railroad Ave

Port Isabel, TX 78578

### **Upper Coast**

*11-Dec | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | Winnie*

Winnie Community Building

335 South Park Street

Winnie, TX 77665

*12-Dec | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | Galveston*

Galveston Island Convention Center

5600 Seawall Blvd

Galveston, TX 77551

*18-Dec | 5:30pm – 9:00pm | Seabrook*

Bay Area Community Center

5002 E NASA Parkway

Seabrook, TX 77586

Public comments can be provided at: 1) the Public Meetings noted above; 2) mailed to USACE, Galveston District, Attn: Mrs. Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229; or 3) emailed to [CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil](mailto:CoastalTexas@usace.army.mil). Comments must be postmarked by January 9, 2019.

To learn more about the Coastal Texas study, visit [www.coastalstudy.texas.gov](http://www.coastalstudy.texas.gov).

## Website

coastalstudy.texas.gov





# **Appendix I**

## **Comment Database**

# **Appendix I**

## **Comment Database**

## Comment Database

### Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
2	1	Whitlow	Jack	Mayor of Port Lavaca [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	11/27/18	PMCC	PC	Inland estuarine bays such as Lavaca and San Antonio bays have been left out of the plan.
2	2	Whitlow	Jack	Mayor of Port Lavaca [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	11/27/18	PMCC	CITY	These are the initial habitat and breeding ground for the bigger bay systems and the Gulf. Wetland and beach replenishment, shoreline protection, and oyster reef restoration are necessary in these areas.
3	1	Bosf	Cliff	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	PC	Would like the Auatentine(?) Shoreline looked at for protection. It is a shell bank that protects the Lighthouse Trails area. It has eroded over the last several years and Harvey washed through the bank in several locations.
4	1	Rubio	Cynthia	National Park Service [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	FED	Supports the W-3 ecosystem restoration of the Port Mansfield jetties. This restoration will rebuild the eroding southern end of the Padre Island National Seashore.
4	2	Rubio	Cynthia	National Park Service [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	FED	The northern jetty is now becoming undermined with seawater. If dredging is not conducted soon, the jetty could become disconnected from the park and erosion of the southern end of the Padre Island National seashore will continue.
5	1	Frandsen	Hilary	National Park Service [REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	FED	Dredging of Mansfield Channel will aid ecosystem restoration of the southern end of Padre Island National Seashore. The beach is eroding, jetties being undercut, and it is becoming dangerous for boats to navigate the channel.
	2	Frandsen	Hilary	National Park Service [REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	FED	Need more sand retainment on the north side of the jetty for the longevity of the Kemp's ridley nesting program.
6	1	Zoteky	Laurie	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	PC	Sounds like an opportunity to collaborate across studies.
6	2	Zoteky	Laurie	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	PC	Example, the study to deepen the Corpus Christi channel to 85 feet. They are evaluating options for dredging disposal. This group might be able to make use of the dredged material or at least make recommendations to further the goals of the Coastal Texas Study.
7	1	Rost	Cliff	N/A	11/28/18	PMCC	PC	Concerned about the water desalination project proposed for Harbor Island and the other one around Aransas Pass. High saline water back into these sensitive ecosystems can be very detrimental.
8	1	Hernandez	Lisa	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	PC	Have you coordinated with Port Corpus Christi for restoration?

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
8	2	Hernandez	Lisa	[REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	PC	A lot is planned up near Galveston, very little near Corpus Christi.
8	3	Hernandez	Lisa	[REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	PC	How will Harbor Island development affect breakwater production?
8	4	Hernandez	Lisa	[REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	PC	What is the environmental impact of lower salinity on ocean food chain?
9	1	Chadden	James (T.C.)	[REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	PC	Supports protecting shorelines but need more than the small areas.
9	2	Chadden	James (T.C.)	[REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	PC	St. Joseph Island is being torn up by storms (across from Port Aransas and the ship channel).
9	3	Chadden	James (T.C.)	[REDACTED]	11/28/18	PMCC	PC	Need to protect all of Mustang Island and the rest of the National seashore and all of the Texas coast.
10	1	Jushs	Charles	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	PC	Boca Chica should be included in the study.
10	2	Jushs	Charles	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	PC	Port of Brownsville and Brownsville itself are at risk.
11	1	Sanchez Gonzalez	Augusto	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	PC	It will take 13 to 21 years to complete construction of all actions and alternatives. Within the next 10 years a second causeway will be built to access South Padre Island that will trigger development in the unincorporated coastal Cameron County that is not covered in the South Padre Island beach restoration project. It is imperative to include Cameron County beaches given the high erosion rates (up to 14 feet per year) as per the UTBEG (2012) and given the imminent development of Cameron County Beaches driven by the upcoming infrastructure.
11	2	Sanchez Gonzalez	Augusto	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	PC	Cameron County is finalizing a new Beach Access and Dune Protection Plan that allows for beachfront construction within the limitations imposed by current regulation. This is driven by the county's vision for economic development of its greatest asset.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
12	1	Cantu	Iris	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	COU	It is contradicting for the GLO to ask as a requirement for Cameron County to implement an Erosion Response Plan because of the erosion issues along the lower coast and then for GLO to turn around and state that only 2 miles are affected.
12	2	Cantu	Iris	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	COU	Requests reconsideration for a closer look along the lower coast regarding erosion issues, not only in the 2 mile stretch.
12	3	Cantu	Iris	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	COU	Coastal storm surge affects all of the coast, not just a small portion.
12	4	Cantu	Iris	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	COU	Cameron County has invested several millions of dollars but a lot of need is still there such as beach restoration, erosion rates are alarming and we need help to create and protect for a safer place.
12	5	Cantu	Iris	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	COU	Please add the north and south areas of the 2 mile stretch included.
13	1	Hernandez	Daniel	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	COU	Cameron County has been working with the GLO on an erosion response plan and is very involved in providing the best protection, facilities, and environmental integrity to their beaches. Believe the study should include more than 2 miles of Cameron County's beaches.
13	2	Hernandez	Daniel	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	COU	South Padre Island is an attraction and a nature gift to south Texas and part of Mexico, all of the beaches should be studied and preserved.
14	1	Reyes	Carlos	[REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	COU	Would like all of the southern most region of South Padre Island included in the study.
15	1	Sepulueda, Jr.	Pete	Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority [REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	COU	Requests that areas in the Cameron County jurisdiction, either accesses or beaches be made part of the study.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
16	1	Guthrie	Susan	City of South Padre Island [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	CITY	Include reach 2, 5, and 6 on South Padre Island for nourishment/dune/ berm construction. These are huge economic engines for the local and state economies (hotels, convention center, etc.). This area is also a national jewel destination
16	2	Guthrie	Susan	City of South Padre Island [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	11/29/18	PMCC	CITY	Consider a nearshore berm as an option versus only berm option.
17	1	Smith	Jerilyn	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Supports some kind of coastal protection.
17	2	Smith	Jerilyn	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	It should protect every single home or business.
17	3	Smith	Jerilyn	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	It should protect the evacuation route for Bolivar Peninsula.
17	4	Smith	Jerilyn	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Rollover Pass should be considered as part of this protection.
17	5	Smith	Jerilyn	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	With Hurricane Ike there was too much loss so something needs to be done. I was one of many who lost my beach house and belongings.
18	1	Flanagan	Brenda	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Own a home on Bolivar Peninsula. This is our retirement home. Our property is approximately 200 feet on the south side of the Alternative A dune line.
18	2	Flanagan	Brenda	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Alternative A is cost prohibitive by the number of properties which will have to be bought out by the Government which is tax money paid by me and my family.
18	3	Flanagan	Brenda	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	The infrastructure (utilities) and evacuation route are at a higher risk as they are located on the south side.
18	4	Flanagan	Brenda	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Property insurance will become an issue for those on the south side.
18	5	Flanagan	Brenda	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Only a small portion of Bolivar Peninsula will be protected from the storm surge. My home will be in the path of an immediate back surge when the surge hits the wall and goes back out.
18	6	Flanagan	Brenda	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Please look at other alternatives than the TSP (Alternative A).
19	1	Unknown	Unknown	--	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	What will happen to property values outside of the barrier on the Gulf side?

## Comment Database

### Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
19	2	Unknown	Unknown	--	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Property value on Bolivar have already taken a downward trend just from talk of this project.
19	3	Unknown	Unknown	--	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Need to make it public that the line down 87 is not set in stone. Rumors have property already being purchased for the barrier.
20	1	Thompson	Richard and Lana	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	How do you expect us to live a normal life with a wall constructed next to our home?
20	2	Thompson	Richard and Lana	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Will the water flow as normal when a storm surge hits?
20	3	Thompson	Richard and Lana	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Absolutely against all of it.
20	4	Thompson	Richard and Lana	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	The value and taxes of our home might change.
20	5	Thompson	Richard and Lana	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	What effect will the N-S at Highway 124 barrier have on the east side of Highway 124?
20	6	Thompson	Richard and Lana	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Knowing that there was 2-3 feet of water going across Highway 124 during <b>Hurricane Harvey, wouldn't it flood the land on the east side?</b>
21	1	Cole	Carlis	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Adamantly against the current preferred Coastal Barrier Plan.
21	2	Cole	Carlis	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	My family home is on the south side if Highway 87. We have resided on Bolivar for nearly 30 years.
21	3	Cole	Carlis	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Our affiliate of KTB is KBB. We are guardians of Bolivar beaches which includes its wildlife, sea birds, and all its natural resources. No Barrier.
22	1	Tinsley	Elinor	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Insurance costs and property values for Bolivar Peninsula are not being taken into consideration on making the decision to build the barrier.
22	2	Tinsley	Elinor	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Residents need some kind of idea what they are looking at as far as tax evaluations and insurance costs.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
22	3	Tinsley	Elinor	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	We have worked to improve our "compound" in anticipation of leaving a wonderful place for our children and grandchildren and hundreds of thousands of dollars we have spend seems in jeopardy of being almost worthless if this barrier is built along Highway 87.
22	4	Tinsley	Elinor	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	We are 2 lots over from Highway 87 and the storm surge would hit the wall and come back immediately and inundate our home.
23	1	Tinsley	Patrick	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	There are about 2,200 homes/structures that would be outside the barrier, including mine.
23	2	Tinsley	Patrick	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Primary concern is induced flooding. My home would be 100-300 feet from the base of the barrier.
23	3	Tinsley	Patrick	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Insurance rates and property values are a concern.
24	1	Menard	Huey	[REDACTED]	12/11/18	PMCC	PC	Something needs to be done about the spine going to the north of all the beach homes in Bolivar. Plan A will destroy all those homes.
25	1	Merrell	Bill	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Support the USACE selection of the coastal spine as the best surge protection strategy for the upper Texas Coast.
25	2	Merrell	Bill	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Based on over a decade of research, suggest 9 modifications to the present USACE TSP. These modifications would assure an effective Ike Dike strategy and allow the spine to better fit into the economic, environmental, social, and recreational fabric of our coastal communities.
25	3	Merrell	Bill	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Move the USACE proposed levee and floodwall land barriers from behind the coastal highways to the coast and construct the protection needed as natural appearing fortified dunes.  The fortified dunes allow us control surge by stopping it at the coast so everyone is behind the protection, a basic premise of the Ike Dike strategy. The other basic Ike Dike principle is to reduce surge in the Bay by reducing water levels before and during a storm.



Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
25	4	Merrell	Bill	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Add a western section on Follets Island and gate at San Luis Pass.  Leaving San Luis Pass - the back door to Galveston Bay - open allows fore-surge and surge in through the pass, engorging the Bay and increasing surge when the Storm hits. This also disallows the strategy of sealing the Bay at low tide when a hurricane is approaching, obviously keeping water levels down.
25	5	Merrell	Bill	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Institute and design for best practices for water management to reduce surge in the bay.  There are other ways we can take advantage of the fact that the gates are an active system, for example by opening the Bolivar gates to direct a return surge out of Galveston Bay after a hurricane passes. Keeping water, hence surge, down in the Bay is important.
25	6	Merrell	Bill	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Rethink the size, complexity, and even the need for the Galveston ring Levee, and gate structures at Kemah and Dickinson Bayou.  These additions to the basic Ike Dike are designs that evolved from options that attempted to deal with the full force of surge in the Bay not a surge that is already reduced by a properly designed and operated Ike Dike. These features can be reduced in size and complexity.
25	7	Merrell	Bill	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	The north-south eastern barrier running up from High Island can be reduced or eliminated.  Recent modeling shows that any water getting into the Bay from the east enters a Bay area already reduced by the local winds from the approaching hurricane.
25	8	Merrell	Bill	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Modify the Bolivar Roads water barrier to reduce the size of the ship gates and allow more flow in the environmental section by using barge and inflatable gates.
25	9	Merrell	Bill	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Work on more accurate costs. Believe the cost estimates are too high. We are conducting an independent study by Dutch experts.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
25	10	Merrell	Bill	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	We respectfully request that the Corps and GLO consider these modifications when forming their final plan. We will forward all back-up material to the Galveston District.  (Dr. Merrell included a copy of the following report with his comments: Omission of a Western Dike Section in the Likely USACE Tentatively Selected Plan (Alternative A) Leads to an Increase in Storm Surge, Inundation, and Flood Risk throughout the Houston-Galveston Region. This report forms the basis for comments 3 thru 9 above.)
26	1	Stirling	Charlotte	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Should the barrier be built at the current proposed Alternative A plan, what would happen to the Gulf side of the barrier consisting of 12-14,000 parcels of land? This land will be destroyed by the first storm after the barrier is built.
26	2	Stirling	Charlotte	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Will these properties be in a buyout program?
27	1	Stirling	Charlotte	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	None of the refineries on northern Galveston Bay have ever flooded simultaneously during any weather event. This industry has its own protection. Why is the Federal and State government willing to spend \$30 billion in the name of Homeland Security to protect an industry that already protects itself?
28	1	Stirling	Charlotte	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	What happens to the storm surge in Galveston Bay after a hurricane crosses the barrier?
28	2	Stirling	Charlotte	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Is it possible for another storm surge to build before reaching the Houston Ship Channel and surrounding industry?
29	1	Stirling	Charlotte	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	The gates across Bolivar Roads will restrict water flow by 30 percent. How will this impact communities bordering the bay that drain into Galveston Bay should another rain event like Harvey occur? What do your models show?
30	1	Stirling	Charlotte	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Coastal residents have built structures to Federal, State, and local codes - FEMA, GLO, and county which require flow thru construction at ground level. How can the USACE and GLO support a plan that creates a surge event we are not built to withstand?
30	2	Stirling	Charlotte	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	This is purposeful destruction of private property which was built to government standards.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
31	1	Millo	Paul	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	In support of the project.
32	1	Benbel	Uoseph	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	In support of the project.
32	2	Benbel	Uoseph	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Keep us informed by newspaper, more people read newspapers than came to the meetings.
33	1	Hirsch	David	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	The current plan would cause my house on Galveston's west end to flood badly as it is on the south side of the proposed wall.
33	2	Hirsch	David	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	What will happen to insurance costs and the islands tax base?
34	1	Kurtz-Hoffman	Marci	Alderman, [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Concerned with how massive and invasive the project is.
34	2	Kurtz-Hoffman	Marci	Alderman, [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Unhappy that the project is trying to change the barrier island. Has seen the land move and change over time as that is what islands do.
34	3	Kurtz-Hoffman	Marci	Alderman, [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Concerned about transportation around the wall. How are people supposed to evacuate and return to Jamaica Beach after evacuating if there are no limited access points.
34	4	Kurtz-Hoffman	Marci	Alderman, [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Concerned about the cost for citizens who will ultimately have to pay for the upkeep.
34	5	Kurtz-Hoffman	Marci	Alderman, [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Concerned about how animals are supposed to traverse around the structure. <b>It greatly alter habitat in ways we don't know.</b>
34	6	Kurtz-Hoffman	Marci	Alderman, [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	As a citizen of the west end, concerned about my house value and aesthetics of the barrier.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
34	7	Kurtz-Hoffman	Marci	Alderman, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Concerned about the size and cost of the barrier.
34	8	Kurtz-Hoffman	Marci	Alderman, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Has faith that the USACE and GLO will make appropriate modifications that will appease the people that this will effect. Everyone comes to Galveston and Bolivar to see the beach, not a concrete structure.
34	9	Kurtz-Hoffman	Marci	Alderman, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Does not matter how much habitat restoration is included in the study project, the changes to nature from this will not offset that.
34	10	Kurtz-Hoffman	Marci	Alderman, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	We know the risk of living on this island and will take those risks everyday if <b>that means you don't install a barrier, gate, ring levee, or whatever you like to call it.</b>
35	1	Abernethy	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Concerned that would raise the 3005 and those left on the southside would continue without protection.
35	2	Abernethy	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Face higher insurance rates and lower property values if try to sell our home.
35	3	Abernethy	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Concerned that the study does not protect everyone. How can you do that to so many?
36	1	Abernethy	Chris	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Putting a barrier along 3005 on Galveston's west end is a foolish action. Damage from any storm will be more severe for those on the south side of 3005 as waves come in and hit the wall and return multiplying the height and damage.
36	2	Abernethy	Chris	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Property values will decrease and insurance premiums will increase for anyone south of 3005.
36	3	Abernethy	Chris	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Put the barrier along the beach where it will protect everyone living on the island.
37	1	Dannenmaier	William	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Appears the study is following a sound and logical process. Please continue the process of relying on science and engineering rather than parochial interests of parties.
37	2	Dannenmaier	William	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Plan A seems to be the better of the plans.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
38	1	Whittaker	Greg	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	As a resident in Galveston that will experience significant impacts from the Tentatively Selected Plan, I strongly object to the repeated public comments by official representatives of the GLO that the plan is "merely a line on a map" and we are "only 10 percent through the design process."
38	2	Whittaker	Greg	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	This may be the largest engineering and construction project in USACE history and the only opportunity for public comments comes at a phase that is so incomplete.
39	1	Sumpter	Dan	--	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	The video sound is drowned out by crowd noise. Are subtitles available?
40	1	Sark	Robert	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Having a levee on the west end would be a death sentence to our homes on the beach side at Jamaica Beach.
40	2	Sark	Robert	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Building a dune is the best way to save our homes. Dunes down south are 10 to 12 feet tall and they protect the bay.
40	3	Sark	Robert	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Water hitting a levee would cause a washing machine effect.
40	4	Sark	Robert	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Who will be responsible for our homes if the levee destroys our beachside houses? 12,500 homes are on the beachside
40	5	Sark	Robert	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	What is the possibility of dunes on the west end and Bolivar, ring levee around Galveston, more dikes like the Texas City Dike?
41	1	Andries	Michael	Flamingo MUD Board Director [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	STATE	San Luis Pass has no gates planned. I understand this is because of the expected low volume of water that would be able to flow through the pass due to its shallow nature. Should modeling take into consideration back to back hurricanes, where the first hurricane might scour the pass to a much deeper depth and the second one could cause more severe flooding of infrastructure, cities, and homes in the West Bay area?
41	2	Andries	Michael	Flamingo MUD Board Director [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	STATE	The existing Galveston seawall will be raised. Have you considered raising the seawall by building a 2 to 3 foot "bench" along the top of the Gulf side of the wall?
41	3	Andries	Michael	Flamingo MUD Board Director [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	STATE	In addition to increasing flood control, such a bench would improve safety of the current "drop-off" hazard of the walk/biking along the wall as well as create seating for viewing and enjoying the coastal views. Such a bench/walkway seawalls exist in Havana, Cuba and are very functional.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
42	1	Andries	Michael	Flamingo MUD Board Director [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	STATE	There are concerns about the long-term cost of maintenance of the coastal barrier system. Given the primary purpose is to protect infrastructure critical to the whole of the USA, I propose a small tax be added on each gallon/barrel of product produced/shipped from the protected infrastructure to appropriately share the cost with consumers of the output. Example: \$0.01/gallon petrochemical product shipped.
43	1	Beeton	Elizabeth	Port of Galveston Trustee [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	NGO	Supports the ring levee around Galveston and would like to see it built as quickly as possible and to not wait to build at the same time as the spine.
43	2	Beeton	Elizabeth	Port of Galveston Trustee [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	NGO	Aware the ring levee is controversial, they must be resolved fast so the is protected before another disaster hits.
44	1	Hay	Matthew	Galveston ISD Trustee [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Concerned about the ring levee as it makes Galveston Island a giant bathtub that with high storm surge or failure of pumps just fills up with seawater and cannot drain. It will be like New Orleans all over again.
44	2	Hay	Matthew	Galveston ISD Trustee [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Instead of a ring levee, a surge gate at San Luis Pass should complete the barrier and protect the back end as long as the gates are closed at low tide.
44	3	Hay	Matthew	Galveston ISD Trustee [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	None of the pumps are east of 51st Street and the east end of Galveston floods the most.
44	4	Hay	Matthew	Galveston ISD Trustee [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Seawall elevation - the study says it needs to increase 4 feet - just the seawall? The roadway too?  Do not see any way you can raise the roadway 4 feet, it would destroy the seawall side of Galveston, tourism, business, etc. Protecting an island that ceases to be "Galveston" is not logical.
44	5	Hay	Matthew	Galveston ISD Trustee [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	The pumps in New Orleans get clogged and fail all the time. How will their problems be addressed with our pumps?

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
44	6	Hay	Matthew	Galveston ISD Trustee [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	CITY	Plan A without the posterior ring levee with a gate at San Luis Pass is a better options.
45	1	Sanchez	Chula and Ramon	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	The Ike flood was a 100 year occurrence and it would be much cheaper to leave things as they are since Galveston residents know what the risks of living in Galveston are.
45	2	Sanchez	Chula and Ramon	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	If the objective is to protect the petrochemical industry, it would be much cheaper to build levees around the areas where the industry is located.
45	3	Sanchez	Chula and Ramon	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Harden or protect crucial areas (i.e. UTMB, the historic district, CBD) but Galveston is a barrier island and inherently dynamic. We live here knowing the risks, but mostly live here for the natural beauty.
45	4	Sanchez	Chula and Ramon	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Protect the refineries (though they have never been interested in any of this protection conversation). It would be cheaper.
45	5	Sanchez	Chula and Ramon	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	We do not want to live by a gate at Offatts or a pump station. We live there to see sunsets and sail.
45	6	Sanchez	Chula and Ramon	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	The 17 foot dune system on the beach is absurd. Draw that section to the ridge of a 17 foot dune system at a 30 degree slope and it would be in most beachfront homes. The beach is too narrow.
45	7	Sanchez	Chula and Ramon	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Why would we spend billions to save beach homes? Who would want to live with that in their front yard?
46	1	Ayers	Rebecca	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	The ring levee is not needed. You have cut complete neighborhoods out which will deem them worthless. Middle class families will be priced out of Galveston.
46	2	Ayers	Rebecca	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Build a spine.
46	3	Ayers	Rebecca	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Put a gate on San Luis Pass and Port.
46	4	Ayers	Rebecca	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Our Federal taxes will pay for 80 percent of this project so residents of Galveston should have a say.
46	5	Ayers	Rebecca	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Let the people of Galveston decide about the ring levee, not the state.
47	1	White	Ben	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Is there a citizens overview committee that reviews the plans, details, schedules, budgets, etc.? If so, how would one participate? If there is not one, why?

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
48	1	Card	Terry	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	This is a necessary project to protect Galveston and Galveston County.
48	2	Card	Terry	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	If it was possible to not put the levees on FM 3005 and the highway on Bolivar many homes could be saved that would otherwise be destroyed by being outside the levee.
48	3	Card	Terry	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	The ring levee around Galveston is absolutely necessary.
48	4	Card	Terry	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Because of the high frequency of flooding caused by many parts of the strand system having no viable outlet during high tides when combined with intense rainfall, there needs to be coordination between the local drainage system and the GLO - USACE ring system of gates/levees and pumping stations.
49	1	Bentley	Howard	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Supports the coastal spine.
49	2	Bentley	Howard	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Opposed to the ring levee. It will bring separation and destruction to the island. With the levee you will impact businesses, homes, families. It is a bad idea.
49	3	Bentley	Howard	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	<b>The west end of San Luis doesn't show a gate to allow for stoppage for water to go out and drain.</b>
50	1	Rinn	Apryl	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Neither side of this barrier is protected.
50	2	Rinn	Apryl	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	It is a waste of taxpayer funds. It is bad for the residents of Bolivar and Galveston and the business owners as well as the wildlife.
50	3	Rinn	Apryl	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Supports the Rice University SPEED Centers Galveston Bay Park Plan.
51	1	Nicol	George	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Highway 87 on Bolivar Peninsula could be raised 6 to 8 feet rather than the wall.
51	2	Nicol	George	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	For beach restoration, jetties running parallel with the beach, 200 to 300 yards off the beach would restore the beachfront. Look at Holly Beach in western Louisiana. Satellite view will show the beach rebuilding.



Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
51	3	Nicol	George	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Rollover Pass at Gilchrest should be closed.
52	1	Lacher	Lisa	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Concerned that my house will be outside of the coastal barrier.
53	1	Blumentill	David	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Unsure what the necessity of the ring levee is. Seems like if the barrier is effective the ring levee would be redundant.
53	2	Blumentill	David	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	You have not produced statistics on the effectiveness relative to the cost in terms of likelihood versus consequences of a range of storms.
54	1	Crenshaw	Donell	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Will a bridge from Galveston to Bolivar be included in this plan for evacuation purposes, perhaps to be built with/along with the flood gates?
55	1	Finn	Lisa	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Neighborhood is on the outside of the floodwall and is concerned that they are not receiving protection from the Coastal Texas Protection Project.
55	2	Finn	Lisa	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Concerned with access to an from my home during a storm event, i.e. would I not be able to leave my home and have access to Galveston after a certain point during a storm.
55	3	Finn	Lisa	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Concerned that property values from being on the outside of the floodwall.
55	4	Finn	Lisa	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Would a floodwall make impacts from storm surge from the north/northeast worse for those on the outside of the floodwall?
55	5	Finn	Lisa	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	My home is 16 feet above ground - would this elevation still be above the current flood elevation. This directly affects the cost of flood insurance.
55	6	Finn	Lisa	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Supports the gate structure across the entrance of Galveston bay. Believes this will provide enough storm surge protection for their home that is already elevated.
55	7	Finn	Lisa	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Against the Galveston ring levee.
56	1	Foley	Donna	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Concerned that building the barrier on the north side of 3005 will make their home worthless and ruin them financially as they would be unable to pay the mortgage.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
57	1	Petty	Marilyn	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Home is on the Gulf side (southside) next to FM 3005. If a levee is built on the north side across from FM3005 when a storm occurs the water will hit the levee and bounce back and damage my home, much more than if the water freely flowed across the island.
57	2	Petty	Marilyn	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Put the dunes or levees on the beach to protect the 1,000s of homes that are on the south side of FM 3005.
57	3	Petty	Marilyn	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	If a levee is built on the northside, our property values will be lowered and our insurance will skyrocket. I will be without insurance or will have to sell my home.
57	4	Petty	Marilyn	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	What affect will losing the breeding areas for birds on Bolivar Peninsula have on the bird populations? It will decimate it.
57	5	Petty	Marilyn	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Land was given by the Federal government for birding, viewing, and nesting that will be taken away.
57	6	Petty	Marilyn	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	What effect will the levee have on Galveston's fishing and tourism industry?
57	7	Petty	Marilyn	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	If homes are destroyed in a storm (at least partially by the levee and backlash of flood waters), the island will lose a tremendous financial resource. Have any studies been done to show the economic impact this would have on the islands?
57	8	Petty	Marilyn	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Who will be responsible for paying for our homes if they are damaged during a storm, largely because of the levee?
57	9	Petty	Marilyn	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Who will be responsible for maintaining the pump stations and gates after they are built?
58	1	Yost	Alfred	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	If the coastal spine goes in as tentatively planned, would suffer severe consequences in the remaining years of life. My retirement would be destroyed.
58	2	Yost	Alfred	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Insurance costs would go up and my home value would be reduced which we are relying on for future care.
58	3	Yost	Alfred	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Question the efficacy of the financial plan as well and doubt that the real cost difference between the present plan versus a reinforced dune is enough to justify destroying the value of hundreds of homes and lives.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
58	4	Yost	Alfred	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	How can a few hundred yards cost enough difference to make you pick and choose whose lives you disrupt or destroy?
58	5	Yost	Alfred	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Feel that you are going to spend that much money that you should protect all the homes on the west end. Would be better to start at the west end of the seawall and go down 8 Mile Road and cross the bay at one of the narrower points and leave the west end Gulf side no worse off that we are today.
58	6	Yost	Alfred	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Reconsider the plan and move the barrier over to the dunes.
59	1	VanScoyoc	Ira	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Likes the idea of dredging offshore to improve the coastline.
59	2	VanScoyoc	Ira	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Concerned about the flood gates and how that will affect water flow restriction.
59	3	VanScoyoc	Ira	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	How will water flow restriction affect the health of the bay system? Noticed a drop in the shrimp population with the flood gate at Seabrook.
59	4	VanScoyoc	Ira	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Nothing is being done to San Luis Pass. Was told it is a higher elevation, but it is still a passage.
60	1	Santschi	Peter	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Supports Bill Merrell's suggestions for improving the Coastal Spine plan. Fortified dunes in front of highway near beach, etc. - Galveston Daily News December 12, 2018
61	1	Campbell	Tricia	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Galveston ring levee impacts houses along 103rd Street.
61	2	Campbell	Tricia	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	Galveston ring levee potentially affects current market values and ability to buy/sell houses.
61	3	Campbell	Tricia	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	The alignment needs to be further west to the vicinity of 8 Mile Road in order to not affect the western neighborhoods (103rs Street, Crash Boat Basin) already protected by the seawall.
61	4	Campbell	Tricia	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	The magnitude and equipment required in order to construct a massive ring levee along 103rd Street would still require tearing down of existing houses in order to construct.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
61	5	Campbell	Tricia	[REDACTED]	12/12/18	PMCC	PC	8 Mile Road has less infrastructure and is not already protected by the seawall and could be a better location for such a feature.
62	1	McCracken	Harold	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Why cant the timeline for completion be reduced to 10 years? The government did it for New Orleans and the East Coast.
62	2	McCracken	Harold	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Create a protection tax on all the business that are dependent on the ship channel.
63	1	Cisneros	Marelou	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Opposed to the present plan. Our retirement funds were spent to purchase our beach home and it was destroyed to Hurricane Ike. It took over 4 years of fighting for insurance funds to rebuild.
63	2	Cisneros	Marelou	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Please consider other alternatives. Do not want to lose our home again.
64	1	Cisneros	Myra	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	It is important to raise the highway from High Island to Crystal Beach. This allows an alternate route to get off Bolivar Peninsula if there is a bad storm and the ferries are not running, a person cannot leave because the highway is flooded leading to Winnie.
64	2	Cisneros	Myra	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	There should be no wall diving Bolivar Peninsula.
64	3	Cisneros	Myra	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	More beach and adding natural ecofriendly barriers (more sand to the shoreline) would be a better solution than a giant levee along Highway 87.
65	1	Singleton	Charles E.	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	What effect would a 20 to 30 foot wall have on wind and dispersion patterns thus affecting insect patterns and food chain effects? I.E. mosquito larvae breeding fields and upper chain organisms
65	2	Singleton	Charles E.	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Upsetting the estuarine environment.
66	1	Whittaker	Greg	Houston Audubon Society [REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	NGO	Raise concern over the lack of adequate risk analysis with the effects from disturbance and tidal fluctuations associated with the levees and gates across the channel between Bolivar Peninsula and Galveston Island.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
66	2	Whittaker	Greg	Houston Audubon Society [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	NGO	With the predicted tidal prism reduction, we can make some suppositions. With a reduction in the amount of water that is exchanged there would be a corresponding reduction in the post larval shrimp and blue crab egg recruitment from the Gulf of Mexico to the Galveston Bay ecosystem. Reduced recruitment translates to reduced populations. Reduced populations of shrimp and crabs translated to reduced commercial and recreational harvest for shrimp and crabs. This translates to less availability of those species as food for gamefish and less availability to the marsh for shorebirds that rely on those species.
66	3	Whittaker	Greg	Houston Audubon Society [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	NGO	Does a 17% reduction in tidal prism translate to a 17% reduction in commercial harvest of shrimp and crabs and food for other fish, gamefish, and bird populations that rely on them?
66	4	Whittaker	Greg	Houston Audubon Society [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	NGO	Would seem to be significant impacts both economically and ecologically and we strongly urge a thorough assessment of the consequences of altering the flow of water between Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico.
67	1	Whittaker	Greg	Houston Audubon Society [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	NGO	Houston Audubon Society raises concern that the video presentation at the beginning of the public comment meetings contradicted our experience with this process and perception of the Tentatively Selected Plan
67	2	Whittaker	Greg	Houston Audubon Society [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	NGO	As stakeholders, we were not notified of this document for review.
67	3	Whittaker	Greg	Houston Audubon Society [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	NGO	None of the Houston Audubon Society prosperities were mentioned in the scope of the study document as protected areas warranting consideration in the proposed placement of the barrier system and hard structural features.
67	4	Whittaker	Greg	Houston Audubon Society [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	NGO	It is disingenuous to include preservation and improvement of ecosystem features for the express purpose of providing vital habitat for coastal bird species when the plan seems to pose significant direct disturbance to several existing managed sanctuaries of high economic and ecological importance.
68	1	Rinn	Apryl	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	<b>The barrier is not needed and I don't want it on Bolivar Peninsula. Don't feel that it protects anyone or anything and only hurts.</b>

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
69	1	Greaff	William and Nancy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Could not get into the meeting.
70	1	Conner	Wayne	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Against the dike because of increased water level on the Gulf side.
71	1	Menard	Huey	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Believes the plan as it stands now will destroy Bolivar Peninsula.
71	2	Menard	Huey	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Believes the plan will be detrimental to their home.
71	3	Menard	Huey	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Believes the plan will be detrimental to the ecosystem and bay system.
72	1	Bolls	Francine Ray	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Please keep the canal open that runs the length of Bolivar. It helps the surge water to run back out into the ocean.
72	2	Bolls	Francine Ray	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Please make sure that we can get affordable insurance.
72	3	Bolls	Francine Ray	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Please do not use eminent domain to force people to move without compensation.
73	1	Parker	Jerry	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Prefer Galveston Bay Foundation (protection in bay) and other environmental groups plan called the "Park Plan".
73	2	Parker	Jerry	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Do not build the coastal barrier as suggested by the GLO and USACE built on or behind Bolivars Highway 87.
73	3	Parker	Jerry	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Will any funds be allotted for buyouts of all properties (houses, lots, land tracts, and commercial) south of the proposed wall on Highway 87?
73	4	Parker	Jerry	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	All properties south of the coastal barrier on Highway 87 will get the blunt of all the storm surge and will not be useable or be able to obtain any insurance.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
73	5	Parker	Jerry	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Better to have the protection on the beach as a wall or higher and wider dunes. Even geotubes worked well with Hurricane Ike.
73	6	Parker	Jerry	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Prefer raising Highway 87 more and construct a wall or higher and wider dunes on the beach (clay or soil, not sand).
74	1	Thompson	Oneal	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Failure to secure a modest "curve at 87" area does not provide confidence that a project of this undertaking.
75	1	McCann	Christyn	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The coastal barrier will degrade my property and property values
75	2	McCann	Christyn	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The coastal barrier will provide no protection to my home and will create a washing machine effect when a storm does hit.
75	3	McCann	Christyn	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	There is no guarantee that the barrier will work for its intended purpose. Example, Addicks and Barker reservoirs created more flooding in Hurricane Harvey than it prevented.
75	4	McCann	Christyn	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The coastal barrier will become an untested permanent structure that will degrade the natural wildlife habitats of the upper Texas coastline.
75	5	McCann	Christyn	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The system was designed to protect upland development without consideration of water transition patterns, wildlife migrating patterns, and wetland and water habitats.
75	6	McCann	Christyn	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	More financially selective areas will have their beaches rebuilt, while the Bolivar Peninsula area will be sacrificed without the opportunity to rebuild the beaches or even consideration of this coastal area.
75	7	McCann	Christyn	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	These corporations (oil refineries and plants) with PACs and other financially driven political influence are making decisions at the hands of the USACE without consideration to homeowners, land owners, wildlife, or wetland habitats.
75	8	McCann	Christyn	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	My tax dollars will pay for something I do not approve of, will pay for homes inside of the proposed levee to be raised or bought out, and when my home is eminent domain I will pay for the home I paid for again when the state is forced to buy me out.
75	9	McCann	Christyn	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Will this be put to a public vote, or is this a governmental decisions without the will of the people being considered?

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
76	1	McCann	Jason	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	My property will be detrimentally effected by the coastal spine. My house will be ruined by the washing machine effect any storm surge will create at it this the wall continually during a storm.
76	2	McCann	Jason	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	I will not be able to insure my home once the spine is built.
76	3	McCann	Jason	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Of great concern that this would be considered without public consideration.
76	4	McCann	Jason	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Do not have faith that the coastal spine will work. Look at the bowl system that the New Orleans levees creates, undoubtedly this will be what happens with the coastal spine.
76	5	McCann	Jason	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The coastal spine does not negate bay surge and flooding.
76	6	McCann	Jason	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The spine puts select homeowners above others by single handedly ruining the communities of High Island, Gilchrist, and Bolivar.
76	7	McCann	Jason	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The USACE is not offering to restore the beach like was done for South Padre.
76	8	McCann	Jason	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The coastal spine is not a viable option for homeowners along the upper Texas coast. It is an end to the upper Texas coast at the hands of government dictators.
77	1	DeSantis	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	I support Plan D2.
77	2	DeSantis	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The Tentatively Selected Plan will destroy the community of Crystal Beach.
77	3	DeSantis	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Dunes would be the best solution and would protect all.
78	1	Chase	Peter	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Completely against the installation of a levee and gate system on Bolivar Peninsula.
78	2	Chase	Peter	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Suggest installation of shoreline protection further up Galveston Bay to protect the ports and refineries.



Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
78	3	Chase	Peter	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Family house on Bolivar is over 100 years old and has never flooded or been destroyed during a storm.
78	4	Chase	Peter	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	A gate and levee may not hold back storm surge in the perfect scenario, but since Hurricanes wobble and rotate, any non-direct hit will make a closed gate worthless and flooding could still occur as seen with Harvey.
78	5	Chase	Peter	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Wind driven bay water can cause flooding, easily making a closed gate useless. Sixty inches of rain above Houston can also make a levee and gate system useless.
79	1	Wills	William	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Does not support building the coastal spine.
79	2	Wills	William	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	More effective to build a wall around certain areas that you are trying to protect, such as housing additions, refineries, and shopping malls.
79	3	Wills	William	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Use the money for a wall between Mexico and Texas
79	4	Wills	William	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	This is a waste of tax payers money.
79	5	Wills	William	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	How much is the upkeep and maintenance going to cost?
79	6	Wills	William	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	What about the other states coastlines? Why would we be the only ones building a wall?
79	7	Wills	William	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Prefer Alternative D2.
79	8	Wills	William	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Destruction of property is good for future economy, it creates jobs and spending.
79	9	Wills	William	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Its why we have insurance, we are already covered for destruction

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
79	10	Wills	William	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Let the refineries pay for themselves.
80	1	Moore	James	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Does not agree with the cost or placement of the barrier on the Bolivar side.
80	2	Moore	James	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	There is no protection to the homes and businesses on the south side of Highway 87.
81	1	Boyt	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The levee from Gilchrist to High Island is on the beach. The beach and Highway 87 will wash out.
81	2	Boyt	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The Bolivar Roads gate will detrimentally impact the water flow in and out of the bay.
81	3	Boyt	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The project will be extremely expensive.
81	4	Boyt	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	If the project is about protecting vital industry then do it closer to the industrial areas.
81	5	Boyt	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	A dike on Bolivar does nothing to mitigate storm surge from the bay.
81	6	Boyt	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Buyout and raise homes in Shore Acres, Seabrook, Baycliff, and San Leon if necessary.
81	7	Boyt	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Tell Sylvester Turner that Houston fold from the bayous, not the bay.
81	8	Boyt	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	This project can still be done without sinking Bolivar.
81	9	Boyt	Mark	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	My home is on Bolivar, is over 100 years old and did not flood during Hurricanes Carla or Ike.
82	1	Pace	Alle	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Local resident, business owner, naturalist. Concerned.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
83	1	Tomlinson	Billy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Concerned about the excessive cost for the project, lack of transparency, and possible end result leaving the Texas coast as a monument to big oil.
84	1	Strong	George	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Concerned about what would happen if the 17 foot fence is built on the north side of Highway 87, to the drainage on the peninsula.
84	2	Strong	George	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	There are over 20 canals, outfalls, and other drains used to drain rain water on the north side of Highway 87. It appears that these drains would be blocked by the fence and its 200 foot footprint. What are you plans for drainage?
84	3	Strong	George	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The Bolivar Peninsula Special Utility District has a 20-inch water line that runs on the north side of Highway 87 that would be covered by your proposed 17-foot fence and 200-foot footprint. What you your plans to relocate this million dollar water line?
85	1	Strong	George	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Likes the idea of replenishing beaches and building up the dunes so that they will better withstand any serious storm surge.
85	2	Strong	George	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Opposes the erection of 27 miles of gates that would be 17-20 feet tall and have a base of 200-500 feet along the northern part of Highway 87 on Bolivar Peninsula.
85	3	Strong	George	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Concerned that my home value would decline rapidly as nobody would want to live on a beach that has such a barrier.
85	4	Strong	George	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	I built my home to the current Texas standards for construction in this area. My house was the only house within seven blocks that was still standing after Hurricane Ike.
85	5	Strong	George	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Doubt if my house could withstand a storm surge that goes under my house, then meets a 20 foot wall and is hurled back to my home and the Gulf with even greater force.
85	6	Strong	George	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Urge you to revise the study and find a better solution to protect the Gulf coast, our homes, and chemical plants.
86	1	Fincher	James	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Proposed a sand dune dike, with the 1,200 yard ship lane opening for boating traffic. Overlapping walls for beach traffic. The beach dike could be covered with sand. This proposal should not make a serious impact on wildlife.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
86	2	Fincher	James	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Would the short distance from the highway to the beach really make a difference? Yes, it would to the home owners.
87	1	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Strongly opposes the coastal barrier in its current state.
87	2	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The dike would amplify both the storm surge height as well as destroying structures on the entire Bolivar Peninsula
87	3	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The coastal barrier is massive and expensive and will actually trap homes and businesses between the levee and the Gulf beachfront.
87	4	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Will unnecessarily endanger lives for those living in front of the levee.
87	5	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Will cause property values to plummet.
87	6	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	The coastal counties tax base will be whipped out.
87	7	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Will create significant flood insurance issues.
87	8	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Will destroy the coastal economy.
87	9	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Will destroy the beauty of the beach.
87	10	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Will devastate the ecosystem.
87	11	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	See the Texas City levees for proof, which built much small levees directly around the petrochemical facilities located in the surge prone areas. These companies can easily afford to do this, but as a tax payer I am willing to help for this is necessary.
87	12	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Build levees around Galveston to protect from surge.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
87	13	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Implement the SSPEED Galveston Bay Park plan with its many benefits for all. It is significantly lower cost and it can be built much faster.
87	14	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Build a seawall like Galveston, or large sand dunes that look natural and keep the sand replenished over the years? This could be a way to slow down the storm surge and not lose our homes, businesses, and beach.
87	15	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Need an efficient way off the peninsula in case of evacuation. We need a bridge all the way down Highway 87 to 124. this would insure a save evacuation and save lives.
87	16	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	How are you going to pay for maintenance?
87	17	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	How can you spend \$30 billion when Texas vets aren't getting what they need?
87	18	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	What about the flooding issues seen with Harvey?
87	19	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	This will be destructive to the ecosystem, how you you going to protect the sea turtles on bolivar if they have no beach? They are currently listed on the Endangered Species Act.
87	20	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	What will this do to the Galveston Bay ecosystem?
87	21	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Will be economically disastrous to the oysters and shrimpers.
87	22	Fincher	Cathy	[REDACTED]	12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Red wolves have recently been seen on Galveston Island. What will be done to insure they are protected from this plan? There are less than 30 red wolves left in the wild. They are protected by the Endangered Species Act. (commenter provided a website on where to find information on red wolves)
88	1	Unknown	Unknown		12/15/18	PMCC	PC	Commenter provided: Weber Statement on Initial Draft of Proposal for Coastal Texas Barrier Protection Plan.
89	1	Larimore	James	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Why do we need to protect so many miles of coastline?

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
89	2	Larimore	James	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	What would the protection look like?
89	3	Larimore	James	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	What would the protection cost?
89	4	Larimore	James	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	We need to protect the Houston Ship Channel. It is a vital area and it is prone to funnel a possible massive wave into it. I believe this is because the barrier island is not that wide and some huge wave could easily pass over and into Galveston Bay and then even gain greater height as it reaches the Houston Ship Channel.
89	5	Larimore	James	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	The Mid-bay gate, or a more simple protective dike, closer to the Houston Ship Channel is needed.
89	6	Larimore	James	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Forget the gate at Bolivar Pass and miles of walls.
89	7	Larimore	James	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	The west side of Galveston Bay should not be hardened, at least not a long continuous wall running the entire way. This area doesn't have the "funnel shape" problem like the Houston Ship Channel and also is not as concentrated. Possibly some certain areas could be hardened.
89	8	Larimore	James	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	<b>The Corpus Christi barrier island is wider and possibly doesn't need such protection for its inner harbor. Freeport could possibly be protected some. Maybe a couple other areas need something too.</b>
89	9	Larimore	James	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	<b>We cant protect our whole coastline and we don't want to look at a massive protection system, and we don't want to pay for it.</b>
90	1	Balciunas	Rudy	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Once the project is completed, how will it be maintained over 50-years?
90	2	Balciunas	Rudy	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Why will this take so long to complete?
91	1	Powell	Emily	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	NGO	Knowing the placement of the proposed coastal barrier and understanding the full scope of the project is critical for fully evaluating the impacts to people, property, and the environment, as well as the effectiveness of the proposed alternative. This is necessary for the public to be able to assess the study and DEIS.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
91	2	Powell	Emily	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	NGO	Many groups and other non-profits have asked the USACE to consider practicable non-structural and nature-based solutions as a multi-tiered approach that can provide multiple benefits to the community in addition to flood risk reduction at a lower cost and faster over a longer period of time.
91	3	Powell	Emily	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	NGO	There needs to be greater public, private, and corporate responsibility.
91	4	Powell	Emily	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	NGO	Industrial facilities should provide their own first line of defense and be required to protect themselves. This would further protect the general public from toxic spills during flooding.
91	5	Powell	Emily	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	NGO	Need to be careful about proposing 70 plus miles of hard infrastructure that would likely incentivize development in flood-prone areas.
91	6	Powell	Emily	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	NGO	Land regulations are needed with this study to avoid this from happening.
91	7	Powell	Emily	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	NGO	This could further be coordinated with the protection and conservation of lands that provide open space and flood capacity.
91	8	Powell	Emily	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	NGO	The study should prioritize the protection of existing natural storm defenses, not as a last resort, but as an integral and important part of the solution and future vision of the coast. This is especially timely given future climate and environmental changes, and their impacts on coastal habitats and natural resources.
92	1	Chambers	Sandra	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Do not want to see the wall on the Highway.
92	2	Chambers	Sandra	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Prefer to see artificial dunes that are partially permanent.
92	3	Chambers	Sandra	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	In favor of artificial islands to help protect the ocean side of Galveston.

Comment Database  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study

Letter ID	Comment ID	Last Name	First Name	Commenter Contact Information	Date Received	Mode of Comment	Entity	Comment (may be paraphrased or summarized)
92	4	Chambers	Sandra	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	A wall would reduce our home values significantly as we are located on the beach side.
92	5	Chambers	Sandra	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Invest in infrastructure that is natural for example. See: Florida, El Dorado Royal Casitas in Cancun as an example of other locations that have been successful in this approach.
93	1	Chambers	Mike	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Opposed to al wall at 3005 because of the perceived backwash from the surge.
93	2	Chambers	Mike	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Opposed to placing a wall on the beach and restricting our views.
93	3	Chambers	Mike	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Aware of the dangers of having property on the Gulf exposure but chose to risk that and enjoy the Gulf.
93	4	Chambers	Mike	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Opposed to any structure or protection from surge by developing hard dunes with structures and vegetation.
93	5	Chambers	Mike	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	A system of barrier islands in the Gulf/bay would protect the shore, we are in favor of eco-protection.
94	1	Fenoglio	Heidi	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Would like to see natural dunes and artificial islands.
94	2	Fenoglio	Heidi	[REDACTED]	12/18/18	PMCC	PC	Do not want to see a wall build in Spanish Grant.



**Appendix J**  
**Original Comment Documents**

## **Appendix K**

### **Public Meeting Transcripts**

## **Port Lavaca Public Meeting Transcript**

1 COASTAL TEXAS PROTECTION &  
2 RESTORATION FEASIBILITY STUDY  
3 PUBLIC MEETING  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9

10 HELD ON NOVEMBER 27, 2018  
11 AT 5:30 P.M.  
12 BAUER COMMUNITY CENTER  
13 2300 TX-35  
14 PORT LAVACA, TX 77979  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

APPEARANCES

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

SPEAKERS:

Colonel Lars Zetterstrom, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Tony Williams, Texas General Land Office

Kelly Burks-Copes, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Audience Members

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Good evening, ladies and  
2 gentlemen. I'm pleased to be here tonight. I am Colonel Lars  
3 Zetterstrom, the Commander of the Galveston District. I  
4 welcome you to tonight's public meeting to review the Coastal  
5 Texas Protection and Restoration Study. For the record, let  
6 me please state this public meeting was convened at 5:30 P.M.  
7 on November 27th, 2018, at the Bauer Community Center in Port  
8 Lavaca, Texas. Specifically, we are presenting information on  
9 accepting public comments on the Draft Integrated Feasibility  
10 Report and Environmental Impact Statement for this study that  
11 was released for public review on October 26th, 2018. A court  
12 reporter is here to transcribe these proceedings and all  
13 public comments.

14 The Corps of Engineers and the General Land  
15 Office has analyzed the Coastal Risk Reduction Solutions that  
16 would reduce the risk to the lives and property on the Texas  
17 Coast. Ten years ago the region experienced Hurricane Ike  
18 which disrupted many lives and resulted in extensive economic  
19 and infrastructural damages. The Texas Coast is also subject  
20 to ongoing coastal erosion, relative sea level rise, habitat  
21 loss and water quality degradation. These coastal hazards are  
22 placing the environment and economic health of the coast at  
23 risk which negatively impacts the state and national economy.  
24 This along with storms such as Hurricane Ike, Dolly, and Rita  
25 emphasized the need for enhanced resiliency of the coast to

1 not only reduce future damage and loss but improve our ability  
2 to withstand to recover from future storms. It is important  
3 to note that the Coastal Texas Study recommends structural  
4 measures to reduce risks along the coast and that these  
5 recommendations support multiple investments and risk  
6 reduction the agencies and businesses are making along the  
7 coast.

8 Coastal Texas is a part of a larger effort of  
9 risk reduction actions to make the coast more resilient over  
10 time. A cost effective plan has been identified that we  
11 believe will significantly reduce the risk of damage from  
12 tropical storms and hurricanes as well as increase the net  
13 quality and quantity of coastal ecosystems. This meeting is  
14 being held to describe the tentatively selected plan for TSD  
15 and receive your comments. I hope that all of you have had an  
16 opportunity to read the notice of availability either in the  
17 Galveston District's website or the announcements that were  
18 mailed to individuals and organizations that may have an  
19 interest in these proceedings.

20 Before we go any further, I would like to  
21 introduce a representative from the Texas General Land Office,  
22 our study's non-federal sponsor, Mr. Tony Williams, the  
23 Planning Senior Director of Coastal Resources.

24 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Colonel Zetterstrom.  
25 As he said, I'm Tony Williams, the Director of Coastal

1 Planning for the Texas General Land Office. Thank you for  
2 coming to learn more about the Coastal Texas Protection and  
3 Restoration Study, also known as the Coastal Texas Study. I'd  
4 like to introduce the other GLO team members here. We have  
5 Carla Kartman with Coastal Planning, and Lee Schroer with our  
6 Corpus Christi Field Office, Dianna Ramirez with our La Porte  
7 Field Office and Caleb Bennet with Governmental Relations.  
8 And also we have Rob Mule with our Port Lavaca Oil Spill  
9 Office.

10 Addressing the issues on the Texas Coast  
11 including storm surges and ecosystem enhancement continues to  
12 be one of the top priorities of Commissioner Bush. You may be  
13 asking why the GLO is the non-Federal study sponsor. The GLO  
14 is a state agency responsible for the Coastal Management  
15 Program, was initially established to manage state-owned land  
16 including state-owned submerged land approximately 10 miles  
17 offshore. As the state agency responsible for implementation  
18 of the Coastal Planning Erosion and Response Act, we're also  
19 responsible for beach and dune protection, oil spill response  
20 in state waters, and certain roles in disaster recovery.

21 In November of 2015 the GLO signed a piece bill  
22 cost share agreement with the Corps of Engineers for the  
23 Coastal Texas study. This obligated GLO to funding  
24 approximately half of the \$20 million to conduct the study  
25 much which is being done through work in kind. The Land



1 Office is committed to working with the Corps of Engineers to  
2 develop a plan to increase the resiliency of the Texas Coast,  
3 to begin a regular approach that includes ecosystem  
4 restoration and enhancement all along the coast and storm  
5 surge barriers specifically in the Houston-Galveston region.  
6 The draft plan that is being presented today incorporates  
7 habitat restoration and enhancement as well as gates, levees,  
8 and flood walls to address erosion, habitat loss, and storm  
9 surge. These measures work together to increase the overall  
10 resiliency of the Texas Coast.

11           The proposed plan in the Coastal Texas State  
12 was developed to work in concert with the Texas Coastal  
13 Resiliency Master Plan. The GLO is currently working with  
14 state holders along the coast to develop 2019 version of the  
15 Coastal Resiliency Restoration Plan that builds on the  
16 original plan that was released in 2017. The 2019 version of  
17 the Master Plan identifies projects that coastal experts have  
18 identified as the ones best suited to address issues along the  
19 coast. It also includes modeling that identifies future  
20 threats to the Texas Coast and how the proposed projects will  
21 reduce those threats. The plan will be completed in 2019 and  
22 presented to the Texas Legislature. The Coastal Texas State  
23 proposed plan or the tentatively selected plan as is referred  
24 to in Corps documents was jointly developed by the GLO and  
25 Corps of Engineers. We worked with engineering firms and

1 environmental firms, consulted with other groups addressing  
2 these issues including local universities and international  
3 organizations, navigation interests and environmental  
4 organizations. We met on a regular basis with resource  
5 agencies. As we move to the next phase of the study, it's  
6 important to get feedback from all state holders on the  
7 proposed plan and the Coastal Texas Study. Please remember  
8 the study's only about halfway done, and there's a lot of  
9 details that still need to be worked out. Again, we value  
10 your input and look forward to your comments. Thank you for  
11 taking the time to join us. I turn it back over to Colonel  
12 Zetterstrom.

13 COL. ZETTERSTROM: All right. Thank you, Mr.  
14 Williams. Next, I would like to recognize the public  
15 officials who are attending tonight. First, I have Mr. Tony  
16 Holladay, the Port Commissioner from the Calhoun Port  
17 Authority. Next, I have Mr. Jack Whitlow, the Mayor of Port  
18 Lavaca. Thank you, sir. Mr. Tim Dent, City Council, Port  
19 Lavaca. And finally, William Dilibero, City Manager of Port  
20 Lavaca. Thank you, gentlemen.

21 Additionally, I would like to introduce those  
22 that are with me from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.  
23 First, I'd like to recognize Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes, Galveston  
24 District Project Manager for this study. Next, I'd like to  
25 recognize Sharon Tirpak, Galveston District Deputy Chief of

1 Project Management. Next, I'd like to recognize Dr. Himangshu  
2 Das, Galveston District Coastal Engineering Lead, Hydraulics  
3 and Hydrology. Mr. Brian Harper, Galveston District, Regional  
4 Planning Environmental Center, Chief of Civil Planning Branch.  
5 Mr. Travis Creel, New Orleans District, Regional Planning  
6 Environment Center, South Lead Planning. Ms. Caroline McCabe,  
7 Galveston District, Regional Planning Environmental Plan  
8 Formulator, Lead Planner for the Ecosystem Restoration. Mr.  
9 Kenny Pablo, Galveston District, Realty Specialist, Lead Real  
10 Estate Analyst for the Coastal Storm Restoration Measures.  
11 Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Galveston District, Regional Planning  
12 Environmental Center, Environmental Branch, NEPA Specialist  
13 and Environmental Lead; and then finally Mr. Jeffery Pinsky,  
14 Galveston District, Regional Planning Environmental Center,  
15 Acting Section Chief of the Environmental Branch.

16 I'd like to discuss the meeting ground rules  
17 and format at this time. I'd like to describe the ground  
18 rules before and after tonight's meeting. I hope everyone  
19 completed the registration form when they entered the meeting.  
20 The registration form is used to provide us your contact  
21 information so we can keep you updated on the status of the  
22 study. It can also be used to submit a written comment. If  
23 you would like to make a comment orally tonight, please make  
24 sure that you have indicated your intent on the sign-in sheet  
25 at the door. Those wishing to make an oral comment will be

1 given an opportunity to do so after the presentation. If  
2 you'd prefer not to speak this evening, you may submit your  
3 comments in writing by dropping them into the box provided or  
4 send them to us by mail or an e-mail.

5                   Following these opening remarks, Dr. Kelly  
6 Burks-Copes, Project Manager, will present an overview of the  
7 feasibility study. After her presentation, I'll open the  
8 floor to public comments. Federal and State officials that  
9 have requested to make a statement will be recognized first.  
10 Next, representatives from the Federal and State Resource  
11 agencies wishing to make a statement will be called upon.  
12 Then I'll recognize each individual who has indicated that  
13 they wish to make a comment. Please keep your remarks to one  
14 minute as we would like for everyone to have an opportunity to  
15 speak and we will only have this room until we are completed  
16 this evening. Also we would like to emphasize that this will  
17 not be a question and answer session. This meeting is to  
18 provide everyone with an opportunity to publicly comment on  
19 the plan. Please give all speakers the courtesy of not making  
20 any comments during their presentation. Turn off your cell  
21 phones, hold all applause or other reaction so that we can  
22 have an orderly meeting and be respectful of everyone's time.  
23 All individuals have an equal right to be heard. Now I would  
24 like to present Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes to make our  
25 presentation.

1 MS. BURKS-COPES: Thank you, sir. All right.  
2 I'd like to start first -- I'm shorter than they are, sorry.  
3 I'd like to start first by laying out what I'm going to talk  
4 about, and we'll go through this very quickly. I'm going to  
5 first provide you with the status update on the study and  
6 describe the process that we are currently in that addresses  
7 the National Environmental Policy Act. Then I'll lay over  
8 that the USACE planning process and identify the Tentatively  
9 Selected Plan. I'll go ahead and describe the potential  
10 impacts of that plan, the costs and the benefits, and then  
11 I'll open the floor to receive public comments.

12 We're about halfway through in the study. It's  
13 a five and a half year study, and we're two and a half years  
14 in. We released the report as we mentioned earlier on October  
15 26th. We are looking to go into phase two of the project in  
16 the next year. This first phase was to formulate measures and  
17 then combinations of measures to generate plans and then to  
18 select a tentatively selected plan which we offered up for  
19 public comments and review. Next year and the year after, we  
20 will focus then on the tentatively selected plan and do  
21 detailed engineering and design, write that up into a final  
22 report which our chief will sign and submit to Congress for  
23 consideration and authorization.

24 We have a series of public meetings now this  
25 week for the Lower Coast, today, tonight basically, tomorrow

1 night and the next. We have the week off and then we'll have  
2 these same types of public meetings in the Upper Coast area.  
3 You are free to come to any of these public meetings.

4           We are in a 75-day public review period. A  
5 typical Environmental Impact Statement is 45 days; but since  
6 the study is so large and somewhat complicated, we thought it  
7 would be prudent to offer you a little bit more time to review  
8 the report and provide your comments. So, the public period  
9 began on October 26th with a release of the report, and we  
10 will conclude on January 9th of 2019. We are inviting the  
11 public and agencies to comment. It's required by the NEPA  
12 process. I'll try not to acronym you to death. All comments  
13 are welcome, positive or negative. And remember, the more  
14 specific you are with your comments, the easier it will be for  
15 us to address and understand your concerns and issues and work  
16 on solutions. The public and agency input informs our  
17 decisions and all comments are fully evaluated prior to  
18 decision making. Review and comment ensures that our  
19 decisions are based on the best available information, and  
20 that's why it's so important that you're here.

21           The study first went about, the study team  
22 first went about identifying problems or concerns to address  
23 with our project. We have a series of these kind of  
24 highlighted and identified on the map. Obviously, you walked  
25 around the room and talked to us a little bit about this in

1 the first hour of the public meeting. We have some concerns  
2 for economic damages caused by hurricanes, coastal storm  
3 surges, specifically driven by hurricanes. There are inland  
4 erosion problems and coastal erosion problems. We have  
5 identified losses of habitats, critical habitats for  
6 threatened and endangered species. And we know that there are  
7 natural delta processes that are in jeopardy. There are a  
8 series of locations that are experiencing disruptive  
9 hydrology, and some of the solutions that we are proposing  
10 should be able to address those concerns.

11           So, the way that the Army Corps planning  
12 process works is that we establish a series of goals. This is  
13 a multi-purpose project which means that we were authorized to  
14 look at coastal storm risk management solutions as well as  
15 ecosystem restoration. Together they provide a multiple lines  
16 of defense strategy that should support and promote resilience  
17 for the coast.

18           To meet the goals, there are a series of  
19 objectives that we have outlined and detailed in terms of  
20 measure. We are proposing to reduce economic damage, reduce  
21 risk to critical infrastructure, reduce the risks to public  
22 health and safety as we mentioned earlier, increase  
23 resilience, enhance and restore coastal landforms, improve  
24 hydrologic activity, and improve and sustain coastal marshes  
25 and bay shorelines.

1           The study area has a series of nationally  
2 significant social and community features. We know for a fact  
3 that in our study area, there's approximately 6.1 million  
4 residents living there in the 18 counties, and that's about 24  
5 percent of the population of Texas. We have numerous  
6 deep-draft ports. I've listed a few here, and you saw some on  
7 the video. We also have 150 miles of Gulf Intracoastal  
8 Waterway, which is shallow draft. There's significant  
9 industry in our region. Forty percent of the nation's  
10 petrochemical industry resides within our study area, and 25  
11 percent of the national petroleum-refining capacity. We also  
12 have NASA; and in Galveston, we have the UTMB hospital that  
13 has a Level 4 Viral Laboratory.

14           In terms of natural resources, we have critical  
15 ecosystems up and down the coast. Habitat or threatened and  
16 endangered species, we have 2 of the 28 natural Estuary  
17 Program sites in our study area, and the Central Flyway  
18 Migratory Corridor runs straight through the study area. The  
19 Laguna Madre is in our study area which is one of six rare  
20 hypersaline lagoons in the world. As the video mentioned too,  
21 we have nursery habitat for oysters, shrimp, and finfish which  
22 are all commercial fisheries; and the Padre Island National  
23 Seashore is in the study area. All told, we have 12 National  
24 Wildlife Refuges scattered throughout the study.

25           I need to kind of explain to you how the Corps



1 talks and how we formulate plans so that you can get a feel  
2 for what we've been doing over the last couple of years. We  
3 have ideas like features. These are levees, marshes, gates.  
4 Actions that are restoration construction, raisings of  
5 buildings, and treatments such as beach nourishments or  
6 plantings of wetlands; and if you combine features, measures,  
7 and treatments into groupings, you end up -- I'm sorry,  
8 features, actions, and treatments into groupings, you end up  
9 with something we call measures. And combinations of measures  
10 are plans.

11           So, to develop the plans, we had to go back  
12 down to those treatments and actions. And so, we were in 2016  
13 directed by the Water Resources Development Act to use all of  
14 the available data in the region. And so, we had access to  
15 things like the NOAA Sea Level Rise Viewer, FEMA's Inundation  
16 Mapping, we had SLOSH modeling to look at potential flooding.  
17 But we also had other studies ongoing in our area and we were  
18 directed specifically to take a look at those and incorporate  
19 those into our formulation. The GCCPRD just recently released  
20 a report. Texas A&M's Ike Dike is out there. The SSPEED  
21 Center's H-GAP plan is out there. In addition, Tony mentioned  
22 that the Texas Coastal Master Plan has been developing a  
23 series of reports and identifying ecosystem restoration sites  
24 up and down the coast, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
25 have several studies in the study area already ongoing. And

1 so, the important part of what I'm trying to explain is that  
2 there's lots of things working in this region, and we were  
3 directed to not reinvent the wheel, to use as much of that as  
4 possible and then add to it. To begin in 2014 and 2015, we  
5 started with scoping meetings, something similar to what  
6 you're experiencing today, and with all of this information in  
7 tow, we started formulating those measures.

8           Initially there were a series of measures per  
9 region. Region 1 is up in the Houston-Galveston area, and  
10 then it just goes downstairs step as we go down to  
11 Brownsville. A series of measures were formulated for each of  
12 those regions, and then we used the goals and objectives to  
13 screen those and carry a set number forward to formulate the  
14 plans. So, these are just numbers. I know it's not very  
15 clear for you, but what I can do is explain that we were  
16 really looking in this first phase towards distinguishing  
17 between a coastal barrier plan or a rim barrier plan. They  
18 have similar features, but there are some critical  
19 distinctions. So, what I'm going to show you is some of the  
20 criteria we used to screen those and select amongst those  
21 tentatively selected plan. Corps of Engineers has three basic  
22 criteria for selecting that tentatively selected plan. It  
23 needs to be engineeringly sound, it needs to be  
24 environmentally acceptable, and it needs to be economically  
25 justified. And to reach those conclusions, we have a series

1 of tools that we can use including storm models to assess the  
2 efficacy or the ability of the barriers that we are proposing  
3 and restoration sites that we are proposing to function and to  
4 provide an increased resilience for the coast.

5           So, I'm going to explain basically the two main  
6 Region 1 or Upper Coast plans that we formulated. The first  
7 one as you've seen and if you've walked around and listened to  
8 the video is what we call the Coastal Barrier Plan. Now,  
9 first thing's first. This is not the Ike Dike. This is not  
10 the Coastal Spine. This is not the H-GAP plan that the SSPEED  
11 Center developed. This is a coastal barrier plan that looks  
12 at not only a barrier but a combination of ecosystem  
13 restoration and some actions down in the South Padre area as  
14 kind of a system-wide approach to improving resilience on the  
15 Texas Coast. You can tell that what we do is started at the  
16 High Island area, comes down to Bolivar, cross over the Nav  
17 Channel and then form a ring barrier around the Galveston  
18 city, City of Galveston. We tie into the seawall and run down  
19 the Galveston Island to San Luis Pass. We do not close on San  
20 Luis Pass. The triangles on the map are pump stations. The  
21 ring barrier, for example, would be closed only during the  
22 storm. It's porous. It would have openings for roads and for  
23 railroads, but they would be closed during the storm and any  
24 water that were to fall from the sky during the hurricane  
25 would then be pumped out of these pump stations. We have gate

1 closures across the Nav Channel. We also have gate closures  
2 at Offats Bayou with a pumping station there. Up in the west  
3 side of the bay are features we call non-structural. Those  
4 are raisings of buildings and flood proofing of buildings; but  
5 we've also proposed two closures, one at Dickinson Bayou and  
6 one at Clear Creek Bayou with pump stations. Those of course  
7 will be only closed during the storm to prevent surge from  
8 moving up those trips and then we would open them back up and  
9 use the pumping stations to alleviate flow coming off the  
10 land.

11           If you'll notice on the Bay Rim Solution, we  
12 still have the ring barrier down in Galveston with a pump  
13 station. But this time the barrier itself is along the rim of  
14 Galveston Bay. Starting at San Jacinto, we would go across  
15 with the gate closure, come all the way down the bay to the  
16 Texas City Levee. We would have closures at the Dickinson and  
17 Clear Creek Bayou still. We would need to expand or extend  
18 the Texas Levee off to the west, and that's -- that's  
19 basically the rim barrier plan. So, you can see that there's  
20 some similarities between the two, but it's an essence either  
21 the rim or the barrier island plan.

22           Part of the course process then is to compare  
23 and contrast those two. Plan A, for example, the Coastal  
24 Barrier Plan, focuses on reducing risks on all benefit  
25 categories, whereas the D2 Plan, that rim barrier plan would

1 focus primarily on dense industrial and commercial areas. The  
2 critical navigation features under Plan A would be protected  
3 but there would be some under Plan D that would be outside of  
4 the barrier system. The Galveston Rim Levee in Plan A would  
5 be there basically to address storm -- wind-driven storm surge  
6 but in the Plan D, that levee leads do not only that but  
7 induced stages of flooding would need to be addressed. So, as  
8 you can tell, we've got some compare, some contrast for each  
9 of the plans, some similarities but there was a way to  
10 distinguish these using our three criteria, whether it was  
11 economically acceptable, whether it was environmentally  
12 acceptable, and engineeringly possible.

13           Remember, in addition to these two features or  
14 these two plans up in Region 1, down in South Padre Island,  
15 there is a serious erosion problem. It's been addressed so  
16 far with beneficial use placement, but beneficial use in that  
17 area is uncertain because the timing is not regular and  
18 funding is limited. And so, what we are proposing in addition  
19 to the barrier plan is to do two miles in two separate regions  
20 of 12.5 foot x 100 foot-long dunes and a 10-year renourishment  
21 cycle is being proposed.

22           In addition, because we're a multi-purpose  
23 project and we're looking at multiple lines of defense for our  
24 strategy, we have proposed nine separate measures that are  
25 going to focus on ecosystem restoration. We're proposing



1 billion and 32 billion. About 40 percent of the cost is  
2 ecosystem restoration. A small portion is for the South Padre  
3 Island, and then the rest is for the Coastal Storm Risk  
4 Management Features. There will be potential impacts for this  
5 plan. We are expecting to see about 4500 acres of direct  
6 impact under a Plan A, and 2300 under Plan D. The South Padre  
7 Island we expect to see about 365, 366 acres impacted  
8 directly. Because we are proposing to put gates into the Nav  
9 Channel and the opening the two-mile wide opening into  
10 Galveston Bay, we will experience some constriction in flow  
11 into the bay which will alter the tidal exchange and will  
12 reduce the velocities in Galveston. So, those are indirect  
13 effects. We will be restoring approximately 160,000 acres of  
14 marsh, islands, dunes, beaches and oyster reefs under the  
15 ecosystem restoration aspect of the plan. All totalled, the  
16 total mitigation cost will range between \$676 million and \$906  
17 million dollars.

18           Those costs can be defrayed or reduced through  
19 optimization. Optimization is the idea that now that we have  
20 honed in on a coastal barrier plan and not the rim barrier  
21 plan, we can go into the next phase of the study and do  
22 detailed design in engineering. In doing so, we can take a  
23 look at the gate structures that we've looked at thus far.  
24 We've proposed kind of a worse-case scenario of some flipping  
25 sector gates that are on islands and would close during the

1 storms but would open back up. They do cause some  
2 constriction of flow into the bay. Through optimization, we  
3 could redesign or improve upon those designs and possibly  
4 reduce that constriction, thereby reducing the need for  
5 mitigation and reduction of the impacts that we are expecting  
6 to see both through direct and the indirect. Optimization  
7 also will focus on the alignment of the barrier system down  
8 Bolivar and then down Galveston. We could see that we move  
9 the line based on the need to address economically, let's say  
10 defensible solutions that provide more risk reduction. We  
11 need to resize and look at the sizes of the levee heights and  
12 we need to look at pump stations sizes through optimization.

13                   So, we're in the study phase about halfway  
14 through. We expect to present a report to Congress in 2021,  
15 April of 2021. Then if we are authorized and approved, we  
16 will go into design which could take two to five years after  
17 and this will be caveat on the idea that we would receive the  
18 funding. Once we go into design, we can move into building  
19 and it could take between 10 and 15 years to build what we are  
20 proposing to do if we receive all of the funding at the  
21 beginning. If we need to, we will come up with phasing so  
22 that we can build in pieces and parts based on a series of  
23 criteria that would be everything from improving and  
24 maximizing ecosystem production to minimizing risks. And we  
25 will then turn the project over to our cost share sponsor and



1 they are responsible for maintaining the project out passed  
2 the 50-year life cycle. The study is funded right now 50/50  
3 cost share. Going immediately into construction, it is 65  
4 percent federal, 35 percent out of cost share.

5           So, the point of this meeting and why we have  
6 asked you here is to give you a forum to provide comment. You  
7 can come to the microphone and provide your comments. Please  
8 sign up if you haven't done so already. If you're a little  
9 shy or you're not ready, you can send in a letter and we I've  
10 provided the address here for sending in that letter or you  
11 can go to our mailbox and send in an e-mail for those  
12 millenials in the room. The key here though is that we need  
13 comments received by January 9th.

14           I talk fast. I presented a lot of  
15 information. You've sat through two videos and I'm sure you  
16 haven't had a chance to absorb everything. So, what I've done  
17 is provided you here with the website again all of the details  
18 of what I've presented as well as the posters and the two  
19 videos will be posted up there. If you watch this website,  
20 you can download the report itself, and you can hit the  
21 mailbox and provide a comment through our website. And with  
22 that, I'll turn it back over to Lars.

23           COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, very much, Dr.  
24 Burks-Copes. So, I will now call upon members of the general  
25 public who wish to make statements. I have asked Mr. Stokes

1 to assist me in keeping time. He will indicate when you have  
2 15 seconds left to speak and when your time has expired. I  
3 ask that you stop speaking after one minute as allowed. When  
4 you are called upon, please come forward and speak into the  
5 microphone. Please identify yourself by your full name and  
6 the organization you represent, if any. First, I'd like to  
7 call upon Mr. Bill Harvey.

8 MR. HARVEY: I'm going to submit by e-mail, if  
9 that's okay.

10 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Yes, sir. Thank you. Next,  
11 I would like to call upon Mr. Raymond Butler.

12 MR. BUTLER: Good evening. My name is Raymond  
13 Butler. I am with the Lavaca Bay Foundation, a recently  
14 organized nonprofit group looking over Lavaca Bay. Those of  
15 us who organized it all grew up here. I spent my entire life  
16 in the barge industry. Growing up here, grew up on this bay  
17 fishing and hunting, and I was fortunate enough to spend 10  
18 years with the Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association where I ran  
19 the Intracoastal Waterway for it's entire length and -- this  
20 is fast. Okay. Let me make my points. Please consider  
21 modeling the Galveston Bay effort. Okay? When you talk about  
22 putting the gate on the Intracoastal Waterway, model that. I  
23 was very involved with the two gates in New Orleans. That's  
24 critical. When you get down here, we have got some serious  
25 erosion problems in this bay system. Please pay particular

1 attention to that and the Intracoastal Waterway and Sargent  
2 Beach. Thank you.

3 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, Mr. Butler. Next  
4 I would like to call upon Mr. Colby Jorrells.

5 MR. SORRELLS: Sorrells.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Sorrells, excuse me.

7 MR. SORRELLS: Can I just speak from here? I  
8 don't need a microphone. I'm just a fisherman, but I'm  
9 concerned about projects CA-6 to be specific. Specifically,  
10 part of the project I'm concerned about is the planned coastal  
11 10-mile revetment system. This stretch of the coast is a very  
12 unique environment found nowhere else on the entire coast.  
13 The revetments that are planned are going to destroy that  
14 environment. I will be sending in a letter to detail this,  
15 and I'll be here afterwards if whoever's involved would like  
16 to discuss it. I do have one question, and I will address it  
17 to you after the meeting's over, if that's okay. That's it.  
18 Thank you.

19 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir. At this  
20 time we've gone through the list of those individuals that  
21 indicated that they would like to speak. Is there anyone else  
22 in the audience that would like to speak at this time?

23 (No audience response.)

24 Well, in conclusion written comments on the  
25 Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact

1 Statement must be received on or before January 9th, 2019, the  
2 conclusion of the 75-day comment period that began on October  
3 26th, 2018. I would like to thank the Texas General Land  
4 Office for their efforts in assisting and preparing or holding  
5 this meeting this evening. I thank you for your attendance  
6 and interest that all of you have shown tonight. With that,  
7 I'd like to adjourn the meeting. Thank you, ladies and  
8 gentlemen.

9 (End of meeting.)

10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

COASTAL TEXAS STUDY  
PUBLIC MEETING

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

I, Christy A. Moya, Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Texas, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains a true and correct transcription of all portions of the proceedings requested in the above-entitled matter.

I further certify that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this meeting was taken, and further that I am not financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.

I further certify that the total cost for the preparation of this Reporter's Record is \$167.<sup>00</sup> and will be paid in full by Crouch Environmental Services Inc.

WITNESS MY OFFICIAL HAND on this the 5th day of December, 2018.

*Christy A. Moya*

Christy A. Moya, CSR #7681

Expiration: 12-31-19

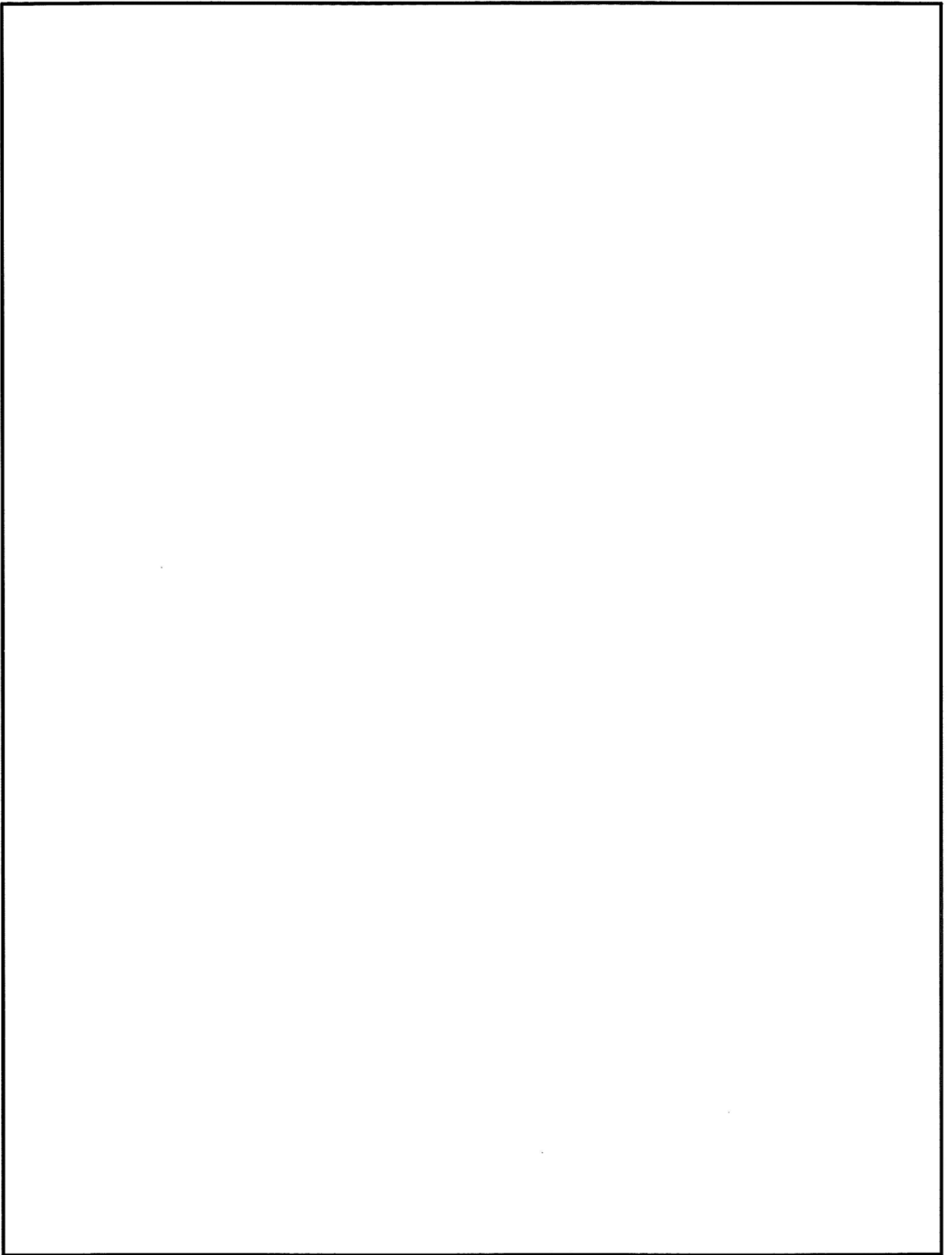
Official Court Reporter

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## Corpus Christi Public Meeting Transcript



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

COASTAL TEXAS PROTECTION & RESTORATION FEASIBILITY STUDY

PUBLIC MEETING

NOVEMBER 28, 2018

5:30 P.M.



1           MR. ZETTERSTROM: Good evening ladies and  
2 gentlemen, I am pleased to be here tonight. I am  
3 Colonel Lars Zetterstrom, Commander of the Galveston  
4 District. I welcome you to tonight's public meeting to  
5 review the Coastal Texas Protection & Restoration Study.  
6 For the record, let me state that this public meeting  
7 was convened at 5:30 p.m. on November 28, 2018 at the  
8 Harte Research Institute at Texas A&M Corpus Christ in  
9 Corpus Christi, Texas.

10                       Specifically, we are presenting  
11 information and accepting public comments on the draft  
12 integrated feasibility report and environmental impact  
13 statement for this study that was released for public  
14 review on the 26th of October 2018. A court reporter is  
15 here to transcribe these proceedings and all public  
16 comments.

17                       The Corp of Engineers and the Texas  
18 General Land Office have analyzed coastal risks  
19 reductions solutions that would reduce the risk to lives  
20 and property on the Texas Coast. Ten years ago, the  
21 region experienced Hurricane Ike which disrupted many  
22 lives and resulted in extensive economic and  
23 infrastructural damages. The Texas Coast is also  
24 subject to ongoing coastal erosion, relative sea level  
25 rise, habitat loss and water quality degradation. These

1 coastal hazards are placing the environmental and  
2 economic health of the coast at risk which negatively  
3 impacts the state and national economy.

4 This along with storms such as Hurricane  
5 Ike, Dolly, and Rita, emphasize the need for enhanced  
6 resilience of the coast to not only reduce future  
7 damages and loss but to improve our ability to withstand  
8 and recover from future storms. It is important to note  
9 that the Coastal Texas Study recommends structural  
10 measures to reduce risk along the coast. These  
11 recommendations support multiple investments in risk  
12 reductions that agencies and businesses are making along  
13 the coast. Coastal Texas is part of a larger effort of  
14 risk reduction actions to make the coast more resilient  
15 over time. The cost effective plan has been identified  
16 that we believe would significantly reduce the risk of  
17 damages from tropical storms and hurricanes as well as  
18 increased and net quality and quantity of coastal  
19 ecosystems.

20 This meeting is being held to describe to  
21 Tentatively Selected Plan or TSP and to receive your  
22 comments. I hope that all of you had an opportunity to  
23 read the notice and availability either on the Galveston  
24 District's website or the announcements that were mailed  
25 to individuals and organizations that may have an

1 interest in these proceedings.

2 Before we go any further, I would like to  
3 introduce a representative of the Texas General Land  
4 Office, our study's sponsor, Mr. Tony Williams, the  
5 Planning Senior Director of Coastal Resources.

6 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Colonel  
7 Zetterstrom. Thank you everybody for coming out tonight  
8 to learn more about the Coastal Texas Protection &  
9 Restoration Feasibility Study also known as the Coastal  
10 Texas Study. I would like to introduce other members of  
11 the GLO here as well. We have Carla Kartman with our  
12 Planning Division Project Manager for the GLO. We have  
13 Kayla Bennett who is our Director of Governmental  
14 Relations and Lee Shore in our Corpus Christi field  
15 office.

16 Addressing the issues on the Texas Coast  
17 including the storm surges and ecosystem enhancement  
18 continues to be one of the top priorities for  
19 Commissioner Bush. You may be asking why is the GLO  
20 involved in this study. The GLO was established to  
21 manage state owned land, including submerged and tidal  
22 influence up to over ten miles offshore. The Land  
23 Office is also the State agency responsible for the  
24 coastal management program, coastal erosion plan  
25 response act limitation, beach and dune protection and

1 oil spill response to state waters. It is also  
2 responsible for certain roles in disaster recovery.

3 In November of 2015, the GLO signed a  
4 feasibility cautionary agreement with the Corps of  
5 Engineers for the Coastal Texas Study. This obligated  
6 the GLO to funding approximately half of the  
7 20 million-dollars to conduct the study, much of which  
8 is being accomplished through work in-kind. The GLO  
9 committed to work with the Corp of Engineers to develop  
10 a plan to increase the resiliency of the Texas Coast  
11 through an integrative approach that includes ecosystem  
12 restoration enhancement along with storm surge barriers,  
13 specifically in the Houston-Galveston area.

14 The draft plan that is being presented  
15 today incorporates habitat restoration and enhancement  
16 as well as gates, levees and flood walls to address  
17 erosion, habitat loss and storm surge. These measures  
18 work together to increase the overall resiliency of the  
19 Texas Coast. The proposed plan in the Coastal Texas  
20 Study was developed to work in concert with the Texas  
21 Coastal resiliency master plan. The GLO is currently  
22 working with stakeholders along the coast to develop a  
23 2019 version of the coastal resiliency master plan which  
24 builds on the original plan that was released in 2017.

25 The 2019 version of the master plan

1 identifies projects on the coast that experts have  
2 identified as ones best adapted to addressing resiliency  
3 along the coast. The 2019 version also includes  
4 modeling of future threats to the Texas Coast and the  
5 benefits of identifying projects. The plan will be  
6 completed in early 2019 and presented to the Texas  
7 legislature in the upcoming session.

8           The Coastal Texas Study proposed plan or  
9 Tentatively Selected Plan as is referred to in the Corp  
10 of Engineers documents was jointly developed by the Corp  
11 and General Land Office. We've worked with engineering  
12 and environmental firms, consulted with other groups  
13 addressing these issues including local universities and  
14 international organizations, had multiple meetings with  
15 resource agencies, navigation interests and  
16 environmental groups.

17           As we move forward to the next phase of  
18 the study, it is important to get feedback from all  
19 stakeholders on the measures that are recommended in the  
20 Coastal Texas Study by this plan. Please remember, the  
21 study is only about halfway done and there are a lot of  
22 details that still need to be worked out. Again, we  
23 value your input and look forward to your comments.

24           Thank you for taking time to join us. I  
25 will turn it back over to Colonel Zetterstrom.

1 MR. ZETTERSTROM: Next, I would like to  
2 recognize the public official that is attending the  
3 meeting tonight, Ms. Nita Nixon from the City of Corpus  
4 Christi, Director of Development Services. Thank you,  
5 ma'am.

6 Additionally, I would like to introduce  
7 the members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers staff  
8 that are members of this study. First, I would like to  
9 recognize the project manager Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes  
10 Galveston District and project manager for the study.

11 Next, I would like to recognize  
12 Ms. Sharon Tirpak Galveston District Deputy Chief of  
13 Project Manager Branch. Also, Dr. Himangshu Das  
14 Galveston District, Coastal Engineering Lead, hydrolics  
15 and and hydrology. Mr. Brian Harper, Galveston District  
16 Regional Planning Environmental Center, Chief Civil  
17 Planning Branch. Mr. Travis Creel New Orleans District,  
18 Regional Planning Environmental Center Division South  
19 Lead Planner. Mrs. Caroline McCabe Galveston District  
20 Regional Planning Environmental Center Plan Formulator,  
21 Lead Planner for Ecosystem Restoration. Mr. Kenny  
22 Pablo, Galveston District, Realty Specialist, Lead Real  
23 Estate Analyst for Coastal Storm Restoration Measures.  
24 Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Galveston District Regional  
25 Planning Environmental Center Environmental Branch, NEPA

1 Specialist and Lead Environmentalist. Mr. Jeffrey  
2 Penski, Galveston District, Regional Planning  
3 Environmental Center, Acting Section Chief of the  
4 Environmental Branch. And additionally, we have  
5 Mr. Coraggio Maglio, Galveston District, Chief of  
6 Hydrology and Hydrolics.

7 Now I would like to describe the ground  
8 rules and format for tonight's meeting. I hope everyone  
9 completed a registration form when they entered the  
10 meeting. Registration form is used to provide us with  
11 your contact information so we can keep you updated on  
12 the status of the study. It can also be used to submit  
13 a written comment. If you would like to make your  
14 comment orally tonight, please make sure you indicated  
15 your intent on the sign-in sheet at the door. Those  
16 wishing to make an oral comment will be given an  
17 opportunity to do so after the presentation. If you  
18 prefer not to speak tonight, you may submit your  
19 comments in writing by dropping them in the box provided  
20 or send them out to us by mail or e-mail. Following the  
21 opening remarks, Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes Project Manager  
22 will present an overview of the feasibility study.  
23 After her presentation, I will open the floor to public  
24 comments. Federal and State officials that are  
25 requested to make a statement will be recognized first.

1 Next representative from Federal and State resource  
2 agencies wishing to make a statement will be called upon  
3 and then I will recognize each individual who has  
4 indicated that they wish to make a comment. Please keep  
5 your remarks to one minute as we would like to for  
6 everyone to have an opportunity to speak and we only  
7 have this room until 9:00 p.m. this evening.

8 Also we would like to emphasize this will  
9 not be a question and answer session. This meeting is  
10 to provide everyone with an opportunity to publicly  
11 comment on the plan. Please give all speakers the  
12 courtesy of not making any comments during their  
13 presentation. Please turn off your cell phones and hold  
14 all applause and other reactions so that we can have an  
15 orderly meeting and be respectable of everyone's time.  
16 All individuals have the right to be heard.

17 Now I would like to present Dr. Kelly  
18 Burks-Copes to make our presentation. Thank you.

19 MS. BURKS-COPES: So I am going to start  
20 out by giving you a little bit of feel for what my  
21 presentation is going to focus on and then we will go  
22 into the heart of the study. Tonight I need to provide  
23 you with a status update of where we are and then  
24 describe the National Environmental Policy Act process  
25 which is what we are involved in now. There is an



1 overlying or underlying process that the U.S. Army Corps  
2 of Engineers also follows and so I will describe that.  
3 Then we will go into the Tentatively Selective Plan,  
4 talk about its impacts, its costs and its benefits and  
5 then I will close and we will open the floor for  
6 comments.

7           So our study is a five and a half year  
8 study. We are about halfway through at this point.  
9 Scoping started in 2014. We are set to release a final  
10 chief's report in 2021. The draft report was released  
11 on October 26 and we are currently in the midst of  
12 hosting a series of public meetings down the lower  
13 coast, started last night, and will finish tomorrow  
14 night at Port Isabel. We will take a week off and then  
15 we will have some meetings in the upper coast area.

16           The study is large and complex and  
17 typically we have a 45-day public review period for an  
18 environmental impact statement. But because this study  
19 is so large, we have extended that period to a 75-day  
20 comment review period. So, we started with the release  
21 of the report on October 26 and that means it will  
22 conclude on January 9 of 2019. This public review  
23 comment period is required by NEPA. All comments are  
24 welcomed if they are positive or negative and we want  
25 you to remember that the more specific you are with your

1 comments, the easier it will be for us to understand  
2 what your concerns are or your issues are and to address  
3 those issues.

4           Public and agency input informs our  
5 decisions and all comments are equally valued.  
6 Reviewing comment basically ensures that our decisions  
7 are based on the best available information. So if  
8 you've talked to the folks in the back of the room and  
9 looked at the posters thus far and watched the video  
10 outside and now you've watched the video on the website,  
11 you understand that there are some issues, some problems  
12 along the coastline. They range from economic damage  
13 risk threats to inland and coastal shoreline erosion  
14 concerns. We have loss of critical threatened and  
15 endangered habitat up and down the coast. We have  
16 deltas and complex deltaic processes is what they call  
17 it that are of severe concern and we have disruptive  
18 hydrology in several areas.

19           Our study is a multi-purpose study. We  
20 were authorized to look at not only coastal storm risk  
21 management but ecosystem restoration. And in those  
22 instances where we can place two types of systems in the  
23 same location, we can establish multiple lines of  
24 defense. So in the corp speak we set up goals and then  
25 we set up a series of measurable objectives to meet

1 those goals. So in this case, our objectives are to  
2 reduce economic damage, to reduce the risk to critical  
3 infrastructure and to public health and safety, to  
4 increase resilience and to enhance and restore the  
5 coastal land forms connection of hydrologic conditions  
6 and to improve and sustain ecosystems such as marshes  
7 and the bay shorelines.

8 We are a federally authorized project  
9 which means we had to establish national significance.  
10 In this instance, there are 6.1 million folks living in  
11 our study area along the coastline. Eighteen counties  
12 are included in our study area. The population of  
13 6.1 million is about 24 percent of the State of Texas  
14 population. We have several nationally ranked deep  
15 draft ports that I listed here, but we also have  
16 450 miles of shallow draft traffic through or navigation  
17 traffic through the Gulf Coast Intracoastal waterway.  
18 We have 40 percent of the nations petrochemical industry  
19 and 25 percent of the national petroleum refinery  
20 capacity and we have NASA. And at the UTMB in  
21 Galveston, we have a Level 4 Bio Lab.

22 In addition to those communal significant  
23 resources, we have natural resources of concern. There  
24 are several types of critical ecosystems the at nav that  
25 range from marshes to oyster reefs to turtle nesting

1 beaches. We have critical habitat for threatened and  
2 endangered species specifically. Two of the 28 national  
3 estuary and program sites are in our study area. Twelve  
4 of the national federal wildlife refuges are in our  
5 study area. We also have the Padre Island National  
6 Seashore and the Central Flyway for migration for  
7 migrating birds runs straight through the study area.  
8 The Laguna Madre, as you probably know, is one of six  
9 hypersaline lagoons in the world. We have nursery  
10 habitat that support significant commercial and  
11 recreational fishing for oysters, shrimp and fin fish.

12 I have to teach you a little bit about  
13 how the corp does it's planning process and that means  
14 you have to learn syntax so that we all speak the same  
15 language.

16 The Corp has a series of building blocks  
17 that it uses to make plans. At the very bottom are  
18 features, actions and treatments. Features are things  
19 like levees and marshes and gates. Actions are  
20 completing restoration activities, constructing  
21 infrastructure, razing houses, for example. And  
22 treatments themselves are things like nourishing beaches  
23 or planting marshes. When you combine features and  
24 actions and treatments together you get what we call a  
25 measure. Combinations of measures result in an

1 alternative or sometimes we call it a plan.

2 In 2016, we were directed by Congress to  
3 take advantage of all possible data in the region that  
4 had already been developed and other studies that were  
5 already ongoing or in the past so that we would not  
6 reinvent the wheel. So there are things like the NOAA  
7 sea level rise viewer that we could use. FEMA  
8 inundation mapping was out there. We had SLOSH modeling  
9 which was looking at simulated hurricanes in the area.  
10 The GCCPRD, Texas A&M, the Speed Center at Rice all have  
11 ongoing studies. I think some of you have probably  
12 heard of them, Ike Dike, for example. The Coastal Spine  
13 is another. The GLO has a master plan. They have been  
14 updating for the last two years, I think, Tony, and they  
15 have identified in that plan several locations for  
16 ecosystem restoration and so we took those in as well as  
17 ongoing and past U.S. Army Corps of Engineer studies and  
18 folded those all into what we have proposed tonight.

19 We also had scoping meetings back in 2014  
20 and 2015 to engage the public and to engage natural  
21 resource agencies in the plan formulation process. Just  
22 to let you know -- it's not on this slide -- but we have  
23 every month an inner agency meeting at the district or  
24 virtually to engage the natural resource agencies in the  
25 study area and have them help us with the plan

1 formulation and valuation of the various plans that we  
2 have come up with.

3           So measures were formulated by using all  
4 of this information together and then we started  
5 screening them based on the goals and objectives.

6 Measure screening was kind of -- in this light at  
7 least -- kind of quartered off by the regions that we  
8 looked at. Region One is up in the Galveston-Houston  
9 area and then it goes down the coast two, three and  
10 four. We formulated several measures in each of those  
11 regions and then used the goals and objectives to screen  
12 them down and carry forward certain numbers of different  
13 measures that we then combined into plans.

14           Now for the first phase of the project --  
15 so up into this moment, we have been looking at in the  
16 Region One, two types of solutions. One, where we would  
17 put a barrier along the coastal barrier island versus a  
18 barrier up in the bay on the rim. So the first phase of  
19 the study was to determine which of those was  
20 appropriate for and would best meet the goals and  
21 objectives.

22           In the Corps of Engineers we have three  
23 main criteria that we have to use to choose amongst  
24 plans. They need to be engineeringly sound. They need  
25 to be environmentally acceptable and economically

1 justified. To evaluate the plans, we use a suite of  
2 tools, things like simulated hurricanes. We have  
3 developed over 600 simulated hurricanes thus far that  
4 range in shape and size and direction and speed and  
5 intensity to basically run across the coast and  
6 determine what potential floods would be and then we  
7 look at the barriers and evaluate how the risks can be  
8 reduced with a barrier solution.

9           So what I will do next is kind of give  
10 you a feel for the two types of barrier plans that were  
11 ultimately were evaluated. The first is a coastal  
12 barrier and what I want you to notice is that the  
13 barrier itself runs along the barrier islands, crosses  
14 the nav channel. There is a ring barrier around the  
15 Galveston proper and then we tie into the seawall and  
16 move down all the way into San Luis Pass. The barrier  
17 gates that cross the channel are closed only during the  
18 storms and then they are opened back up again. The ring  
19 barrier or ring levee around Galveston is porous. In  
20 other words, there are openings for railroad tracks and  
21 roads, for example. But during the storm, those would  
22 be closed and the triangles on the map are pumping  
23 stations because with a hurricane, not only do you get  
24 surge obviously, but you get rainfall. So any rain  
25 trapped in the system needs to be pumped out. We would

1 use a gate closure at Offatts Bayou to complete that  
2 ring levee. Up on the left hand side at the top of the  
3 bay the hatched marking indicates nonstructural  
4 measures. I think in the video, that was mentioned as  
5 well. We are talking about flood proofings and razings  
6 of buildings. But at Clear Creek and at Dickinson Bayou  
7 there would be a gate structure that would be closed  
8 during the storm when the surge comes and opened again  
9 afterwards and a pumping station would be in position  
10 there as well to move water off the land as the rain  
11 falls.

12 Now if you will focus on the ring levee  
13 and I change the map what you will see is in the rim  
14 solution there is still a ring levee around Galveston  
15 but this time, the barrier starts up at Jacinto just  
16 above it, crosses San Jacinto and then runs along the  
17 edge of the bay all the way down to the Texas Dike  
18 system. It ties into the Texas City dike system and  
19 extends that to the west. There would be, again, a gate  
20 structure at Clear Lake and at Dickinson Bayou as well.  
21 We would still need, obviously, the pump stations down  
22 in the Galveston ring levee with a closure a Offatts.

23 So between those two plans then we have  
24 to do some comparisons. One of the things that we look  
25 at is what the benefits are for the rim solution versus



1 the barrier island solution. Planning, for example,  
2 focuses on all the benefit categories whereas Plan D2,  
3 that rim barrier solution, focuses only on dense  
4 industrial areas. We look at navigation and whether the  
5 navigation features of the system have risk reduction  
6 with the measures. Plan A, the coastal barrier solution  
7 has critical navigation features if receiving risk  
8 reductions. Whereas, certain navigation features are  
9 not protected with Plan D2. So we can go through this  
10 system and actually ask and compare Plan A to Plan D2  
11 and lay out the differences and then quantify, again,  
12 whether it is engineeringly possible to do this; what  
13 the environmental impacts are and whether it is  
14 economically justified.

15 Now we have components up and down the  
16 coast beyond just Region One's Galveston-Houston area.  
17 So, for example, in South Padre Island they have been  
18 since 1988 using beneficial use placement material to  
19 basically address long term erosion along the coastline.  
20 Those beneficial use efforts are uncertain because they  
21 are not regular. Their timing is dependent on funding  
22 and availability of material. So what we are proposing  
23 is that in that reach we would look at 2 miles and put  
24 in a 12.5-foot high dune system that is about 100-foot  
25 long. It is going to require about a ten year -- I'm

1 sorry 100-foot wide -- ten year re-nourishment cycles to  
2 maintain that. Tony was reminding me to point out that  
3 although we are just looking at the two regions right  
4 now as part of our plan, in the next phase of the study  
5 we are going to continue with optimization and honing  
6 this plan down and we might actually be extending the  
7 proposed features up into the reaches above and below  
8 the two central regions.

9 Remember that we are a multi-purpose  
10 study so it is just as important to do ecosystem  
11 restoration for the sake of establishing habitat and  
12 restoring habitat but also in terms of multiple lines of  
13 defense when we are putting features in place near or  
14 adjacent to the infrastructure that we propose for the  
15 barrier. So we have a series of nine separate ecosystem  
16 restoration sites where we are looking at 160,000 acres  
17 of habitat restoration ranging from marshes to sea grass  
18 beds to beach and dune nourishment to island restoration  
19 and to shoreline protection. In this area in  
20 particular, the yellow box in the bottom, SP1 is the Red  
21 Fish Bay. There are three islands there; Dagger, Ransom  
22 and Stedman. Along the backside, we'd be proposing to  
23 do breakwaters which are, if you will just think of long  
24 lines of rocks that are in chunks; there are cuts and  
25 breaks in between each one of them that allows for

1 exchange of hydrologic connection into the areas behind.  
2 That would reduce erosion along those areas because of  
3 the GIWW and the traffic in the GIWW. Along the front  
4 of those islands, we are talking about, again, a series  
5 of breakwaters that would have openings for tidal  
6 exchange and then immediately behind those would be  
7 oyster reef balls that would allow for cultivation of  
8 and colonization of oysters and then that would protect  
9 the shoreline along the front but also it would allow  
10 for marsh and sea grass beds to recolonize and to be  
11 enhanced. The habitat there is fairly cloudy. Water  
12 quality is fairly poor because of all of the erosion  
13 that is going on. So these features would reduce that  
14 and allow for higher quality of habitat and the sea  
15 grass would then colonize and come in.

16           The Tentatively Selected Plan then is a  
17 combination of one of the barrier solutions, the South  
18 Padre Island component and then the ecosystem  
19 restoration components. So our Tentatively Selected  
20 Plan is to deploy the barrier solution along the Bolivar  
21 and Galveston islands with the gates across the nav  
22 channel and the ring levee around Galveston with the  
23 non-structural measures along the west side of the bay.  
24 All nine ecosystem restoration sites and the South Padre  
25 component.

1           The estimated costs is somewhere between  
2 23 billion and 32 billion. That's with a "B". Of that,  
3 approximately 40 percent is ecosystem restoration. So  
4 between 8 and 11 billion-dollars. Then the upper coast  
5 measures with the barrier would be between 14 and  
6 19 billion-dollars. There is an additional cost for  
7 operation and maintenance. Our cost share sponsor would  
8 then have to shoulder. It is ranging between 100 and  
9 130 million annually.

10           There are some impacts with the plan  
11 directly underneath the barrier lines. We are seeing  
12 approximately 45 hundred acres of habitat that would be  
13 impacted directed. D2 had approximately 2300, the rim  
14 plan. South Padre has 365 acres of direct impact.

15           Now when you put a gated structure across  
16 a bay opening, you are going to cause some  
17 constrictions. Our study will -- the gate  
18 configurations that we propose thus far has constriction  
19 of approximately 27 percent. We would like to get that  
20 down more and in optimization in the next phase. But  
21 with that constriction, we are expecting to see some  
22 changes in tidal exchange. We are also expecting to see  
23 changes in velocities in the bay. But on the positive  
24 side, the ecosystem restoration is proposing to enhance  
25 and restore 160,000 acres of marsh islands, dunes,

1 beaches and oyster reefs up and down the coast.  
2 Potential mitigation costs thus far are \$676 million to  
3 906 million-dollars with reconfigurations and  
4 realignments. That number can very well go down in the  
5 next phase of the study which is why I have this slide.

6 Optimization is our next stage. Right  
7 now in the study report you are going to find that we  
8 have floating sector gates, for example, as the main  
9 navigation closure. In optimization, in the next phase,  
10 we are going to bring in experts around the world to  
11 discuss and work on the forcings that are likely to be  
12 experienced in that cut and talk about different types  
13 of gates that might be able to be deployed that would  
14 have less environmental impacts.

15 In addition to the gates themselves,  
16 optimization will focus on the alignment of the barrier  
17 down Bolivar and down Galveston islands. We very well  
18 may find that there are more benefits to moving that  
19 line towards the ocean side and less impacts. So we  
20 will be assessing the alignment itself, the height of  
21 those barriers, the width of those barriers and types of  
22 those barriers so that we can maximize benefits and  
23 minimize as much as possible the environmental impacts.

24 So as we mentioned earlier, we are about  
25 halfway through the study itself but there are more

1 phases to come. We are shooting for a chief's report in  
2 2021 which will then go to Congress and if authorized  
3 and we receive funding, we will move into the design  
4 phase where we will work on detailed engineering designs  
5 that could take somewhere between two to five years to  
6 complete, all dependent on the funding stream. Once we  
7 have designs, we can move into the build mode for the  
8 project and that could take upwards of 10 to 15 years to  
9 complete. All dependent again on funding. Then we turn  
10 over operation and maintenance to our cost share  
11 sponsors and we are looking in the study report it talks  
12 about a life cycle of about 50 years. This structure is  
13 likely to be out there much longer. So we are  
14 evaluating that. It could be 100 year life for the  
15 types of infrastructure that we are putting out there.

16           So we are very glad you are here. We  
17 welcome all of your comments. If you are too shy to  
18 stand up and provide a comment or if you would like to  
19 come to another public meeting, here is the list of  
20 where we are going in the next two weeks, three weeks  
21 actually. If you are too shy or do not want to comment  
22 today verbally, you can send a letter to Ms. Jennifer  
23 Morgan. You don't have to write this address down. You  
24 can go to our website and get that or if you like to  
25 send an email, you can go to our mailbox that is listed

1 here. The real critical point here is that we need to  
2 receive your comments by January 9 in order to include  
3 them in the public record.

4 With that, I know I talk extremely fast,  
5 so here is the website address so that you can get that.  
6 Everything you have been shown today will be posted on  
7 that website once the public meetings have concluded and  
8 you can download the report and read it yourself or you  
9 can contact us and ask more questions. With that, I am  
10 going to turn it back over to you Colonel. Thank you.

11 MR. ZETTERSTROM: At this point, I will  
12 call upon members of the general public who wish to make  
13 statements. I have asked Mr. Stokes to assist me in  
14 keeping time. He will indicate when you have 30 seconds  
15 left to speak and when your time is expired, I ask that  
16 you stop speaking after the minute has lapsed. When you  
17 are called upon, please come forward and speak into the  
18 microphone. Please identify yourself by your full name  
19 and the organization that you represent, if any.

20 I would now like to call upon Mr. Richard  
21 Roberson. (No answer)

22 Next I would like to call upon  
23 Ms. Caroline Bateman. (No answer)

24 Finally, I would like to call upon  
25 Mr. Chris Fayland if any of those individuals are still

1 present. (No answer)

2           Hearing that those individuals are not  
3 still present, next I would like to call upon anyone  
4 else in the audience that wishes to speak at this time.  
5 Seeing no additional members of the public or public  
6 officials or resource representatives, I would like to  
7 move into the conclusion of tonight's public meeting.

8           So in conclusion written comments on the  
9 draft integrated feasibility reports an environmental  
10 impact statement must be received on or before  
11 January 9, 2019. The conclusion of the 75-day  
12 commentary that began on October 26, 2018. I would like  
13 to thank the Texas General Land Office for their efforts  
14 and assistance in preparing for and holding this meeting  
15 this evening. And I thank all of you for your  
16 attendance and interests that you have shown tonight.

17           At this point, the meeting is adjourned.

18           (7:15 p.m. End of Public Meeting.)

19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF NUECES

I, MYRA C. HANEY, Official Court Reporter in and for the 347th District Court of Nueces County, State of Texas, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing contains a true and correct transcription of all evidence and other proceedings requested in writing by counsel for the parties to be included in this volume of the Reporter's Record in the above-styled and numbered cause, all of which occurred in open court or in chambers and were reported by me.

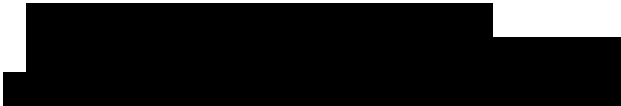
I further certify that this Reporter's Record of the proceedings truly and correctly reflects the exhibits, if any, offered by the respective parties.

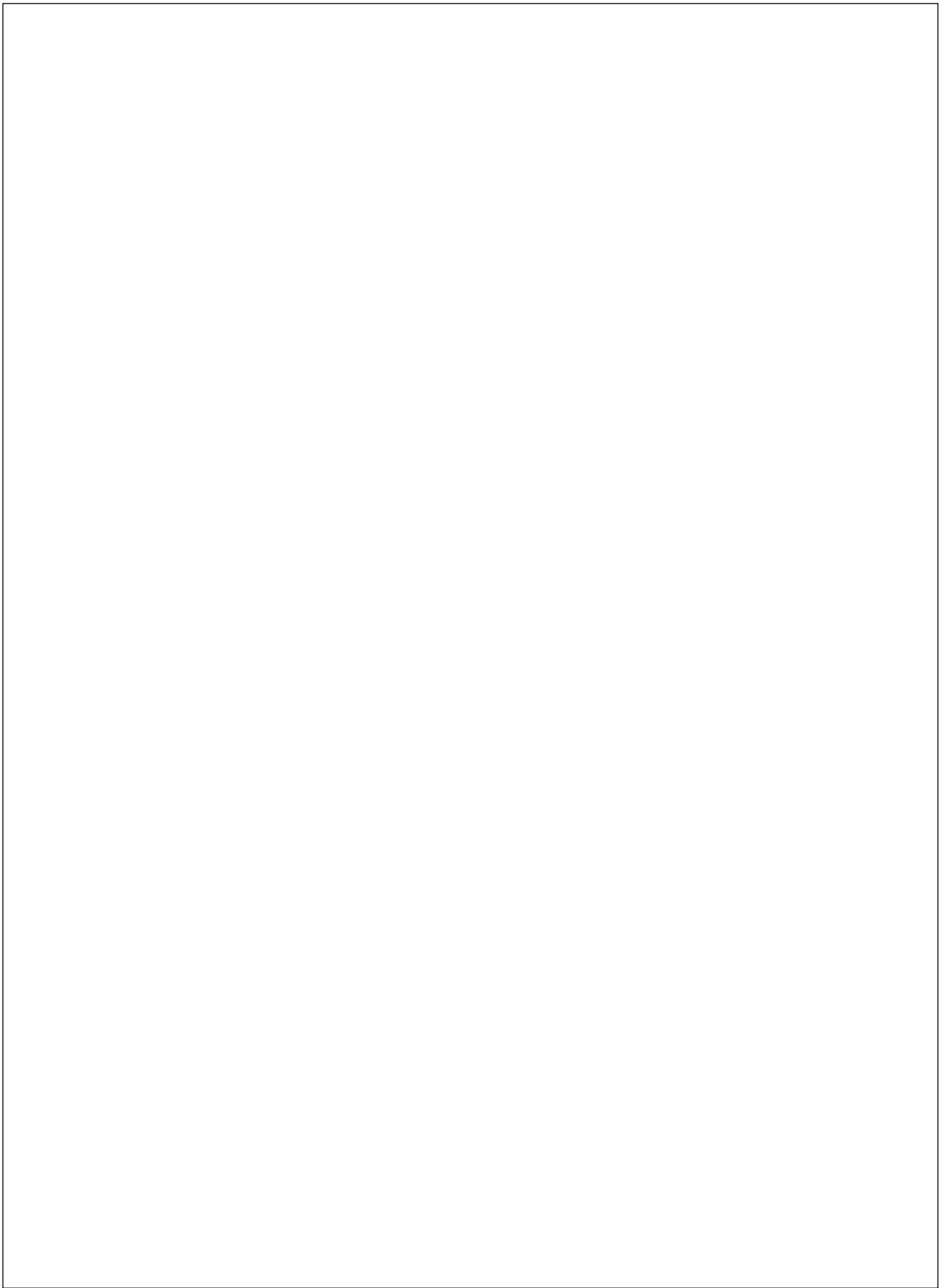
I further certify that the total cost for the preparation of this Reporter's Record is \$\_\_\_\_\_ and was paid/will be paid by \_\_\_\_\_.

WITNESS MY OFFICIAL HAND this the 29th day of November, A.D. 2018.

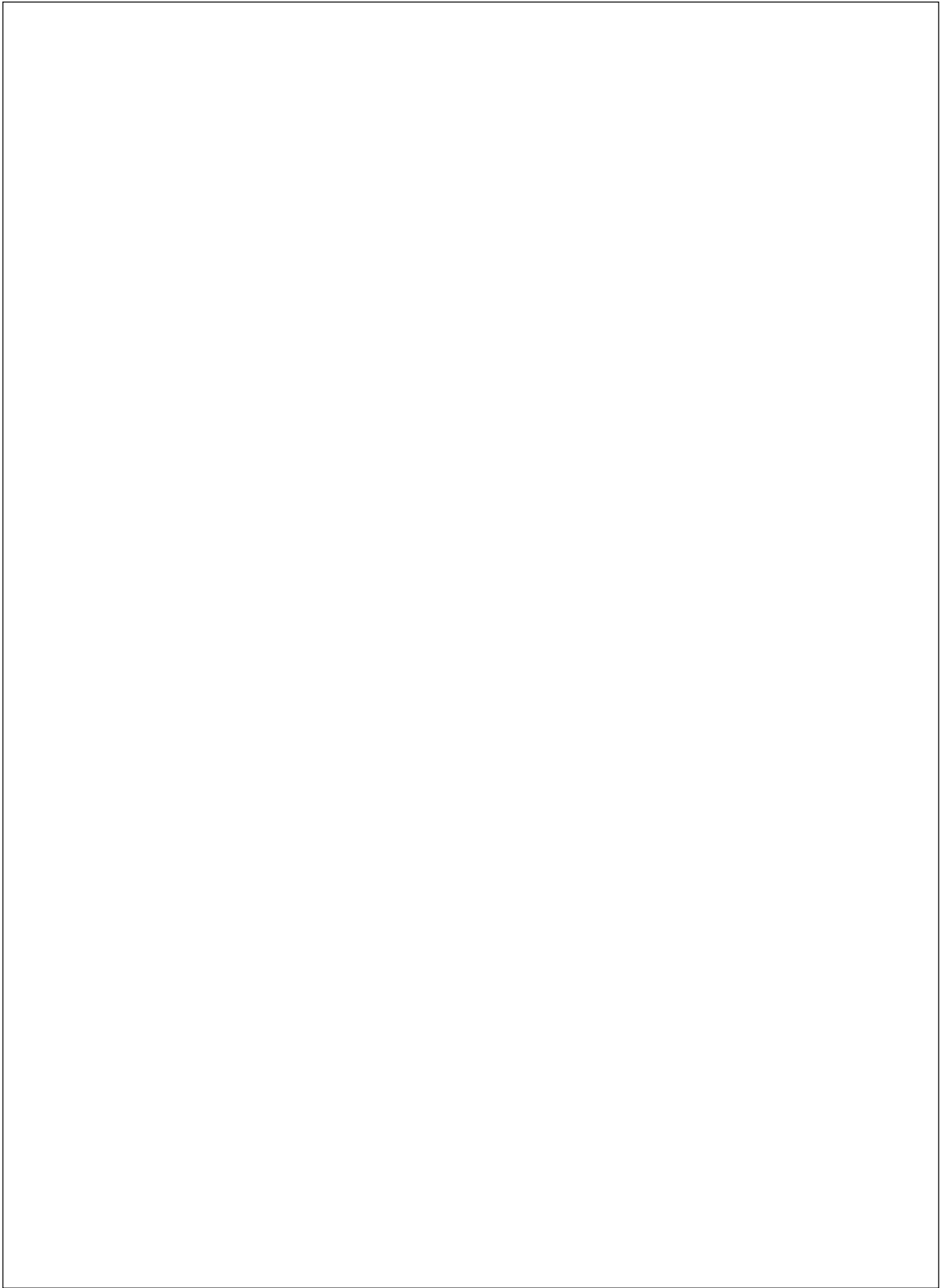


MYRA C. HANEY, CS 2874  
Expiration Date: 1 / 31 / 19  
Official Reporter  
347th District Court  
Nueces County, Texas

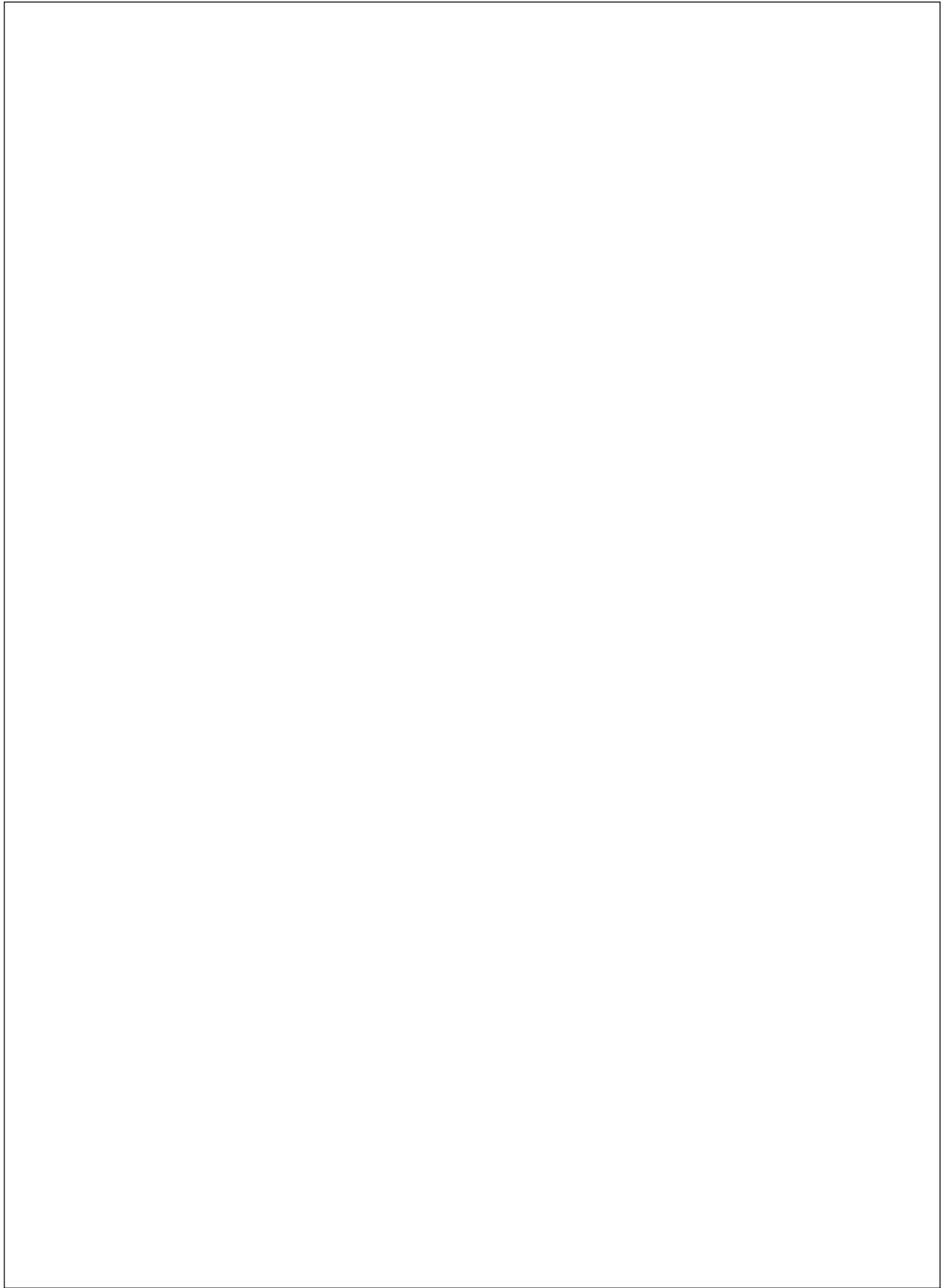




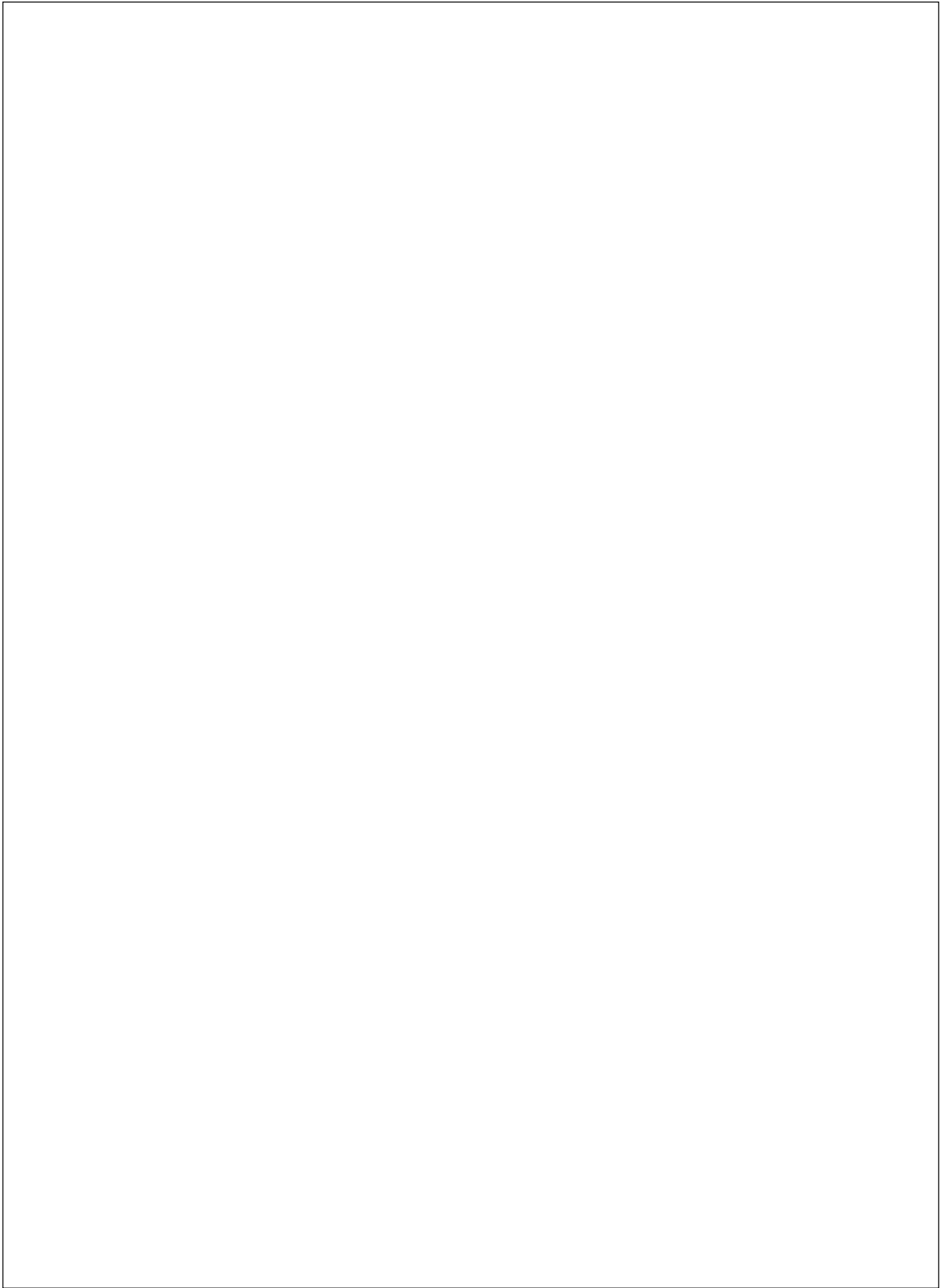
November 28, 2018



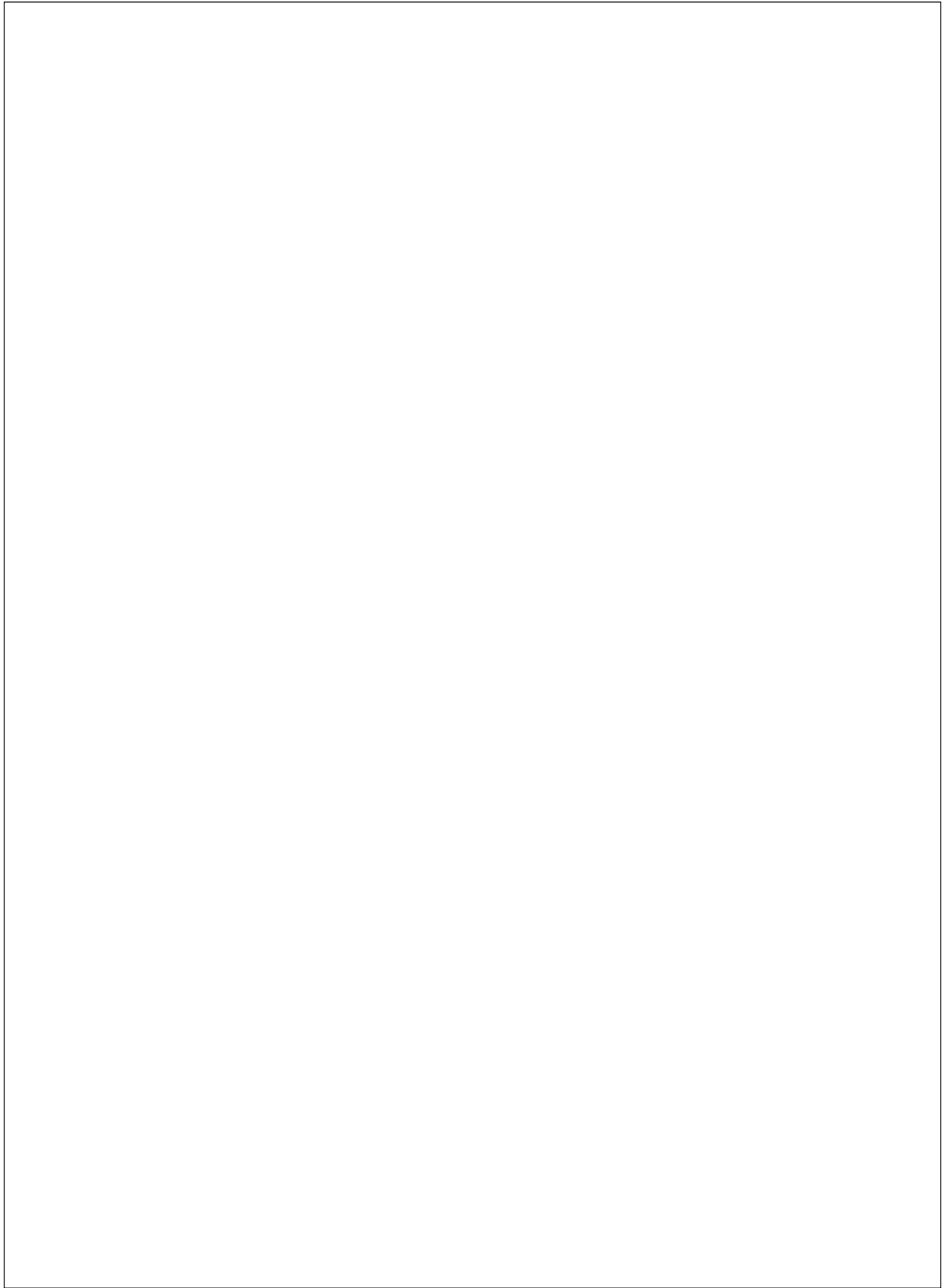
November 28, 2018



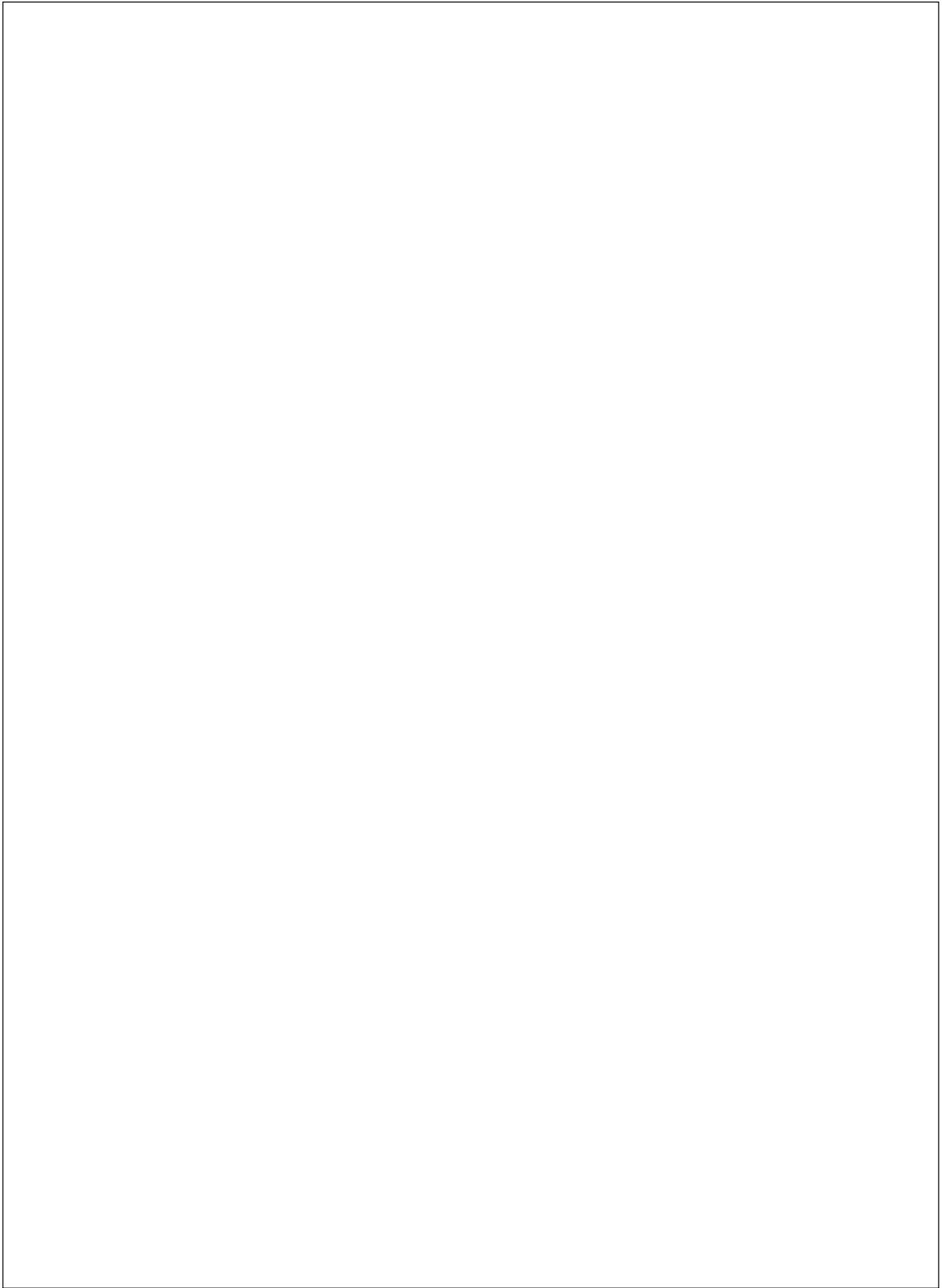
November 28, 2018



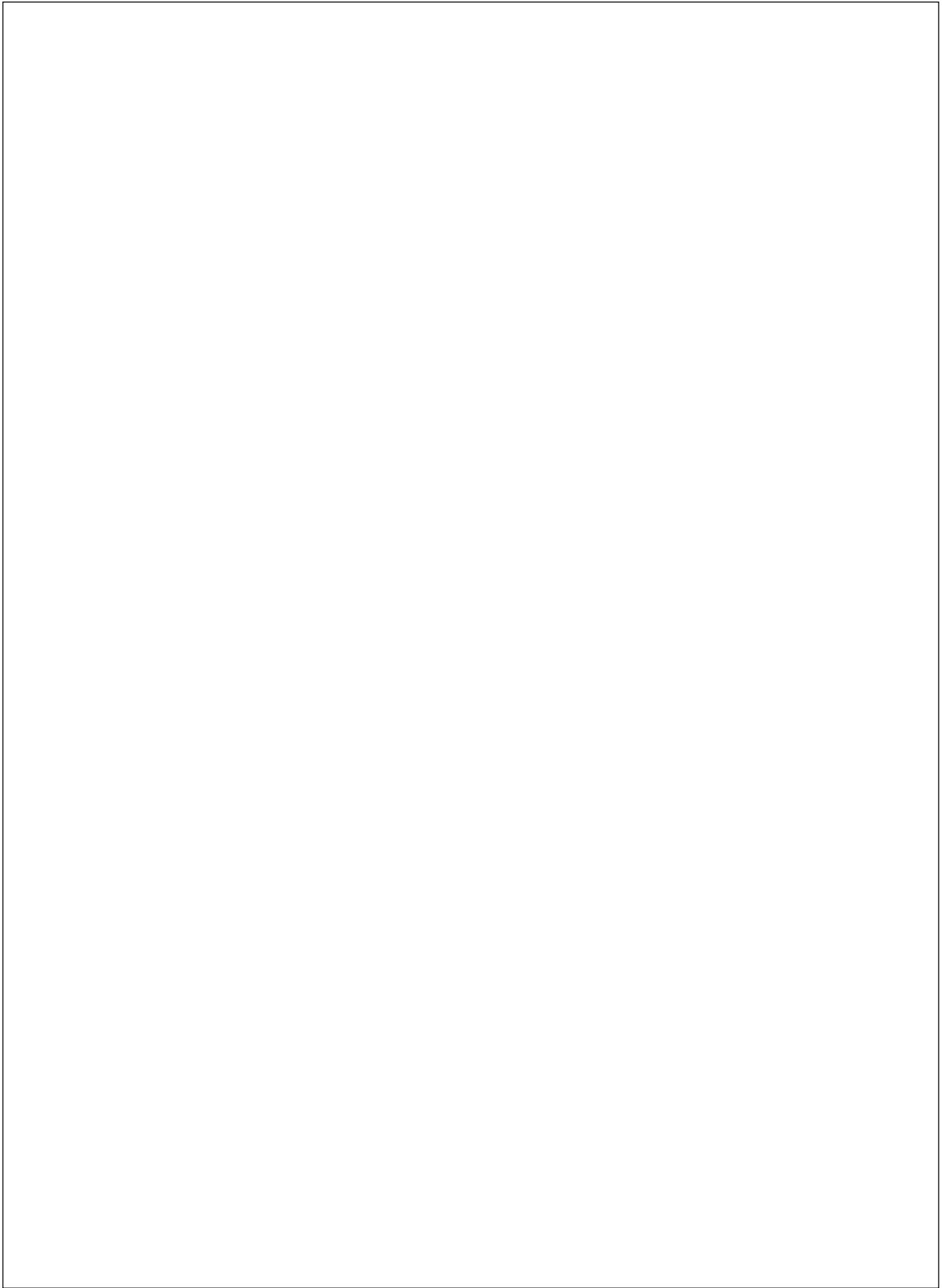
November 28, 2018



November 28, 2018



November 28, 2018

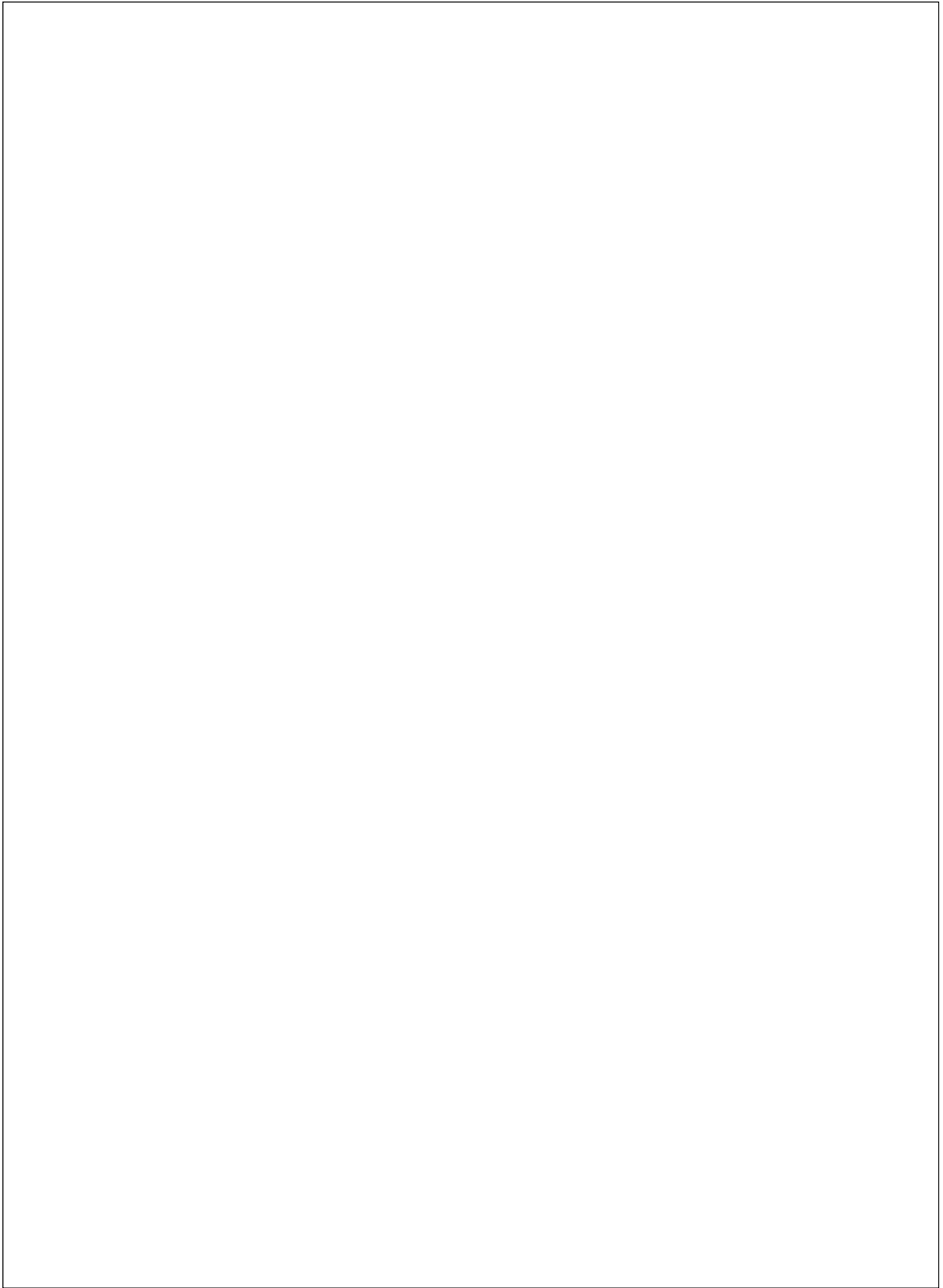


Kim Tindall & Associates, Inc. 645 Lockhill-Selma, Suite 200  
Phone (210) 697-3400

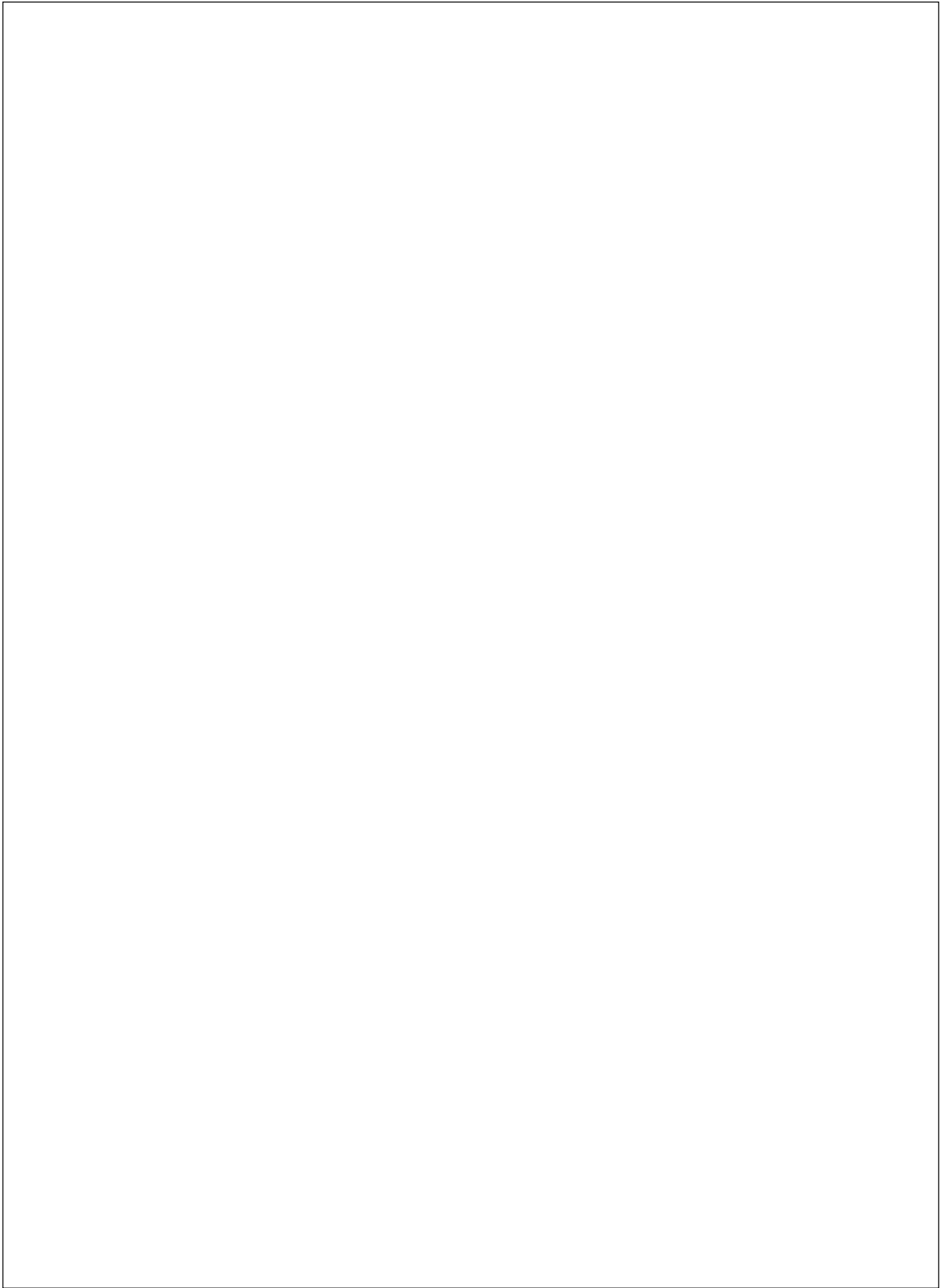
San Antonio, Texas 78216  
Fax (210) 697-3408



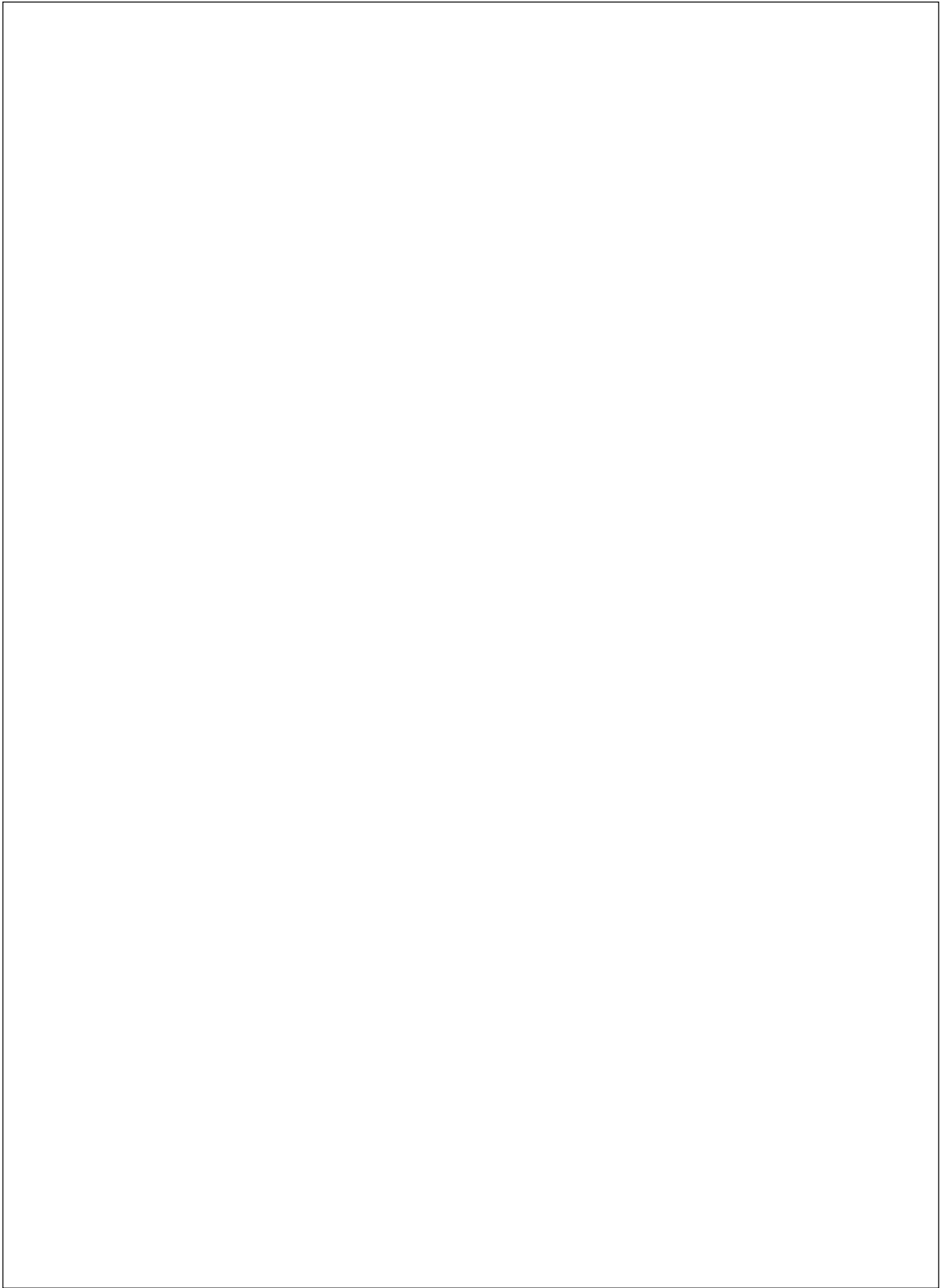
November 28, 2018



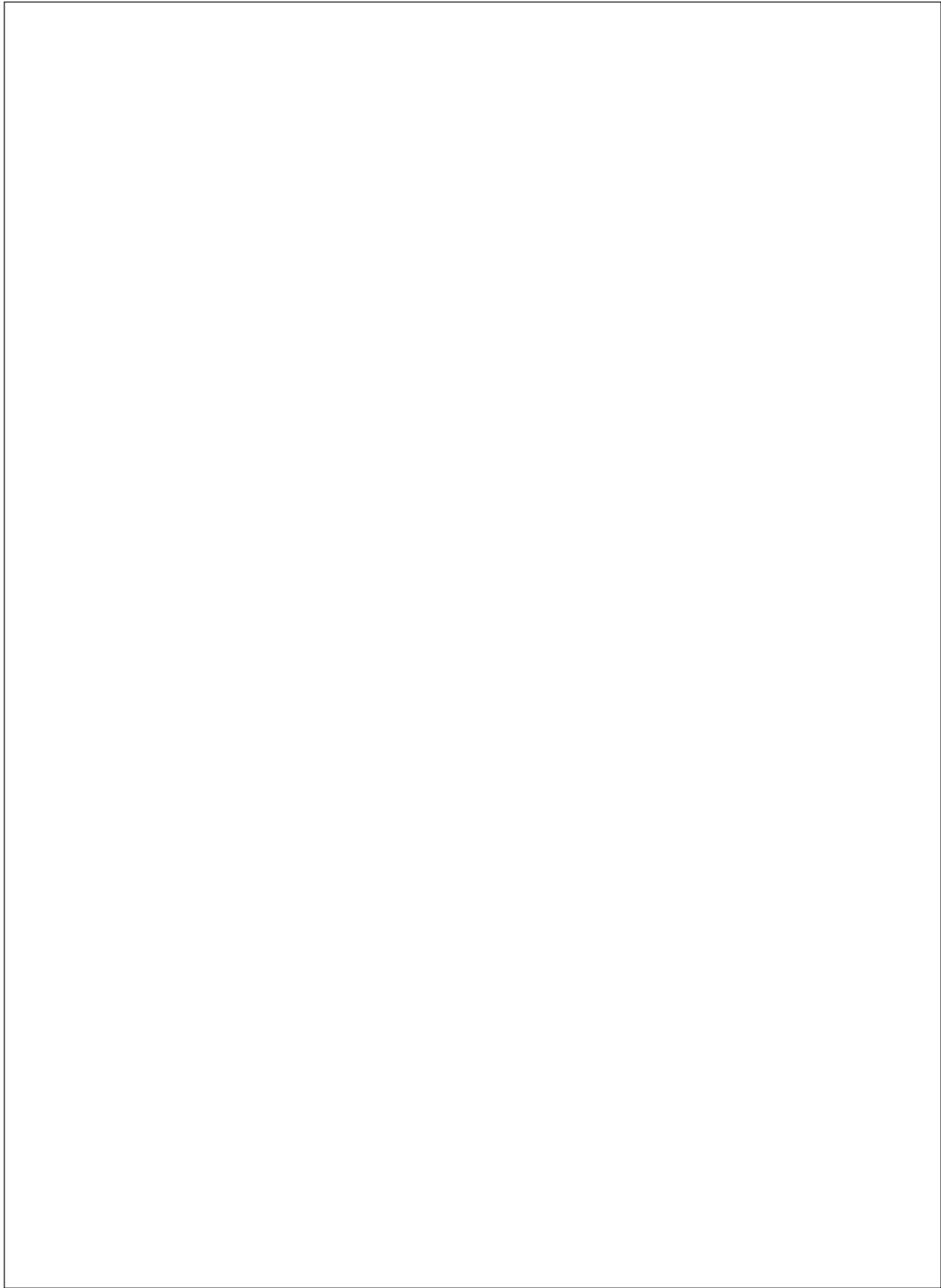
November 28, 2018



November 28, 2018



November 28, 2018



Kim Tindall & Associates, Inc. 645 Lockhill-Selma, Suite 200  
Phone (210) 697-3400

San Antonio, Texas 78216  
Fax (210) 697-3408

## **Port Isabel Public Meeting Transcript**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

COASTAL TEXAS STUDY  
PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

Coastal Texas Protection &  
Restoration Feasibility Study  
November 29, 2018

On the 29th day of November, 2018,  
the following proceedings came on to be presented at  
the Port Isabel Event and Cultural Center 309  
Railroad Ave., Port Isabel, Cameron County, Texas

Proceedings reported by  
computer-aided transcription.

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 Whereupon,

3 5:30 p.m.

4 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Good evening,  
5 ladies and gentlemen. I'm pleased to be here  
6 tonight. I am Col. Lars Zetterstrom, Commander of  
7 the Galveston District. I welcome you to tonight's  
8 public meeting to review the Coastal Texas  
9 Protection and Restoration Study.

10 For the record, let me state that  
11 this public meeting convened at 5:30 p.m. on  
12 November 29th, 2018, at the Port Isabel Event and  
13 Cultural Center in Port Isabel, Texas.

14 Specifically, we are presenting  
15 information and accepting public comments on the  
16 Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and  
17 Environmental Impact Statement for the study that  
18 was released for public review on October 26th,  
19 2018.

20 A court reporter is here to  
21 transcribe these proceedings and all public  
22 comments. The Corps of Engineers and the General  
23 Land Office have analyzed coastal risk reduction  
24 solutions that would reduce the risk to lives and  
25 property on the Texas coast.

1           Ten years ago the region experienced  
2 Hurricane Ike, which disrupted many lives and  
3 resulted in extensive economic and infrastructural  
4 damages. The Texas coast is also subject to ongoing  
5 coastal erosion, relative sea level rise, habitat  
6 loss and water quality and degradation. These  
7 coastal hazards are placing the environmental and  
8 economic health of the coast efforts which  
9 negatively impacts the state and national economy.

10           This, along the storms such as  
11 Hurricane Ike, Dolly and Rita emphasized the need  
12 for enhanced resiliency of the coast to not only  
13 reduce future damages and loss, but to improve our  
14 ability to withstand and recover from future storms.  
15 It is important to note that the Coastal Texas Study  
16 recommends structural measures to reduce risk along  
17 the coast and that these recommendations support  
18 multiple investments in risk production that  
19 agencies and businesses are making along the coast.  
20 Coastal Texas is part of a larger effort to risk  
21 reduction actions to make the coast more resilient  
22 over time.

23           A cost effective plan has been  
24 identified that we believe would significantly  
25 reduce the risk of damage from tropical storms and



1 hurricanes, as well increase the net quality and  
2 quantity of coastal ecosystems.

3           This meeting is being held to  
4 describe the tentatively selected plan or the TSP  
5 and to receive your comments.

6           I hope that all of you had an  
7 opportunity to read the notice of availability  
8 either on the Galveston district's Web site or in  
9 the announcements that were mailed to individuals  
10 and organizations that may have an interest in these  
11 proceedings.

12           Before we go any further, I'd like to  
13 introduce a representative of the Texas General Land  
14 Office our study sponsor, Mr. Tony Williams, the  
15 senior director of coastal resources.

16           MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you,  
17 Col. Zetterstrom. Thank you, everyone, for coming  
18 out tonight to learn more about the Coastal Texas  
19 Protection Restoration Feasibility Study, also known  
20 as the Texas Coastal Study.

21           I'd like to introduce the other GLO  
22 team members here tonight. We have Carla Kartman,  
23 she is the project manager for GLO. We Kalob  
24 Bennett, he is our director of governmental  
25 relations, and we have Lee Schroer one of our field

1 biologists in our Corpus Christi Field Office.

2           Addressing issues on the Texas Coast,  
3 including storm surges and ecosystem enhancement  
4 continues to be one of the top priorities for  
5 Commissioner Bush. You may be asking, Why is the  
6 GLO involved in this study?

7           The GLO was establish to manage owned  
8 state land, including state owned submerged land out  
9 ten miles offshore. The land office is also the  
10 state agency responsible for implementation of the  
11 coastal management program, implementation of the  
12 coastal erosion plan response act, protection of  
13 public beaches and dune protection act, response to  
14 oil spills in state waters, and also state agency  
15 tasked with certain possessory recovery roles, and  
16 that has increased significantly since Hurricane  
17 Harvey.

18           In November 2015 the GLO signed a  
19 piece building offshore agreement with U.S. Army  
20 Corps of Engineers. This obligated the GLO to fund  
21 approximately half of a \$20 million study, much of  
22 which is being accomplished through time. The land  
23 office committed to working with the Corps of  
24 Engineers to develop a plan to increase the  
25 resiliency of the Texas Coast through an integrated

1 approach, includes ecosystem restoration enhancement  
2 all along the Texas coast in storm surge, very  
3 specifically the Houston/Galveston region.

4           The draft plan that is being  
5 presented today incorporates habitat restoration  
6 enhancement, as well gates, levees and flood walls  
7 to address erosion, habitat loss and storm surge.  
8 The measures work together to increase the overall  
9 resiliency of the Texas coast.

10           The plan proposed in the Texas  
11 coastal study was developed to work in concert with  
12 the Texas coast resiliency master Plan. The GLO is  
13 currently working with stakeholders along the coast  
14 to develop a 2019 version to the coastal resiliency  
15 master plan that builds on the original version that  
16 was released in 2017. The 2019 version of the  
17 master plan identifies projects along the coast, the  
18 coastal experts have identified as the ones most  
19 effective enhancing coastal resiliency.

20           A 2019 version also includes modeling  
21 of risk of Texas coast and benefits of post projects  
22 within the plan. The plan will be completed in  
23 early 2019 and presented to the Texas legislator.  
24 The coastal Texas study coast plan or tentatively  
25 selected plan as referred to in the Corps documents

1 was jointly developed by the GLO and Corps of  
2 Engineers.

3                   We have worked with engineering  
4 environmental firms, consulted with other groups  
5 putting these issues, including local universities  
6 and international organizations, have regular  
7 meetings with resource agencies, navigation  
8 interests and environmental organizations.

9                   As we move to the next phase of the  
10 study it is important to get feedback from all  
11 stakeholders.

12                   Please remember it is important, the  
13 study is only about halfway completed. There's a  
14 lot more details that need to be ironed out. We  
15 look forward to your comments. Thank you for taking  
16 the time to join us. Turn it back over to  
17 Col. Zetterstrom.

18                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, Tony  
19 Williams.

20                   I would like to recognize the public  
21 officials for attending tonight. First I would like  
22 to recognize Tara Rios, the former Texas House  
23 Representative and former South Padre Island City  
24 Council.

25                   Next I'd like to recognize Mr. David

1 A. Garcia, Cameron County commissioner Precinct 3.

2 Next I'd like to recognize Sofia C.

3 Benavides, Cameron County Commissioner Precinct 1.

4 Mr. Carlos Reyes, Superintendent of  
5 Public Works.

6 Susan Guthrie, City Manager South  
7 Padre Island.

8 Mr. Joe E. Vega, Cameron County Parks  
9 Director and former Mayor of Port Isabel.

10 And finally, Mr. David Garcia Cameron  
11 County Administrator.

12 Additionally, I'd like to introduce  
13 those that are here with me with the U.S. Army Corps  
14 of Engineers.

15 Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes, Galveston  
16 District Project Manager for the study.

17 Ms. Sharon Tirpak, Galveston  
18 District, Deputy Chief Project Management Branch.

19 Dr. Himangshu Das, Galveston District  
20 Coastal Engineering League Hydrology.

21 Mr. Bryan Harper, Galveston District  
22 Regional Planning Environmental Center Chief Civil  
23 Planning Branch.

24 Mr. Travis Creel, New Orleans  
25 District Regional Planning Environmental Center,

1 South Lead Planner.

2 Ms. Carolyn McCade, Galveston  
3 District Regional Planning and Environmental Center  
4 Plan Formulator Lead Planner for Ecosystem  
5 Restoration.

6 Mr. Kenney Pablo, Galveston District  
7 Reality Specialists, lead real estate for Coastal  
8 Storm Restoration Measures.

9 Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Galveston  
10 District Regional Planning Environmental Branch  
11 Specialist and lead environmentalist.

12 And finally, Mr. Jeffrey Pensky,  
13 Galveston District Regional Planning Center Acting  
14 Section Chief of the environmental branch.

15 Now, I would like to describe the  
16 ground rules for tonight's meeting. I hope everyone  
17 completed a registration form when they entered the  
18 meeting. The registration form is used to provide  
19 us your contact information so we can keep you  
20 updated on the status of the study.

21 You can also submit a written comment  
22 on one of the provided comment cards. If you would  
23 like to make a comment orally tonight, please make  
24 sure that you have indicated your intent on the  
25 sign-in sheet at the door. Those wishing to make an

1 oral comment will be given an opportunity to do so  
2 after the presentation. If you prefer not to speak  
3 tonight, you may submit your comment card in the box  
4 provided or send them to us by mail or e-mail.

5           Following these opening remarks,  
6 Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes project manager will present  
7 an overview of the feasibility study. After her  
8 presentation, I will open the floor for public  
9 comments.

10           Federal/state officials that have  
11 requested to make a statement will be recognized  
12 first. Next representatives from federal and state  
13 resource agencies wishing to make a statement will  
14 be called upon. Then I'll recognize each individual  
15 who has indicated that they wish to make a comment.

16           Please keep your remarks to one  
17 minute as we would like for everyone to have an  
18 opportunity to speak and we only have this room  
19 available until 9:00 PM.

20           Also, we would like to emphasize that  
21 this is not a question and answer session. This  
22 meeting is to provide everyone with an opportunity  
23 to publicly comment.

24           Please give all speakers the courtesy  
25 of not making any comments during their

1 presentation. Turn off your cell phones and hold  
2 all applause or other reactions so that we can have  
3 an orderly meeting and be respectful of everyone's  
4 time. All individuals have equal right to be heard.

5 Now I would like to present Dr. Kelly  
6 Burks-Copes to make our presentation.

7 MS. BURKS-COPES: So tonight I have  
8 a series of things that we need to achieve. I would  
9 like to provide you with a status update on the  
10 study and then describe the National Environmental  
11 Policy Act process that we are involved in now and  
12 overlay that with the Army Corps of Engineers  
13 planning process. I'll identify them to the  
14 tentatively selected plan and then we will walk  
15 through the potential impacts, costs and benefits of  
16 that plan. And then I will sit down and we will  
17 open the floor for public comment.

18 As Tony mentioned earlier, we are  
19 halfway through the study. We were authorized in  
20 2015 to begin studying. We released the report in  
21 October 26 of this year, and we have approximately  
22 three years left to go. We are conducting a public  
23 comment, well, public meetings this week on the  
24 lower coast we're going to take a week off and then  
25 we have another series of public meetings the very



1 week after.

2                   We have a chief's report that will be  
3 released at the end of the study wherein we're in a  
4 two phase process right now. The first phase is to  
5 focus on measures and accommodations of measures  
6 that formulate plans, and then we narrow those down  
7 and we go into detail engineering design in the  
8 latter phase of this study. So we're about ready to  
9 move into that phase, which is why we take a pause  
10 and we come to you and we ask you what you think and  
11 we take those comments in and hopefully we can  
12 address those with adaptations to the designs and  
13 informs everything that we're doing at this point.

14                   Our chief's report is set to be  
15 released in April of 2021. It will then be signed  
16 by our chief and then go to Congress for  
17 authorization and then appropriations.

18                   Normally when you work on  
19 environmental impact statements you afford the  
20 public approximately 45 days to comment and review  
21 the plan. This is a fairly large plan, very  
22 complex, and so what we have decided to do this time  
23 is a 75 day review period, which means we started on  
24 the day that the report was released, which is  
25 October 26th, and that means it will conclude on

1 January 9th, 2019.

2           Inviting public comment is part of  
3 the NEPA process, it's required, and all comments  
4 are welcome. They can be positive or negative.

5           Remember the more specific you are  
6 with your comments, the easier it will be for us to  
7 understand and address those issues, and public and  
8 agency input help to inform our decisions. All  
9 comments will be fully and equally evaluated and the  
10 review and comment ensures that are decisions are  
11 based on the best available information.

12           As you are probably very aware, the  
13 Texas coast has a series of problems that this study  
14 is focused on. All along the Coast there are  
15 potential for economic damages from when the coastal  
16 storms hit. We have inland and gulf shoreline  
17 erosion problems, significant losses of threatened  
18 endangered species habitats, losses of the natural  
19 delta processes and disruptive hydrology.

20           The way that the corps process works  
21 is that we establish a set of goals and then set up  
22 a series of objectives to measure our success in  
23 obtaining goals. In this study is fairly unusual,  
24 but we are looking at both coastal storm risk  
25 management and ecosystem restoration together. That

1 affords us an opportunity to develop plans that  
2 provide multiple lines of defense to enhance  
3 resilience coast-wide.

4           To meet the objectives, we're looking  
5 at reducing economic damage, reducing risks to both  
6 critical infrastructure and public health and  
7 safety, increasing resilience, I just mentioned,  
8 enhancing and restoring coastal habitats, improving  
9 the hydrologic connectivity, and improvements in  
10 critical ecosystem, such as marshes and coastal  
11 bays.

12           It's a federal study. The way that  
13 we received funding was to establish national  
14 significance. As you well know, the study area  
15 covers 18 counties along the Texas coast. Within  
16 that area 6.1 million folks reside. That's  
17 approximately 24 percent of the Texas population.

18           We have several nationally ranked  
19 deep draft courts and they are listed there, as well  
20 as 450 miles of gulf intercoastal waterway. This  
21 region provides 40 percent of the nations petro  
22 chemical industry and 25 percent of the national  
23 petroleum refining capacity.

24           In addition we have NASA, and on the  
25 Galveston Island we have a hospital UTMB with a

1 level 4 vital life. Those were community resources.  
2 We also have significant natural resources along the  
3 coast.

4                   We have critical habitat with  
5 threatened endangered species. We have wetlands,  
6 oystereries, sea turtle nesting areas, sea grass beds.  
7 We have the center flyaway running straight through  
8 the study area, and within our area of boundaries we  
9 have twelve national wildlife refuges. Two of the  
10 28 national estuary program sites were found within  
11 our study area. And the Laguna Madre which you are  
12 very familiar with is one of six rear hypersaline  
13 lagoons in the world.

14                   We have the Padre Island National  
15 Seashore and up and down the coast we have nursery  
16 habitats that are commercially fished for oysters,  
17 shrimp and finfish.

18                   Now I have to give you kind of the  
19 101 on course speed at this point, so that we can go  
20 through the Corps planning process.

21                   In the Army Corps we use the concept  
22 of building blocks. Features are levees, marshes  
23 and gates. Actions are restoration, raisings or  
24 construction, and treatments are plantings or  
25 nourishments. And when you combine features and

1 actions and treatments you end up with something we  
2 call measure. And we evaluate the measures and then  
3 combine those into plans.

4           In 2016 we were authorized or we were  
5 directed by Congress to not reinvent the wheel.  
6 There were several ongoing studies looking at  
7 barrier plans for the Texas Coast and there were  
8 several agencies and entities in this area  
9 collecting data, and so we were directed by Congress  
10 to use that as much as possible.

11           So, for example, the NOAA's sea level  
12 rise viewer allows us to take a look at what the  
13 potential loss invasion would be if sea level rise  
14 were to happen in this area. FEMA had an inundation  
15 mapping that we could take a look at.

16           There were several ongoing studies,  
17 as I mentioned. The GCCPRD has a study map-- now,  
18 let me just say, this is not our plan, it's not  
19 the -- this is not the coastal spine. It's much  
20 broader than those two plans. It's not the HGAP  
21 plan either.

22           What we were directed to do was  
23 bounce off of those plans, add to them, the  
24 ecosystem restoration and look at those.

25           And so in 2014 we initiated a series

1 of scoping meetings up and down the coast to start  
2 gaining this information and pulling together ideas  
3 about what could be done, and we formulated measures  
4 that we then used screening criteria based on goals  
5 and objectives to formulate plans.

6           In essence, we looked at a series of  
7 measures for ecosystem restoration and apply the  
8 goals and objectives and screen them down to  
9 measures to be carried forward. And then we did the  
10 same thing with the coastal storms management  
11 activities.

12           In the Corps we have pretty much  
13 three big criteria that we use to compare and  
14 contrast plans. Solution must be engineeringly  
15 sound, environmentally acceptable and economically  
16 justified. We have a series of tools that we can  
17 use to quantify each of these different criteria,  
18 storm modeling, for example.

19           For this study we generated 600  
20 storms that have never been seen before and we  
21 devised barrier plans and then ran the storms across  
22 those barriers to see what the effectiveness was of  
23 those barriers.

24           We have tools to assess the potential  
25 risk reduction for dune and beach creation, and we

1 have habitat modeling tools to assess the  
2 productivity of different solutions up and down the  
3 coast.

4           So what I'll show you now is in  
5 Region One in the Houston/Galveston area, the  
6 barrier plans that evolve out all of that evaluation  
7 activity. They're somewhat similar. They have a  
8 few components that are equal in both cases, but the  
9 positioning of the barrier itself is different.

10           Plan A is coastal barrier solution.  
11 It starts in High Island, runs down to Bolivar and  
12 then runs all the way across the Nav Channel to the  
13 Galveston Island with a ring levee surrounding  
14 Galveston. It ties into the seawall and then  
15 continues down to San Luis Pass. Does not close off  
16 San Luis Pass. At the Nav Channel it does not close  
17 off the Nav Channel all the time. There are movable  
18 gates that would cross that two mile inlet that we  
19 close in advance of the storm and then open back up  
20 afterwards.

21           Around Galveston there would be  
22 somewhat we call porous ring levee. There are  
23 openings for roadways and railroads to get in, but  
24 during a storm those would be closed off.  
25 Hurricanes bring with them a lot of rain. And so

1 there are pump stations that would be constructed to  
2 drain the water off the land while the rain levee is  
3 closed.

4                   Up in the west side of the bay, the  
5 storm would probably move, open the barrier island  
6 into the bay and we would provide some -- we would  
7 implement some non-structural measures and, of  
8 course, that's raisings of buildings and flood  
9 dripping.

10                   There are two big -- or tributary's  
11 in that area. One is Dickinson Bayou and the other  
12 is Clear Creek. We have proposed gates on those two  
13 tributary's with pump stations to draw off the water  
14 and then those would be opened again after the storm  
15 passed.

16                   Now, if you see, this plan is the  
17 coastal barrier solution. An alternative would be a  
18 wind barrier solution that would start up at San  
19 Jacinto, could cross San Jacinto with a gate and a  
20 pump station again, come down the rim of the bay.  
21 We would have a closure at Clear Lake and at  
22 Dickinson with pump stations. We would tie in to  
23 the Texas City levee system and then extend that to  
24 the west.

25                   Down on Galveston Island there would



1 still be a ring barrier with pump stations and a  
2 closure at the end that again would be porous, it  
3 would be closed during the storm event and then open  
4 back up at least at the roadway and railroad  
5 systems.

6           Now, the way that the Corps planning  
7 process works is that we have to compare and  
8 contrast those plans and ask which one is more  
9 effective in reducing risks.

10           And so if you look at Plan A, for  
11 example, we can expect to get all the benefit  
12 categories met, whereas in Plan D we would likely  
13 see only a focus on dense industrial and commercial  
14 benefit areas.

15           In Plan A critical navigation  
16 features are protected or risks are reduced versus  
17 in Plan D some of those features are open and they  
18 are left open.

19           Some of the structures would need to  
20 be raised in Plan A, others would need to be raised  
21 in Plan D, and the like. So there's a comparison  
22 back and forth between the two plans as part of the  
23 process.

24           In addition to the activities going  
25 on up in the Houston/Galveston area there's a third

1 component: A coastal storm risk management  
2 component here on South Padre Island. Since 1988  
3 we've been using beneficial use of dredge material  
4 to place material up on the shoreline in dune and  
5 beach features that provide risk reduction along the  
6 coast. The problem with this is that it's dependent  
7 on funding and so the timing is not regular.

8                   What we have proposed in this plan is  
9 a two mile lane of beach and dune that's  
10 approximately twelve and a half feet high and a  
11 hundred feet wide and would be regularly nourished  
12 every ten years. Sorry. But that's not all.

13                   We're proposing ecosystem restoration  
14 up and down the coast as well. Approximately,  
15 160,000 acres of marsh, beach, dunes, oyster reefs,  
16 shoreline protection and islands. In this area we  
17 would propose a hydrologic connection for the Laguna  
18 Madre which would enhance water quality and would  
19 provide better habitat conditions for sea grass, for  
20 example.

21                   So the tentatively selected plan is a  
22 combination of those components. We have selected  
23 Plan A, the coastal barrier, in combination with  
24 ecosystem restoration solutions, we provided up and  
25 down the coast approximately nine of those. It

1 provides multiple lines of defense because we have  
2 marsh on the back and beach and dunes on the front.  
3 As you go down the coast there are separate  
4 individual sites that would be restored all the way  
5 down to this area and the component for South Padre  
6 beach and dune series for coastal storm risk  
7 management is part of the tentatively selected plan.

8           The estimated cost for all of that is  
9 between 23 and \$32 billion. Forty percent of that  
10 is ecosystem restoration, so between 8.9 and  
11 11.9 billion, and I'm saying that with B. The lower  
12 coast wide coastal storm risk management measures  
13 here in South Padre would run between 71 and  
14 83 million, and then the barrier up in Region One  
15 would run between 14.2 and \$19.9 billion.

16           There will be essential impacts as a  
17 result of this feature, of this plan. Alternative A  
18 will likely impact directly 4500 acres or more of  
19 habitat directly under the line that you see on the  
20 map, versus alternative D2 would affect 2300 plus or  
21 minus acres, and the South Padre solution would  
22 impact 365.8 acres. Those are just direct impacts.

23           We are anticipating indirect impacts  
24 with closure of the bay. There's some restriction  
25 when you put gates into play, and that would causal

1 altered title exchange between the ocean and the  
2 bay, as well as reduced velocities in Galveston Bay.

3           On the other hand, the ecosystem  
4 restoration project would enhance the restoration  
5 benefits up and down the coast to the tune of  
6 approximately 160,000 acres. The total mitigation  
7 cost so far that we have estimated 676 to  
8 \$906 million, but with optimization with  
9 improvements on the designs we are likely to see  
10 those numbers go down. Which is the point of  
11 optimization or at least one of the points of  
12 optimization.

13           By optimization what I mean is that  
14 in our study thus far and in the report you will  
15 find us proposing things like floating sector gates  
16 to close off in and out channel in Houston/Galveston  
17 area for the inland. There's actually one of those  
18 features elsewhere in the world so we know that it  
19 does work. But there could be alternatives to that  
20 gate design that we need to look at.

21           So when I talked about phases for  
22 this setting, the first phase was specifically  
23 focused on determining whether we should do a rim  
24 solution or a barrier island solution in the upper  
25 bay in the upper region.

1                   Now that we've selected that  
2 solution, we are going to go into detailed  
3 engineering and take a look at different types of  
4 gates and ask whether they're environmentally  
5 acceptable, whether they're engineeringly sound and  
6 whether they are economically justified.

7                   We can also look at things like  
8 realignments of the barrier itself, whether it  
9 should be along Highway 87 on Walter or maybe move  
10 towards the front of the Island, whether it be a  
11 levee itself or T-wall or whether we consider beach  
12 and dune combinations.

13                   And in this area we have regions  
14 three and four, I believe, are posed. That may be  
15 wrong. I may have those numbers wrong. But what  
16 I'm trying to explain is that there were other  
17 regions that were not economically justified thus  
18 far. But in the next phase of the study as we go  
19 through optimization and we take in more  
20 information, we may be able to extend and expand  
21 that plan to go further up and further down the  
22 coast line.

23                   So like I mentioned, we're only about  
24 halfway through the study. We're set to produce the  
25 report for our chief in 2021. That the will then go

1 to Congress for consideration and for authorization  
2 and appropriation. If we get authorization and  
3 funding to begin, we will start design and that  
4 could take up to five years. Then we would go into  
5 a build phase where we'd spend approximately ten to  
6 15 years constructing each of the elements of the  
7 barrier system. And then we turn the study, the  
8 project over to our sponsors for long-term  
9 maintenance.

10           The study plans suggests that that  
11 would be 50 years or more. These are large  
12 structures that will likely to have a life cycle  
13 beyond 50 years and so we will be taking that into  
14 account with our analysis.

15           We're at that critical moment where  
16 we can adapt. We can take your input into our  
17 consideration and help, that would help us with  
18 decision making.

19           We have this meeting tonight. We've  
20 already conducted two meetings further up the coast  
21 over the last two days and we still have four more  
22 public meetings to come. If you wish to offer us a  
23 comment you can come up tonight and speak. But if  
24 you're shy or not ready there are other ways.

25           You can fill out the comment form we

1 gave you tonight and turn it in at the basket up in  
2 the front, or you can send that or a letter even to  
3 us at this address, or you can go out to the Web  
4 site and tap into our e-mail box and send us a  
5 comment that way.

6           The critical thing here is that we  
7 receive your comments by January 9th so they can be  
8 incorporated into the public record.

9           I talk fast, I get it, and I have a  
10 weird accent. So if there's anything that you  
11 didn't quite understand or you want to sink your  
12 teeth into. We got a Web site out there,  
13 [coastalstudy.texas.gov](http://coastalstudy.texas.gov), and on that site are all the  
14 coasters in the other room, all of the information  
15 that I've provided here tonight will be posted up  
16 there. The video you just witnessed is on that  
17 site. And the report itself with all appendices are  
18 loaded, so you can get to any of the information  
19 that the subject matters have provided you tonight  
20 and you can get the information that I myself  
21 provided to you. The mailbox is on this site. So  
22 if you click you'll be able to get to that.

23           And with that, I'm close to my  
24 presentation and give the podium back to Col.  
25 Zetterstrom.

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you,  
2 Dr. Burks-Copes. I now recognize elected officials  
3 who like to make a statement. First I would like to  
4 call on Mr. David A. Garcia, Cameron County  
5 Commissioner Precinct 3.

6 MR. GARZA: Where do we speak from?  
7 Thank you. For the record, my name is David A.  
8 Garza as written on the card here. And I know for  
9 some people it makes no difference, but to me  
10 personally my name is important.

11 With that being said, I wish to just  
12 tell you that your study has a lot of merit. It  
13 looks like a great instrument. But we are very  
14 minimally included in your study. Out of every one  
15 dollar that you're spending we are getting one-third  
16 of one penny spent in regions three and four south  
17 from Baffin Bay down; that is not adequate.

18 Lower Laguna Madre as you well  
19 mentioned is used as a funded item is one of six  
20 hypersaline lagoons in the world that needs to be  
21 protected. Your study does very little to protect  
22 it.

23 Yes, you include a little piece to  
24 increase, you know, the exchange of the title of the  
25 waves change, but then doesn't do anything to



1 protect it. By the time you get to realize that  
2 this part of Texas is in the county and in the State  
3 of Texas, we will proudly have eroded to the point  
4 where the lower Laguna Madre is going to be part of  
5 the Gulf of Mexico. So I ask and implore you please  
6 consider adding more projects for the Lower Laguna  
7 madre area and for Cameron County. Thank you.

8 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.  
9 My apologize for mispronouncing your name.

10 Next I'd like to call on Sofia C.  
11 Benavides, Cameron County Commissioner Precinct 1.

12 MS. BENAVIDES: Good evening. I'm  
13 Sofia Benavides and I'm the County Commissioner  
14 Precinct 1.

15 The Court passed a resolution  
16 requesting for the county beaches to be located on  
17 the island to be included in this feasibility study  
18 prepared by the Corps and by the GLO.

19 So I speak for my colleagues today  
20 and say that we need to preserve and protect our  
21 coastal beaches. We currently maintain 6.3 miles of  
22 beach on South Padre Island and 7.4 miles of beach  
23 on Boca Chica. Currently we are investing  
24 approximately 40 million to operate and maintain  
25 three coastal parks as well four public beach access

1 areas, not to mention millions being invested within  
2 the city.

3                   Recognizing that the Island is  
4 growing and there is still room for future  
5 development on the north end of the island, I'm  
6 wondering why only 2.2 miles of beach in Cameron  
7 County was included in your study.

8                   I urge you to take a look at our  
9 request. This is a priority to us and I hope it is  
10 a priority to the GLO and to the Corps. On behalf  
11 of the residence I represent and the Texas payers of  
12 this county, I ask you to please include Cameron  
13 County in your study. We will work with the federal  
14 and state agencies to continue to follow the  
15 process. Thank you.

16                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Next I call on  
17 Joe E. Vega Cameron County Parks.

18                   MS. VEGA: Good evening, Colonel,  
19 and Tony Williams and members of you-all's staff.  
20 Thank you for being here.

21                   Our County Judge Eddie Trevino sends  
22 his apologies. He had another commitment and wanted  
23 to be here this evening. We maintain four coastal  
24 parks and three public beach access areas on South  
25 Padre Island, one on the south -- one coastal park

1 in the south end, Isla Blanca County Park, and park  
2 on the north end and three public beach access on  
3 the north end, beach access three, beach access  
4 four, beach access five and beach access number six.

5           Your study only identifies 2.2 miles  
6 of restoration inside the city limits of South Padre  
7 Island. We're requesting that you include all the  
8 beaches on the, that are outside the city limits of  
9 South Padre Island to be part of the study.

10           Like Commissioner Benavides said, we  
11 are investing over \$24 million in public beach  
12 access improvements to our coastal parks and it is  
13 important that those coastal parks are also included  
14 in your study. Thank you.

15           COL. ZETTERSTROM: Next I call  
16 Mr. David Garcia, Cameron County Administrator.

17           MR. GARCIA: Good evening,  
18 everybody, members of the public. My name is David  
19 Garcia. I'm the county administrator. And I just  
20 want to point out -- I just want to reference the  
21 comments made by everybody before me. And I also  
22 want to point out two facts or two comments.

23           The first one is according to  
24 Wikipedia there were about 16 rain events from 2010  
25 to 2017, most of those were in South Texas. In your

1 presentation there was nothing included for South  
2 Texas.

3                   The second point I want to ad is your  
4 mitigation alone is going to be almost one billion  
5 dollars. For our area we were not even a hundred  
6 million dollars. So I ask you to go back and talk  
7 to your lead executive and leadership that is  
8 working on this plan because the county is growing.  
9 The county will grow will double or triple in size  
10 on South Padre Island and plan to have development  
11 in these areas and want to have it protected for  
12 many years to come. Thank you.

13                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: I now call  
14 members of the general public who wish to make  
15 statements. I've asked Mr. Stokes to assist me in  
16 timekeeping. He will indicate when you have 30  
17 seconds to speak and when your time is expired. I'd  
18 ask that you stop speaking at one minute.

19                   When you are called upon, please come  
20 forward and speak into the microphone. Please  
21 identify yourself by your full name and organization  
22 you represent, if any.

23                   First, I'd like to call on Mr. John  
24 Young.

25                   MR. YOUNG: John Young, San Benito,

1 Texas. We have bayou -- a real resource that's  
2 unique in many ways. This plan isn't going to have  
3 but to rule out and time enough to do what's needed.  
4 We need to back this plan and move it forward as  
5 fast as we can. I see that we have twelve years. I  
6 don't think we have twelve years. Thank you.

7 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.  
8 Next I would like to invite Mr. Brandon Hill.

9 MR. HILL: Thank you very much.

10 My name is Brandon Hill. I'm the  
11 shoreline director for the City of South Padre  
12 Island. We maintain and manage five miles of beach  
13 front, 27 beach accesses, over 135 private beach  
14 accesses among hundreds of million dollars of  
15 residence and property that lie behind our beaches.

16 We thank the GLO and the Army Corps  
17 for the hard work and the fantastic effort that's  
18 been put in. This plan really is evidence of what  
19 could happen when folks work together, don't  
20 reinvent the wheel, and truly come out of a problem  
21 with a unique prospective.

22 The city moves forward to continuing  
23 to work with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as well as  
24 the GLO, especially when it comes to expanding the  
25 footprint of a project that is proposed for South

1 Padre Island.

2                   We request that Regions two five and  
3 six be reconsidered as part of this plan as they are  
4 crucial both to the economic and the safety factors  
5 for the Island. When you look at Beach two there's  
6 a large section that can easily be breached and cut  
7 off 90 percent of residents from the causeway only  
8 way in and out of the mainland. And when you look  
9 at the beach five and six you're talking almost a  
10 billion dollars worth of construction just in that  
11 area, as well as over \$8 million annually in  
12 economic impact it would have to this local region  
13 which I think we can all agree is significant.

14 Thank you.

15                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.

16                   Next I call David Swang to make  
17 comments.

18                   MS. SWANG: I'm David Swang. I live  
19 on South Padre Island region five on the beach. I  
20 grew up around the Mississippi River and I know if  
21 you put a dike on the part of the river on each side  
22 it gets worse. So I'm pretty sure your plan will  
23 make my life worse, because you have a twelve foot  
24 sand barrier a few hundred feet south of where I  
25 live, the water is going to come around. Water is

1 really smart. It goes through wherever it can get  
2 to. So I think you need to study this island as a  
3 hole and understand the consequences of putting a  
4 partial barrier. Thank you.

5 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.

6 Next I invite Mr. Pete Sepulveda to  
7 make comments.

8 Good evening, for the record, my name  
9 is Pete Sepulveda. I'm the executive director for  
10 the Cameron County Regional Mobility Authority.  
11 Thank you for the draft feasibility study, very  
12 detailed, very thorough. However, I would like to  
13 formally request and strongly urge that the Cameron  
14 County maintain beach areas located on South Padre  
15 Island, Texas, be included in your feasibility  
16 study.

17 The Cameron County Regional Mobility  
18 Authority along with the State of Texas Department  
19 of Transportation have invested millions of dollars  
20 in developing a second access project to South Padre  
21 Island with the General Land Office in developing  
22 hydra project for sea grass mitigation.

23 The proposed second access would be  
24 locate approximately one mile north of beach access  
25 five. This project is extremely important to the

1 economic health of South Padre Island, Cameron  
2 County and the State of Texas. Thus, I would urge  
3 that as part of your NEPA process you go back and  
4 include this county areas in your feasibility study.  
5 Thank you.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Next I call on  
7 Leslie Tatum.

8 MS. TATUM: Hello. I'm Leslie Tatum  
9 and I'm not a public official obviously. My dad  
10 bought a house on the Island 1988 and he and his  
11 grandfathers came down here in 1930s, so you know  
12 the Island is an ever-changing thing. And I do see  
13 the complexity of the study and it looks like a lot  
14 of work was done.

15 I am a little frustrated that a lot  
16 of time is spent on the upper coast. I think in the  
17 film something was mentioned something about a berm  
18 and I don't know that that was mentioned beside the  
19 twelve foot, you know, twelve foot and five foot  
20 sand dunes. But I'd like to know more about what a  
21 berm is and whether we're going to have that.

22 And I agree with some of the folks  
23 that have commented about the water will find a way,  
24 and the dunes also find a way, but unfortunately  
25 with the huge amount of development on the Island in



1 the last 20 years many of the dunes have been  
2 destroyed.

3                   So my understanding as a layman about  
4 the Island and the dunes is that they protect the  
5 shoreline as well. And if they have no room to  
6 redistribute and rebuild, you know, we're passed the  
7 point of, you know, over-building the Island. But I  
8 would hope that that is taken into consideration  
9 because, you know, the Island has a natural way of  
10 taking care of itself and unfortunately man made  
11 structures have almost destroyed that and -- but I  
12 love it down here and I'm glad that there's money it  
13 seems to be working on all this, so thank you.

14                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for  
15 your time.

16                   Next I'd like to call on Mr. Philip  
17 Hanley.

18                   MR. HANLEY: My name is Phillip  
19 Hanley. I'm an environmental consultant that works  
20 with several of the landowners within these city  
21 limits of South Padre, as well as a lot of those own  
22 land north of the city.

23                   As one who has written environmental  
24 impact statements and reviewed several, I feel that  
25 that 6.5 mile stretch from the city limits north to

1 the end of the road that you have kind of missed  
2 something there, that you really need to take a hard  
3 look at that.

4                   When you look at what's left of the  
5 Island to develop in the city of South Padre Island,  
6 the only direction it can could go is north. That  
7 stretch of beach is also used by hundreds and  
8 thousands of people from the Valley that come on  
9 weekends to use it, and with a road that is  
10 currently less than 400 feet from the water that  
11 beach is in peril. So it needs to have more time  
12 and consideration on your part and NIS to look at  
13 that more carefully. Thank you.

14                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.  
15                   Next I invite Mr. Barry Patel.  
16                   Next I call on Mr. Christopher  
17 Allison.

18                   MR. ALLISON: I'm from Christopher  
19 Allison. I'm from San Antonio, Texas, and a  
20 landowner on South Padre Island. I just wanted to  
21 point out in 1982 the U.S. Government adopted a  
22 Coastal Barrier Resource Protection Act and  
23 basically set aside ten miles of Cameron County as  
24 eligible for flood insurance, this includes the area  
25 on the road north of the town six miles of what Bill

1 Henley just described. That act was reauthorized in  
2 1990 and 2000. And I think the Corps should protect  
3 the land that the federal government made eligible  
4 for federal flood insurance being reimbursement.

5 Thank you very much.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.

7 I would like to invite Patty

8 Matamoros to make comments.

9 MS. MATAMOROS: My name is Patty  
10 Matamoros. I'm the administrative assistant to  
11 Commissioner Sofia Benavides. I'm strongly urging  
12 that the beaches of Cameron County located on the  
13 north and south -- of the South Padre city limits be  
14 included in the Coastal Texas Study. These beach  
15 areas are eroding at a rate of approximately three  
16 to 14 feet per year causing potential future damage  
17 to private property, public infrastructure and  
18 hinder economic development.

19 Cameron County is currently investing  
20 approximately 24 million in improving beach access  
21 providing need for pavilions, dune walkovers,  
22 additional parking and dune conservation areas.  
23 These improvements are essential and necessary for  
24 protecting the environment, our natural resources  
25 and enhancing the quality of life for residents and

1 visitors.

2                   This is another one reason why  
3 Cameron County beaches and coastal parks located  
4 around South Padre Island should also be located in  
5 the study as part of the routine maintenance, which  
6 include dune and beach restoration and beach  
7 maintenance in order to protect these highly visited  
8 public beach access and as many of our visitors  
9 enjoy the most. We appreciate your consideration.  
10 Thank you.

11                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, ma'am.  
12                   Next is Mr. Bill Berg present for  
13 comments.

14                   MR. BERGH: Thank you. My concerns  
15 were addressed in the open house. Thank you.

16                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.  
17 Finally, I would like to invite Jamie Lopez to make  
18 comments.

19                   THE WITNESS: Good evening. For the  
20 record, may people Jaime Lopez, I'm the deputy parks  
21 director for Cameron County.

22                   I'd like to urgently request that the  
23 beaches to the south and north of South Padre Island  
24 city limits be included in the study.

25                   Cameron County has invested -- is in

1 the process of investing over \$20 million in public  
2 recreational infrastructure, which includes dune  
3 restoration. It is a known fact that these areas  
4 currently that are currently excluded are eroding at  
5 a high rate, and ask you to please consider the  
6 areas to be included in the study. Thank you.

7 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.  
8 At this time we have gone through our list of those  
9 who have indicated they wanted to make their  
10 statements.

11 At this time is there anyone else  
12 wishes to speak. You may step forward.

13 MR. ROSALES: Good evening, colonel,  
14 Mr. Williams. My name is Augusto Sanchez Gonzalez.  
15 I work with the University of Texas Rio Grande  
16 Valley and I've been working very closely with  
17 Cameron County in the new erosion response plan and  
18 beach access and the protection plan that will allow  
19 development for beach front construction projects.

20 Just to reiterate what other members  
21 of the public have said that development can only go  
22 north at this point, and that's precisely the area  
23 that's not covered by the current plan. With the  
24 new causeway and the current erosion rates as per  
25 the UTB study from the Gulf Coast -- Texas Gulf

1 Coast, I urge to include the north part of -- the  
2 north end of Cameron County beaches especially since  
3 by the time this project is completed it is going to  
4 be 13 to 20 years from now. So by that point  
5 there's going to be a lot of development in that  
6 area that's going to be not protected. And at that  
7 point 20 years from now it's going to be  
8 economically justifiable.

9                   So I urge you to include that into  
10 your current plan. Thank you.

11                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you very  
12 much .is there anyone else that would like to make  
13 comments.

14                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: I just have a  
15 question. The comments made tonight, did they tell  
16 you anything you didn't already know or did they  
17 enlighten you to further the study in South Texas?

18                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Ma'am, this  
19 period is comment period. After we adjourn the  
20 public meeting, we will be happy to answer your  
21 question.

22                   AUDIENCE MEMBER: I misunderstood  
23 sorry.

24                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Anyone else care  
25 to make a comment.

1 Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

2 In conclusion, written comments on  
3 the Draft Intergraded Feasibility Report and the  
4 Environmental Impact Statement must be received on  
5 or before January 9th, 2019, the conclusion of the  
6 75 day comment period that began on the 26th of  
7 October 2018.

8 I would like to thank the Texas  
9 General Land Office for their office and assistance  
10 in preparing for holding this meeting this evening,  
11 and I thank all of you for your attendance and  
12 interest that all of you have shown here tonight.  
13 This adjourns the public meeting. Thank you, ladies  
14 and gentlemen.

15

16 (Public meeting concluded at 7:33  
17 p.m.)

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 THE STATE OF TEXAS §

2 COUNTY OF HIDALGO §

3 I, ANNETTE E. ESCOBAR, Certified Shorthand  
4 Reporter in and for the State of Texas, do hereby  
5 certify that the above and foregoing public meeting  
6 contains a true and correct transcription of all  
7 introductions and public comments, all of which  
8 occurred in open forum reported by me.

9 Witness my official hand this 21st  
10 December, A.D., 2018.

  
ANNETTE E. ESCOBAR, CSR

11  
12 BUSINESS ADDRESS: Texas CSR No. 5475,  
13 ACE COURT REPORTING SERVICE Exp: 12/31/19  
14 Firm Registration No. 476  
15 Exp: 12/31/2019

14 [Redacted]  
15 [Redacted]

16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



## Winnie Public Meeting Transcript

Page 1	I N D E X	Page 3
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
Page 2		Page 4
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

Page 5	Page 7
<p>1 Hurricane Ike, Dolly and Rita intensified the need for 2 enhanced resilience of the Coast to not only reduce future damages and 3 loss to the environment and to withstand and recover from future 4 storms.</p>	<p>1 restoration as well as gate levees, a flood wall to address are 2 rosehip habitat, loss storm surge measure working together to increase 3 the overall resiliency of the Texas Coast.</p>
<p>5 It is important to note that the Coastal Texas Study 6 recommends structural measures to reduce risk along the Coast, and 7 that the recommendations support multiple investments and risk 8 reduction that agencies and businesses are making along the Coast.</p>	<p>4 The proposed plan of the Coastal Texas Studies developed to 5 working in concert with the Texas Coastal Resiliency Master Plan. 6 The GLO is currently working with state holder along the Coast 7 to develop the 2019 version of the Master Plan, which builds on the 8 original plans released in 2017.</p>
<p>9 The Coastal Texas Study is a part of a larger effort of 10 risk-reduction actions to make the Coast more resilient over time.</p>	<p>9 The 2019 version of the Master Plan identifies projects that 10 coastal experts have identified as the most effective at increasing 11 coastal resilience.</p>
<p>11 A cost-effective plan has been identified that we believe 12 would significantly reduce the risk of damage from tropical storms and 13 hurricanes as well as increase the net quality and quantity of the 14 coastal ecosystems.</p>	<p>12 The Plan also includes modeling to identify future threat to 13 the Texas Coast and to the benefit of identified projects.</p>
<p>15 This meeting is being held to describe the Tentatively Select 16 Plan, or the TSP, and receive your comments. I hope that all of you 17 have had an opportunity to read the Notice of Availability on the 18 Galveston District website and the announcements that were mailed to 19 individuals and organizations that may have an interest in these 20 proceeding.</p>	<p>14 The Plan will be complete in early 2019, and presented to the 15 Texas Legislature. The Coastal Texas Study Proposed Plan or 16 Tentatively Selected Plan, as referred to in the Corps' documents, 17 generally developed by the GLO Corps of Engineers.</p>
<p>21 Before we go any further, I would like to introduce a 22 representative of the Texas General Land's Office, our Study's 23 sponsor, Tony Williams, the Planning Senior Director of Coastal 24 Resources.</p>	<p>18 We worked with engineering firms and environmental firms and 19 consulting with other groups addressing these issues, local 20 universities and international organizations.</p>
<p>25 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Colonel Zetterstrom. And thank you</p>	<p>21 We've had multiple meetings with resource agencies, national 22 interests and environmental organizations. Remember, the study, we 23 are only half through it. There are details that still need to be 24 worked out.</p>
<p>Page 6</p>	<p>Page 8</p>
<p>1 all for coming out tonight to learn more about the Coastal Texas 2 Protection and Restoration Feasibility also known as "Coastal Study."</p>	<p>1 you for taking the time to join us.</p>
<p>3 I would like to acknowledge the GLO team members that are here 4 from both the upper-coastal field office and from our Austin 5 headquarters.</p>	<p>2 Colonel Zetterstrom.</p>
<p>6 Raise your hands. We have several over here.</p>	<p>3 COLONEL ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, Mr. Williams.</p>
<p>7 It is very important to Commissioner Bush to address issues 8 along the Coast including storm surge and ecosystem enhancements. 9 This is one of his hot priorities.</p>	<p>4 Now, I would like to recognize the public officials who are in 5 attendance at this meeting.</p>
<p>10 GLO is involved in this study. The Texas General Land Office 11 was established to manage state-owned land including state-owned surge 12 land under title influence from high tide ten miles offshore.</p>	<p>6 First, I would like welcome Sheriff Brian Hawthorne, Chambers 7 County Sheriff. Thank you, sir.</p>
<p>13 The Land Office is the state agency responsible for the 14 implementation of the Coastal Management Program. The Coastal Erosion 15 Plan Response Act, beach and dune protection, also respond a state 16 water and environmental roles in the disaster recovery.</p>	<p>8 I would like to recognize Commissioner Jimmy E. Gore, Chambers 9 County Precinct 1 Commissioner.</p>
<p>17 In November of 2015 GLO signed the Feasibility Cautionary 18 Agreement with the Corps of Engineers for the Coastal Texas Study that 19 delegated the GLO to planning a path of approximately a 20 20-million-dollar study, much of which is being established through 21 working in time the Land Office committed with working with the Corps 22 of Engineers to establish a land resiliency of the Texas Coast.</p>	<p>10 Thank you, sir.</p>
<p>23 Their approach includes ecosystem restoration along the Coast, storm 24 surge Houston/Galveston Region.</p>	<p>12 And then, lastly, I would like to recognize State 13 Representative elect Mayes Middleton, State Representative Elect for 14 Texas House District 23.</p>
<p>25 The Draft Plan is being presented today incorporated high tide</p>	<p>15 Thank you, gentleman.</p>
	<p>16 Additionally, I would like to recognize the Project Discovery 17 Team from the US Army Corps of Engineers Team. If you can please 18 stand and raise your hands so that way the public can recognize the 19 Corps Team?</p>
	<p>20 Thank you, team.</p>
	<p>21 And, now, I will ascribe the ground rules and format for 22 tonight's meeting:</p>
	<p>23 I hope everyone completed an attendance card when they 24 entered. The attendance card is used to provide us your contact 25 information so that we can keep you updated on the status of the study.</p>

Page 9	Page 11
<p>1 If you would like to make a comment, please make sure that you</p> <p>2 have indicated your intent on your blue attendance cards and it is</p> <p>3 turned in to the meeting facilitator.</p> <p>4 If you haven't done that, please do so immediately with the</p> <p>5 facilitator out front.</p> <p>6 Those wishing to make an oral comment will be given an</p> <p>7 opportunity to do so after the presentation.</p> <p>8 If you prefer not to speak tonight, you can submit your</p> <p>9 comments in writing by dropping them in the box provided or send them</p> <p>10 to us by mail or e-mail.</p> <p>11 Following these opening remarks, Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes, the</p> <p>12 Project Manager, will present an overview of the feasibility study.</p> <p>13 After her presentation, I will open the floor for public</p> <p>14 comment. The state officials that have requested to make a statement</p> <p>15 will be recognized first. Next representatives from the Federal and</p> <p>16 State Resources Agencies wishing to make a statement will be called</p> <p>17 upon.</p> <p>18 Then I will recognize individuals from the general public who</p> <p>19 have indicated they wish to make a comment. Please keep your remarks</p> <p>20 to one minute, as we would like for everyone to have an opportunity to</p> <p>21 speak. We would also like to emphasize that this will not be a</p> <p>22 question-and-answer session.</p> <p>23 This meeting is to provide everyone with an opportunity to</p> <p>24 publically comment on the Plan.</p> <p>25 Please give all speakers the courtesy of not making any</p>	<p>1 2021.</p> <p>2 This study is complex and it's large. Typical study of takes</p> <p>3 45 days public-comment period for the Environmental Impact Statement</p> <p>4 because it is so large.</p> <p>5 We opted to go for a broader, a longer period beyond 75 days,</p> <p>6 which means it began on the day that the report's released, which is</p> <p>7 October 26th, and it will conclude on January 7th, 2019.</p> <p>8 Inviting public comment is required by NEPA. All comments are</p> <p>9 welcomed be they positive or negative. I recommend the more specific</p> <p>10 you are with your comments, the easier it will be to understand and</p> <p>11 address the issues you raised.</p> <p>12 Public and agency input will be considered in forming our</p> <p>13 decision, and all comments are fully evaluated prior to the decision</p> <p>14 making. Review of comments ensures that we use the best available</p> <p>15 information in our processing.</p> <p>16 You're very well aware of the vulnerabilities of the Texas</p> <p>17 Coast:</p> <p>18 We are vulnerable to the coastal storm surge damage. We have</p> <p>19 inlands and coastal-erosion problems.</p> <p>20 We have a loss of critical habitat due to erosion problems,</p> <p>21 but also the storms and potentially sea level rise, loss of natural</p> <p>22 delta processes, forming of delta and we have disrupted hydrology up</p> <p>23 and down the Coast.</p> <p>24 To address these problems we have been told by Congress to</p> <p>25 look at two specific goals:</p>
Page 10	Page 12
<p>1 comments during their presentation. Please turn off your cell phone</p> <p>2 and refrain from applause or reactions so that we can have an orderly</p> <p>3 meeting and be respectful of everyone's time. All individuals have an</p> <p>4 equal right to be heard.</p> <p>5 Now, I would like to present Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes, the</p> <p>6 Project Manager, to make our formal presentation.</p> <p>7 DR. BURKS-COPES: Thank you.</p> <p>8 So, the reason we are here is that we need to provide you with</p> <p>9 a status update on the study itself, describe the National</p> <p>10 Environmental Policy Act process and the US Army Corps' of Engineering</p> <p>11 planning process and how those two integrated.</p> <p>12 We are going to identify/will identify the Tentatively</p> <p>13 Selected Plan. We call it the "TSP." And I will describe potential</p> <p>14 impacts, costs and benefits of the TSP so far.</p> <p>15 Then I will open -- I will give the microphone back to the</p> <p>16 Commander, and he will open the comment period.</p> <p>17 I want to stress that it is early in the study. It is a</p> <p>18 five-and-a-half year study. It was begun in 2015. We are only two</p> <p>19 years in. There are still three-and-a-half years to go.</p> <p>20 We released the report on October the 26th, and for the last</p> <p>21 couple of weeks we have been going down the Coast to present</p> <p>22 information and to get your input on this Plan as it is today.</p> <p>23 We will take those comments and address them, and then move</p> <p>24 towards a second phase of the study where we will optimize the</p> <p>25 solutions, write a final chief report and submit that to Congress in</p>	<p>1 Coastal Storm Risk Management and Ecosystem Restoration.</p> <p>2 And the Corps what we do is establish a set of objectives to</p> <p>3 go after those goals.</p> <p>4 So, in this study our objectives are to reduce economic</p> <p>5 damage; to reduce the risk to critical infrastructure; reduce the risk</p> <p>6 to public health and safety; to increase resilience up and down the</p> <p>7 Coast by enhancing and restoring coastal landforms; and improving</p> <p>8 hydrologic connectivity and improve and sustain coastal marshes and</p> <p>9 bay shorelines.</p> <p>10 In order to reserve federal dollars to do this study, we we</p> <p>11 must establish national significance.</p> <p>12 As you are well aware, there are 18 counties within our study</p> <p>13 area. 6.1 million residents reside in the study area, which is</p> <p>14 approximately 24 percent of the population of Texas.</p> <p>15 We have several deep-draft ports in our study area; but, in</p> <p>16 addition, we have 450 miles of Gulf Intercoastal Waterway.</p> <p>17 40 percent of the petrochemical industry exists within our</p> <p>18 study, and 25 percent of the natural petroleum-refining capacity.</p> <p>19 In addition to that, we have NASA and Galveston. At UTMB we</p> <p>20 have a Level 4 Viral Lab.</p> <p>21 In addition to those significant cultural resources, we have</p> <p>22 natural resources of concern:</p> <p>23 We have within our study area one of only six hypersaline</p> <p>24 lagoons in the world, The Laguna Madra. The Central Flyway Migration</p> <p>25 Corridor is found within our study area. Two of the 28 National</p>

Page 13	Page 15
<p>1 Estuary Program sites are within our study area.</p> <p>2 We have 12 National Wildlife Refuges up and down the Coast.</p> <p>3 We have a critical habitat for threatened and endangered species;</p> <p>4 critical coastal ecosystems including wetlands, sea-grass beds,</p> <p>5 oysters reefs and turtle-nesting habitat, for example.</p> <p>6 If you just look out the window, you are going to see natural</p> <p>7 nesting habitat and significant commercial fisheries for oysters,</p> <p>8 shrimp and finfish.</p> <p>9 So, now, I need to talk about how the Corps speak and syntax</p> <p>10 we use. In USACE speak we have features and actions and treatments to</p> <p>11 generate a measure, and then measures are combined to formulate</p> <p>12 alternatives.</p> <p>13 In terms of the features, we are talking about things like</p> <p>14 increased marshes, levees, gates, et cetera.</p> <p>15 For actions, we are talking about restoration, raisings,</p> <p>16 construction.</p> <p>17 And for treatment, we are talking about things like four</p> <p>18 nourishments and planting.</p> <p>19 So, we formed those into Combinations of Measure, and then the</p> <p>20 measures are combined to form alternatives. We then assess these</p> <p>21 alternatives.</p> <p>22 We were told in the Water Resources Development Act of 2016 to</p> <p>23 use all available data, which we are doing. And if you know of other</p> <p>24 data that we don't know of, please hand it over.</p> <p>25 We have listed a series of data that we have used thus far.</p>	<p>1 and 4 we have a series of measures that we used to the goal and</p> <p>2 objectives to scene down and then we formulate a plan.</p> <p>3 The Corps of Engineers uses the three E's to assess the plans.</p> <p>4 Three E's:</p> <p>5 Engineeringly sound -- I don't know if that is a real word.</p> <p>6 Okay -- environmentally acceptable and economically justified.</p> <p>7 We have run a series of coastal storms across the barriers</p> <p>8 that we have proposed to determine what their effectiveness would be.</p> <p>9 We formulated over 600 never-been-seen storms that range from</p> <p>10 ten year all the way out to ten thousand-year event. This ranges from</p> <p>11 the rainfall to tropical storms to Category 1 all the way up to</p> <p>12 Category 5's and beyond.</p> <p>13 The intent is to look at all of the forces that come against</p> <p>14 the barrier and determine if the barriers are affective.</p> <p>15 We also have used a series of storm hydrologic models to</p> <p>16 assess changes in the Bay, sedimentation changes in the Bay and</p> <p>17 velocities in the Bay if we were to put barriers in place.</p> <p>18 The first phase of the study -- and this is something that I</p> <p>19 want to get across to you to ask the question where should we be</p> <p>20 placing a barrier? Should it be on the rim? Should it be across the</p> <p>21 Bay maybe tying into Texas City? Or running along the Barrier</p> <p>22 Islands?</p> <p>23 So, what I am going to point out now is just kind of a general</p> <p>24 description of the two solutions that affectively where assessed in</p> <p>25 the study.</p>
Page 14	Page 16
<p>1 For example, NOAA Sea Level Rise Viewer that you can project out to</p> <p>2 the future and determine potential projection of lands lost as a</p> <p>3 result of sea-level rise.</p> <p>4 We know that there were ongoing studies or existing and</p> <p>5 historical studies looking at those problems. The GCCPRD has a plan;</p> <p>6 Texas A&amp;M has a plan, the SSPEED Center has a plan.</p> <p>7 We call it the Coastal Barrier because it includes both the</p> <p>8 ecosystem restoration and Coastal Risk Management in combination so</p> <p>9 that we can provide multiple lines of defense.</p> <p>10 We know the US Army Corps of Engineers has several on-going</p> <p>11 studies and construction activities in the footprint of this study</p> <p>12 area. So, we are taking those into account.</p> <p>13 And we have also acknowledged the GLO is updating their Master</p> <p>14 Plan, and the studies that are identified in the GLO Master Plan are</p> <p>15 taken into the account when we propose our Economic System Restoration</p> <p>16 Site.</p> <p>17 The idea is not to reinvent the wheel and not to step on each</p> <p>18 either's territory, but to actually help to create a more resilient</p> <p>19 Coast by doing so.</p> <p>20 We began the process in 2014 with a series of scoping</p> <p>21 meetings. And with all of this information in hand, we developed</p> <p>22 measures and then formulated those and screened those based on our</p> <p>23 goals and objectives.</p> <p>24 We developed a series of measures by region. Region 1 is a</p> <p>25 region that you enable now. Region 2 is just down the coast, and 3</p>	<p>1 Starting at the High Islands going across the GIWW down to</p> <p>2 Bolivar with the levee system there would be a gate at the GIWW going</p> <p>3 down to Bolivar Island to the Galveston Inlet -- I am sorry -- Bolivar</p> <p>4 Peninsula. That word is hard for me. "Bolivar."</p> <p>5 Now, going across the inlet with a series of gates and tying</p> <p>6 into the Seawall at Galveston and then tying into the bottom of the</p> <p>7 Seawall and taking that all the way down to San Luis.</p> <p>8 Now, these features have an estimated height of approximately</p> <p>9 17 feet, but that will change as we go through optimization, which is</p> <p>10 the next phase of the study.</p> <p>11 Features are, as always, have a place holder or conceptual</p> <p>12 alignment. This alignment will change in the next phase of the study</p> <p>13 as well.</p> <p>14 The features going across the two Bays are navigational gates</p> <p>15 that there is a 1200-foot span for the existing Houston Ship Channel</p> <p>16 and then on both sides of the Ship Channel are another 38</p> <p>17 vertical-lift gate.</p> <p>18 All of the gates tolled span the 2 mile stretch, and will only</p> <p>19 be closed during storms and during testing and operating and</p> <p>20 maintenance.</p> <p>21 The Bays behind Galveston High Island Ring Barrier is open</p> <p>22 most of the time. Then the gates are closed when a storm comes. That</p> <p>23 is going to trap water inside the Ring Barriers.</p> <p>24 So, the triangles on the map are actually pump stations that</p> <p>25 would draw off the water during the storm at the back of the Galveston</p>

Page 17	Page 19
<p>1 Ring Levee itself, but you would need a gate there. So, now, when                  2 storms come in would hit the barrier, the surge would be pulled back.                  3 But, as they move over into the Bay, there is still                  4 winds-driven surge that would bring some surge up into this side of                  5 the Bay so that the hatched area on the left-hand side, what the Corps                  6 calls non-structural measures, those are raising and flood proofing of                  7 the existing structures.                  8 We would need to put a gate at Clear Lake, Clear Creek. We                  9 would also need to put one at Dickenson Bayou. And pump stations so                  10 that, when we have those gates closed and the rainfall hits the land,                  11 the water would be drawn off and put back into the Bay.                  12 There is no closure at San Luis Pass in the proposed plan as                  13 of today, but Texas A&amp;M has been running some storm models that they                  14 have agreed to share with us so that we can take that into account.                  15 One thing to note, though, is that is one of the last natural                  16 inlets along the Texas Coast and then Natural Resource Agencies are                  17 concerned about closing off the San Luis Pass.                  18 We looked at the four different plans. But, in the end, we                  19 really liked two separate plans and compared and contrasted those.                  20 So, what I want you to notice is that some of these features                  21 are carried into the next plan.                  22 The Rim Barrier Plan, which starts up at the San Jacinto and                  23 crosses with a gate and pumping station, again, follows along the rim                  24 of the Bay; crosses Clear Lake; crosses Dickenson; ties into Texas                  25 City Levee; and then extends across to the west from the Texas City</p>	<p>1 that would be 12-and-a-half-feet tall and 100 feet wide and it will be                  2 refurbished every ten years.                  3 On top of all this you will remember that we are a                  4 multi-purpose project. So, we formulated economic system restoration                  5 solutions as well. In this region specifically we are proposing 55                  6 miles of beach and dune restoration, 79 miles of breakwaters that                  7 would then protect 1200 acres of marsh and 27,000 acres of                  8 renourishments out in the years through 2065. And we would be                  9 creating 19 acres of oyster reefs and 326 acres of island.                  10 All tolled, the nine ecosystem restoration sites proposed at                  11 160 acres of ecosystem restoration up and down the Coast. We would                  12 need approximately a hundred million cubic yards of material to do the                  13 restoration and to do the Coastal Storm Risk Management.                  14 The total cost for this study is \$25 billion to \$32 billion.                  15 40 percent of to ecosystem restoration.                  16 7.9 to 11.9 ecosystem restoration. An additional 1 to                  17 2 percent for South Padre.                  18 That is 71.6 to 83.1 million. And then the area, itself,                  19 would be 14.2 to \$19.9 billion.                  20 There will be direct impacts we estimate as a result of a                  21 Barrier Solution.                  22 Alternative A would impact 4500 acres plus or minus of habitat                  23 along the Islands. It will cause a construction and flow into the Bay                  24 putting features into an inlet that would cause some reconstruction.                  25 We are proposing flood vertical lift-gates to close off the</p>
Page 18	Page 20
<p>1 Levee.                  2 We would maintain, again, the Rim Barrier and Galveston, the                  3 pumping stations and a gate-offset bayou.                  4 So, the way that the Corps process works is that we compared                  5 and contrasted those two perhaps to determine if they are engineering                  6 sound? Are they environmentally acceptable? Are they economically                  7 justified?                  8 I have given you a list of some of the compare/contrast of the                  9 two plans to be considered.                  10 The Island Barrier Plan Protection of reduces risk to the                  11 GIWWT Gulf Coast, the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway, and the navigation                  12 system, the Houston Ship Channel. Whereas, Plan D does not because                  13 along the Rim Barrier, along -- Plan A provides protection to Bolivar                  14 and provides protection to Galveston Island below the Ring Barrier as                  15 Plan D does not.                  16 And, so, these types of comparisons are used to determine what                  17 the Tentatively Selected Plan would be. That's why we looked at those                  18 two plans specifically in the first phase of the study and in addition                  19 to what is happening in Region 1, what is being proposed to happen in                  20 Region 1 down to South Padre.                  21 There are a series of breaches where we have been doing                  22 beneficial of drudge material on the beaches, but that has been                  23 happening since 1988. But the efforts are not regular in that region                  24 and that funding -- and that is because the funding is limited.                  25 So, what we are proposing is a 2 mile dune-and-beach system</p>	<p>1 Bay during storms. That those -- that configuration would cause                  2 approximately 27 percent constriction of the interchange with the Bay.                  3 We hope to do optimization to bring that number down. But, as                  4 it stands right now, we do expect to see some water title exchange and                  5 we would have to mitigate for that.                  6 The mitigation costs are ranging between 76.6 and \$97.6. But,                  7 added to that, the ecosystem restoration on top of that 160 acres of                  8 marsh, islands, estuary, beaches and dunes.                  9 What I want to impress upon you is that the lines that you are                  10 seeing on posters and on these slides and on the website is conceptual                  11 in nature at this point.                  12 It is a placeholder. And the reason that it is a placeholder                  13 is that we needed to compare and contrast a rim solution to the Bay to                  14 Texas City to the Barrier Islands.                  15 Now, that we selected the Barrier Islands' Solution and the                  16 Tentatively Selected Plan, we go into something the Corps calls                  17 "optimization."                  18 We ask that -- the question now:                  19 Should it be on the land where we have place? Or should we                  20 move it to the back or the front? And should it be the same height                  21 that we've been evaluating? Or does it need to be smaller or taller?                  22 What kind of constructive materials can we use to build it? And can                  23 it be engineered dunes with dunes in front of going down to dump into                  24 a beach? Or do we need to do some kind of combination of the wall and                  25 some engineered dune in combination?</p>

Page 21	Page 23
<p>1 The idea is to manage the risks, reduce risks as much as 2 possible for the cost.</p> <p>3 We need to look at things like pump-station capacity and 4 assessment of how big they need to be and we need to focus on the 5 gates.</p> <p>6 If we were to optimize the gauges, could we reduce the 7 construction below the 27 percent?</p> <p>8 We are setting a threshold that any gate configuration would 9 not cost more than 27 percent. And, so, we would be looking at 10 configurations that could bring that number down.</p> <p>11 So, as I mentioned before -- I think we all mentioned this -- 12 we are only part way through. We are two years in. We have 13 three-and-a-half years to go.</p> <p>14 We will be writing a chief report and submitting that to 15 Congress in 2021. The way that works is that Congress has to 16 authorize design and appropriate funding for us to go into design.</p> <p>17 The study itself is a 50/50 cost share that, when we go into 18 design with 35/65 percent design and construction, it could take two 19 to five years to do the designs and that's if we receive the money 20 right up front.</p> <p>21 If it is kind of parceled out, we would have to work 22 sequencing the features. Which feature should be built first? 23 Second? Third?</p> <p>24 Some of the ecosystem restoration, for example, could be done 25 early on if we get through design within two to five years.</p>	<p>1 comment cards and submit it into the basket, as we mentioned before.</p> <p>2 Or you can write a letter to the address presented here on the 3 screen or you can send us an e-mail.</p> <p>4 But the key here is that we receive your comments by January 5 7th so that we can put them into the administrative record and take 6 those into account.</p> <p>7 I talk fast. I completely get that. There is a website out 8 there called "coastalstudy.txdotgov." At the end of the public 9 meetings we will be posting my slides. We will be -- we have already 10 posted all of the posters, and we will be providing information as we 11 go along in the study on this site.</p> <p>12 You can also download the report. The report is 450-plus 13 pages plus the 1500 pages of indices. Or you can read the 40-page 14 summary. Or you can read the newsletter that you've got in your hands 15 from when you walked in the door, which is very short.</p> <p>16 If you have information for us, please provide it in the 17 comments. We welcome all your comments at this time.</p> <p>18 COLONEL ZETTERSTROM: Thank you. I will now call upon members 19 of the general public who wish to make a statement.</p> <p>20 I will call five names at a time, and I ask that the 21 individuals come up to the front row and sit in the several seats 22 while you wait for your turn to speak.</p> <p>23 I have asked Ms. Stansky to assist me in keeping time. She 24 will indicate when you have 30 seconds left to speak and when your 25 time is expired.</p>
Page 22	Page 24
<p>1 And, if we receive all the money at the beginning of that, we 2 would take 10 to 15 years to construct the entire plan.</p> <p>3 Once it is constructed, the turnover to cost share so for 4 operation or maintenance.</p> <p>5 We do not at this point have a construction or an operation of 6 maintenance cost share sponsor. That's something that will have to be 7 determined by the Texas Legislature.</p> <p>8 There can be multiple cost-share sponsors depending on which 9 features are cost share. And then, once we turn it over, operation 10 and maintenance is the job or purview of the Cost-Share Sponsor.</p> <p>11 We do have to estimate the -- estimate the cost of what it 12 will take to operate and maintain these kind of features, and it would 13 range between 100- and \$130 million a year.</p> <p>14 We expect that that is a large infrastructure. That it would 15 have to withstand more than 50 years. We are looking at a scenario of 16 out to 100 years.</p> <p>17 So, we're here today to ask for your comments and your 18 feedback. We've held three of these meetings so far down the Lower 19 Coast. You are the first in the Upper Coast. We have three more up 20 here in the next week:</p> <p>21 Galveston tomorrow night.</p> <p>22 We have Crystal Beach on Saturday.</p> <p>23 And then Sea Brook on Tuesday of next week.</p> <p>24 If you don't want to provide a comment by coming up to the 25 front and speaking into the microphone, you can write it on the</p>	<p>1 I'd ask that you stop speaking after the minute has lapsed.</p> <p>2 When you are called to come forward to speak in the 3 microphone, please identify yourself by your name and the organization 4 that you represent, if any.</p> <p>5 First, I would like to call up the first five individuals: 6 Elinor Tinsley, Brenda Flanagan, Lester Fontenot, Becky 7 Fancher and Huey Menard. Would you please come forward?</p> <p>8 And, Ms. Elinor Tinsley, if you would like to begin with the 9 first comment -- yes, ma'am. Thank you very much.</p> <p>10 Brenda Flanagan, if you would like to begin with your 11 comments, please?</p> <p>12 MS. FLANAGAN: Yes. I am a homeowner, and I live in Crystal 13 Beach. This is my retirement home.</p> <p>14 Currently the line, which could be moved, is real close to my 15 property so that I have a chance to lose my property. But not only me 16 but a lot of different people on the Bolivar Peninsula.</p> <p>17 I would like the consideration for that line to be moved 18 either further to the north to land on the dune line.</p> <p>19 Thank you.</p> <p>20 COLONEL ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, ma'am, for your comments.</p> <p>21 Lester Fontenot.</p> <p>22 MR. FONTENOT: Yes. I am Lester Fontenot.</p> <p>23 I am curious will you be sharing the details of the financial 24 analysis of this project?</p> <p>25 As you very well know, there could be some significant impact</p>

Page 25	Page 27
<p>1 related to property values.</p> <p>2 And I was interested if you are going to post that on your</p> <p>3 website on the Detailed Analysis, the basis for that to climb the</p> <p>4 property -- potentially increase in property value.</p> <p>5 And as well as how did you determine the impacts of the</p> <p>6 potential storms, you know, every two years? Every five years?</p> <p>7 I would like to know what were the analysis bases for that and</p> <p>8 will you be sharing that?</p> <p>9 COLONEL ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your comment, sir. Check</p> <p>10 the analysis included in the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report</p> <p>11 that's posted on the website.</p> <p>12 Next I would like to call upon Becky Fancher.</p> <p>13 Okay. Huey Menard?</p> <p>14 MR. MENARD: Yes, sir. I am also a homeowner in Bolivar. I</p> <p>15 am just wondering they keep saying that this is an "alternative plan."</p> <p>16 That is not the last thing that we are going to see, but is</p> <p>17 there other I guess plans out there that will still be looked at</p> <p>18 because I haven't seen anything to indicate that?</p> <p>19 That is what I am trying to say because I keep seeing the line</p> <p>20 going right down in front of my house. Then I see my house going</p> <p>21 away.</p> <p>22 So, I'd ask if there was any plans out there that don't do the</p> <p>23 line down the Bolivar?</p> <p>24 COLONEL ZETTERSTROM: Again, this is the comments-only period.</p> <p>25 The evaluations -- the different alternatives that were conducted are</p>	<p>1 on an elevated escape route, an evacuation route. That is a huge</p> <p>2 problem. Always has been. And hopefully that will be addressed with</p> <p>3 this, as well.</p> <p>4 COLONEL ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your comment, sir.</p> <p>5 All right. Any of the other four individuals still present or</p> <p>6 still wish to make comments?</p> <p>7 Seeing none, I would like to the call upon the next group of</p> <p>8 four individuals:</p> <p>9 Larry Barron, Azure Bevington, James Maggio and Janie</p> <p>10 Mayfield. If you would please come forward.</p> <p>11 MS. BEVINGTON: Azure Bevington.</p> <p>12 I have a number of comments on the plan, but specifically what</p> <p>13 I want to talk about quickly is the presentation by Dr. Bush.</p> <p>14 There's a couple of places where he misspoke. So, February of</p> <p>15 2021 is not in three years. That is just over two years. So, you --</p> <p>16 when you I saw there were three years left, that was incorrect.</p> <p>17 You also mentioned that the scoping meetings were started in</p> <p>18 2014. The Upper-Coast Scoping Meetings were started in 2012, and the</p> <p>19 Lower-Coast Scope Meetings were done in 2014.</p> <p>20 So, the last time any one in the Upper Coast was allowed to</p> <p>21 comment on this public was in 2012 when none of these concepts/ideas</p> <p>22 were already well formed.</p> <p>23 So, what I really want to say that the way that the timing of</p> <p>24 this public-comment period has been done, where it was really at the</p> <p>25 end of October, goes through the Christmas -- you know, the Holiday</p>
Page 26	Page 28
<p>1 in the draft report that is available for the public to review on the</p> <p>2 website.</p> <p>3 Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>4 Next I would like to call for the next five individuals who</p> <p>5 wish to speak:</p> <p>6 Harry Craig, Jeffery Laird, Bill White, G.L. Finch and Tyler</p> <p>7 Fitzgerald.</p> <p>8 If you individuals would please come forward, and we'll call</p> <p>9 upon Mr. Harry Craig to speak first, if you are present.</p> <p>10 MR. CRAIG: I am Harry Craig.</p> <p>11 I own property in Crystal Beach, and I just would like to</p> <p>12 encourage you to look very hard at the placement of this levee.</p> <p>13 I looked at the Slide 10 I believe and had one of the reps</p> <p>14 tell me -- show me the hundred-year or thousand-year, and it showed</p> <p>15 the levee and without the levee.</p> <p>16 Without the levee there is 10 feet of water about where my</p> <p>17 house would be and most of Crystal Beach would be with a levee. It</p> <p>18 goes 10 to 20 feet plus.</p> <p>19 So, that kind of pretty much can wipe out everything south of</p> <p>20 87. So, I would -- I would encourage you to look at that.</p> <p>21 Then another plan or idea was to put the levee at the beach</p> <p>22 and put more sand out to make the beach. I see that as a huge</p> <p>23 maintenance issue years going down the road, and I think that ends up</p> <p>24 on the county and tax payers.</p> <p>25 I didn't see anything mentioned about -- maybe I missed it --</p>	<p>1 season -- and then ends early in 2019 is an enormous problem.</p> <p>2 They could have extended it. You know, 45 days is a minimum.</p> <p>3 75 days. But you were allowed to go fast. I would actually like to</p> <p>4 request that it be extended, and I would like to request that a second</p> <p>5 Public-Comment Period be allowed some time later on because from what,</p> <p>6 you know, the Army Corps and Dr. Bush were saying, this is only</p> <p>7 10 percent done.</p> <p>8 So, when you decide and you optimize that, we want to be able</p> <p>9 to comment. This potentially has an affect on some of our homes. So,</p> <p>10 you know, I would like to ask for that to happen.</p> <p>11 Thank you.</p> <p>12 COLONEL ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>13 MR. MAGGIO: James Maggio.</p> <p>14 Basically my concern is -- I support Alternative D to the Bay</p> <p>15 and not the Plan A due to the fact of this -- the large seawall being</p> <p>16 built from High Island to cross Bolivar. And with Harvey, of course,</p> <p>17 on our minds and with all the rain events that we've had, it's not</p> <p>18 unheard of to have fresh water 25 inches from a topical storm.</p> <p>19 The concern was having any of the freshwater flow towards the</p> <p>20 Gulf being inhibited by a wall and the amount of work to the pump</p> <p>21 systems that you wouldn't have in place and the maintenance calls to</p> <p>22 maintain them over the course of the time to the lifespan of the wall.</p> <p>23 So, that was one of the concerns I had along with any</p> <p>24 ecosystem that may not be able to cross to the other side of the Bay.</p> <p>25 So, like I said, I support the Bay Rim, and I don't support</p>



Page 29	Page 31
<p>1 the Plan A.</p> <p>2 That's it. Thank you.</p> <p>3 COLONEL ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your comments, sir.</p> <p>4 Ma'am?</p> <p>5 MS. MAYFIELD: Yes. My name is Janie Mayfield. I am</p> <p>6 currently a property owner on Bolivar Peninsula. We have owned</p> <p>7 property in Galveston all of my life.</p> <p>8 My concerns are not only with the Peninsula but also Chambers</p> <p>9 County.</p> <p>10 When we were growing up, we owned properties at Smith Point.</p> <p>11 So, we watched what the water can do, what Mother Nature can do since</p> <p>12 I was born.</p> <p>13 Right now the current red line going down the middle of the</p> <p>14 Bolivar Peninsula has got everybody terrified. I am hearing y'all say</p> <p>15 that is not a done deal, but I think there were several people in the</p> <p>16 meeting the other day on the Peninsula that felt like we were pretty</p> <p>17 sure it is -- said that it is a final plan.</p> <p>18 So, a lot of people gapping on those. These were business</p> <p>19 people that were listening carefully. So, if this is not the final</p> <p>20 plan, drawing, whatever, you need to know you have everybody freaked</p> <p>21 out because right now it is already starting to hurt the Bolivar</p> <p>22 Peninsula seeing that red line. And it doesn't take an engineer to</p> <p>23 look at that and see that, if anything is built along that highway,</p> <p>24 anything south of it will be devastated.</p> <p>25 So, it is a hard real-estate market. So, we need to look at</p>	<p>1 definite line that y'all are intending, if it is not.</p> <p>2 And I think that they would -- a lot of landowners down</p> <p>3 there -- and homeowners actually live there. A lot of landowners and</p> <p>4 homeowners would like to have a say so in it.</p> <p>5 Intending that -- if it is true, that it could be extended,</p> <p>6 extending that would be beneficial to everyone because now we know a</p> <p>7 little more than what we we did even last week at the meeting.</p> <p>8 I'm extremely more informed now that I've talked to you guys,</p> <p>9 and I'm extremely informed on some information that I did not know</p> <p>10 before.</p> <p>11 I think it would behoove y'all to let people know and give us</p> <p>12 more than that January the 9th to make comments on this.</p> <p>13 Thank you.</p> <p>14 MS. MAYFIELD: Thank you for your comments, sir.</p> <p>15 Are there any other members of the public that wish to come</p> <p>16 forward and speak at this time?</p> <p>17 Okay. Thank you for your comments, ladies and gentlemen.</p> <p>18 Written comments of the Draft Integrated Feasibility Report</p> <p>19 and Environmental Impact Statement must be received on or before</p> <p>20 January 9, 2019.</p> <p>21 At the conclusion of the 75-day period that began on the 26th</p> <p>22 of October 2018.</p> <p>23 MS. BEVINGTON: I have a question:</p> <p>24 Why did you limit it to one minute if you only had about 20 or</p> <p>25 30 people who said they wanted to give verbal comments?</p>
Page 30	Page 32
<p>1 other options out there. We appreciate the comment times so that</p> <p>2 maybe some of us can have some ideas and throw it at you guys.</p> <p>3 An offshore barrier I know, after Ike, was talked about, but I</p> <p>4 never heard anything on that.</p> <p>5 So, Chambers County, Bolivar Peninsula -- y'all have the</p> <p>6 Peninsula scared. We need to let everyone know that is not a final</p> <p>7 deal.</p> <p>8 Thank you.</p> <p>9 COLONEL ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your comments, ma'am.</p> <p>10 We have a gone through the list of those who have indicated</p> <p>11 they wanted to make comments. Is there anyone else at this time who</p> <p>12 wishes to make a comments?</p> <p>13 Sir, I'll call you to the microphone for your comments please.</p> <p>14 MR. THOMPSON: Yes. My name is Rich Thompson. I also live on</p> <p>15 Crystal Beach, but not -- my thoughts aren't to my own personal</p> <p>16 problem.</p> <p>17 I agree wholeheartedly that the deadline on comments being</p> <p>18 February -- I mean, January the 9th is way too short for information</p> <p>19 that we have just received.</p> <p>20 I know this information has been out there. However, the</p> <p>21 information, that is to my ignorance -- not stupidity -- to my</p> <p>22 ignorance that I understand the line on there was going to be exactly</p> <p>23 where it is.</p> <p>24 There's a lot of people that are concerned about that. I</p> <p>25 think it would behoove you guys to let them know that this is not the</p>	<p>1 MS. MAYFIELD: I am going to continue making my conclusion</p> <p>2 statements.</p> <p>3 Ladies and gentlemen, this is the comment period. I would</p> <p>4 like to thank you and the Texas General Land's Office for their</p> <p>5 assistance in preparing, holding this meeting.</p> <p>6 I thank you for your attendance and the interest all of you</p> <p>7 have shown tonight.</p> <p>8 The formal public meeting is adjourned.</p> <p>9 (Meeting ended)</p>

1 STATE OF TEXAS  
2 COUNTY OF CHAMBERS  
3

4 I, Cynthia Martinez, Court Reporter in and for the State of  
5 Texas, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing contains a true  
6 and correct transcription of the proceedings requested in writing by  
7 the parties to be included in this volume of the Reporter's Record in  
8 the above-styled matter, all of which occurred in an open meeting and  
9 were reported by me.

10 I further certify that this Reporter's Record of the proceedings  
11 truly and correctly reflects the exhibits, if any, offered by the  
12 respective parties.

13 I further certify that the total cost for the preparation of this  
14 Reporter's Record is \_\_\_\_\_ and will be paid by \_\_\_\_\_.

15  
16  
17 /s/Cynthia Martinez

18 Cynthia Martinez, Texas CSR No. 6863  
19 Expiration Date 12/31/2020  
20 Firm Registration No. 810  
ENCASE LEGAL

21 [Redacted]  
22 [Redacted]  
23 [Redacted]  
24 [Redacted]  
25 [Redacted]

## **Galveston Public Meeting Transcript**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration  
Feasibility Study Public Meeting  
DECEMBER 12, 2018  
Galveston, Texas

Reported By: Jo Ann Kelley, CSR# 5116

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Good evening, Ladies  
2 and Gentlemen. I am pleased to be here tonight. I am  
3 Colonel Zetterstrom, the commander of the Galveston  
4 District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. I  
5 welcome you to tonight's public meeting to review the  
6 Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility  
7 Study.

8 Before I begin, I would like to ask  
9 anyone that has a seat next to them to move in so,  
10 that way, our fellow citizens that are standing might  
11 have a chance to have a seat to sit in. Thank you.

12 For the record, let me state that this  
13 public meeting was convened at 5:30 p.m. on  
14 December 12, 2018 at the Galveston Island Convention  
15 Center in Galveston, Texas. Specifically, we are  
16 presenting information accepting public comments on  
17 the draft integrated feasibility report and  
18 environment impact statement for this study that was  
19 released for public review on the 26th of October,  
20 2018. A court reporter is here to transcribe these  
21 proceedings and all public comments.

22 The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and  
23 the Texas General Land Office have analyzed coastal  
24 risk reduction solutions that would reduce the risk of  
25 lives and public property on the Texas coast.

1                   Ten years ago, this region experienced  
2 Hurricane Ike, which disrupted many lives and resulted  
3 in extensive economic and infrastructure damages. The  
4 Texas coast is also subject to ongoing coastal  
5 erosion, relative sea level rise, habitat loss, and  
6 water quality degradation. These coastal hazards are  
7 placing the environmental and economic health of the  
8 coast at risk, which negatively impacts the state and  
9 national economy.

10                   This, along with storms such as  
11 Hurricane Ike, Dolly and Rita, emphasize the need to  
12 enhance resiliency of the coast to not only reduce  
13 damages of and but to improve our ability to withstand  
14 and recover from further storms.

15                   It's important to note that the Coastal  
16 Texas Study recommends structural measures to reduce  
17 risk along the coast and that these recommendations  
18 support multiple investments and risk reduction that  
19 agencies and businesses are making along the coast.  
20 Coastal Texas is a part of a larger effort of risk  
21 reduction actions to make the coast more resilient  
22 over time.

23                   The cost effective plan has been  
24 identified that we believe would significantly reduce  
25 the risk of damages from tropical storms and

1 hurricanes as well as increase the quality and  
2 quantity of the coastal ecosystems. This meeting is  
3 being held to describe the Tentatively Selected Plan,  
4 or the TSP, and to receive any comments.

5 I hope that all of you had the  
6 opportunity to read the notice of availability either  
7 on the Galveston District's Web site or the  
8 announcements that were mailed to individuals and  
9 organizations that may have an interest in these  
10 proceedings.

11 Before we go any further, I would like  
12 to introduce the General Land Office, or the study's  
13 non-federal sponsor, Mr. Tony Williams, the planning  
14 senior director of Coastal Resources.

15 (Applause)

16 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Colonel  
17 Zetterstrom.

18 And I'd like to thank everyone for  
19 coming out tonight to learn more about the Coast Texas  
20 Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study, also  
21 known as the Coastal Texas Study.

22 In the audience here tonight, we have  
23 several GOT members, their fine assistance. I would  
24 have several from our upper coast field office over  
25 there and some from our Austin headquarters.

1                   Addressing issues on the coast,  
2 including storm surge and ecosystem restoration,  
3 continues to be one of Mr. Bush's top priorities. You  
4 may be asking why the GLO is involved with Coastal  
5 Texas Study. The Land Office was established to  
6 manage state-owned land, including submerged land,  
7 under tidal influence, from the mean high tide out to  
8 10 miles offshore. The General Land Office is also a  
9 state agency responsible for implementation of the  
10 Coastal Management Program, the Coastal Erosion  
11 Planning and Response Act, protection of public  
12 beaches and dunes, responsible for oil spills in state  
13 waters and has certain roles in disaster recovery.

14                   In November of 2015, the GLO signed the  
15 feasibility cost-sharing agreement with the Corps of  
16 Engineers. This obligated GLO to fund approximately  
17 half of the 20-million-dollar study to conduct the  
18 valuation of the Texas coast much which is being done  
19 through working in kind.

20                   The Land Office is working with the  
21 Corps of Engineers to develop a plan to increase the  
22 resiliency of the Texas Coast through an integrated  
23 approach that includes ecosystem restoration  
24 enhancement all along the coast and storm surge  
25 barriers specifically in the Houston/Galveston area.



1                   The dry plan that is being presented  
2 tonight incorporates habitat restoration enhancement  
3 as well as gates, levees, and flood walls to address  
4 erosion, habitat loss, and storm surge. These  
5 measures work together to increase the overall  
6 resiliency of the Texas coast.

7                   The proposed plan in the Coastal Texas  
8 Study was developed and works in concert with the  
9 Texas Coastal Resiliency Master Plan. The GLO is  
10 currently working with stakeholders along the coast to  
11 develop the 2019 version of the Master Plan which  
12 builds on the 2017 version.

13                   The 2019 version of the Master Plan  
14 identifies projects that experts up and down the coast  
15 have identified as the ones best suited to address  
16 resilience along the coast. The 2019 version will  
17 also include modeling the threats of the Texas coast  
18 and the effectiveness of the identified projects as  
19 reducing those threats. The plan will be completed in  
20 early 2019 and presented to the Texas legislature.

21                   The coastal Texas state proposed plan  
22 or Tentatively Selected Plan as referred to in Corps  
23 documents was jointly developed by the GLO and Corps  
24 of Engineers. We've worked with engineering and  
25 environmental firms, consulted with other groups

1 addressing these issues, including local universities  
2 and international organizations, had regular meetings  
3 with environmental groups, resource agencies, and  
4 navigation interests. And as we move forward, the  
5 next phase of the study is important to get feedback  
6 from all stakeholders.

7                   We need your input on the proposed plan  
8 and how it will affect you. Please remember, the  
9 study is only about halfway completed and there are a  
10 lot of details that still need to be worked out.  
11 Again, we value your input and look forward to your  
12 comments. Thank you for coming out tonight.

13                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you,  
14 Mr. Williams.

15                   Now I would like to recognize the  
16 public officials who are attending tonight's public  
17 meeting. Mayor Jim Yarbrough, mayor of the City of  
18 Galveston; Councilman Robert Michetich, City Council,  
19 La Marque; Alderman Gregg Bisso, Surfside Beach;  
20 Superintendent Kyle Ohaven, Texas Parks and Wildlife  
21 Galveston Island State Park assistant superintendent;  
22 Michael Shannon, Galveston County engineer;  
23 Mr. Matthew J. Hay, Galveston Independent School  
24 District trustee; Mr. Gary Bell, Seabrook EDC;  
25 Mr. David Collins or, excuse me, Councilman David

1 Collins, City Council, City of Galveston;  
2 Mr. Ken Jencks, Galveston ISD Trustee; Mr. Sean  
3 Hutchison, City Manager of City of Jamaica Beach;  
4 Mr. Brett B. Milutin, Director of Operations, Port of  
5 Galveston; Councilman Jackie Cole, City Council, City  
6 of Galveston; Mr. Rodger Rees, the Port Director of  
7 the Port of Galveston; Mr. Todd Sullivan, Port of  
8 Galveston trustee; and finally Representative-Elect  
9 Mayes Middleton, Texas state resident --  
10 representative-elect for House District No. 23.

11 (Applause)

12 Additionally, I would like to recognize  
13 the project delivery team from the U.S. Army Corps of  
14 Engineers. If my team could please stand to be  
15 acknowledged. Thank you.

16 (Applause)

17 And now I would like to describe the  
18 ground rules of the format for tonight's meeting. I  
19 hope that everyone completed the attendance cards when  
20 they entered the meeting. The attendance card is used  
21 to provide us with contact information so we can keep  
22 you updated on the status of the study. If you would  
23 like to make your comment orally tonight, please make  
24 sure you indicated your intent on your blue index card  
25 and turned it in to one of the meeting facilitators.

1 If you haven't done this now, please do so as soon as  
2 possible with the facilitators at the rear of the  
3 room.

4 Those wishing to make an oral comment  
5 will be given an opportunity to do so after the  
6 presentation. If you prefer not to speak this  
7 evening, you may submit your comments in writing by  
8 dropping them in the baskets provided or you may send  
9 them to us by mail or by e-mail.

10 Following these open remarks, Dr. Kelly  
11 Burks-Copes, the project manager for this study, will  
12 present an overview of the feasibility study. After  
13 the presentation, I will open the floor for public  
14 comments.

15 First, federal and state officials that  
16 have requested to make a statement will be recognized.  
17 Next, representatives from federal and state resource  
18 agencies wishing to make a statement will be called  
19 upon. And then I will recognize each individual from  
20 the general public who indicated that they wish to  
21 make a comment.

22 Please keep your remarks to one minute  
23 as we would like for everyone to have an opportunity  
24 to speak. Also, we would like to emphasize that this  
25 will not be a question-and-answer session. This

1 meeting is to provide everyone with an opportunity to  
2 publicly comment on the plan.

3 Please give all speakers the courtesy  
4 of not making any comments during the presentation.  
5 Please turn off your cell phones and hold all applause  
6 or other reactions so that we have an orderly meeting  
7 and be respectful of everyone's time. All individuals  
8 here have a equal right to be heard

9 Now I would like to present Dr. Kelly  
10 Burks-Copes, the project manager, to make the formal  
11 presentation.

12 Thank you.

13 MS. BURKS-COPES: Good evening. I am  
14 shorter than they are. Hold on just a minute.

15 I would like to start by explaining why  
16 we are here. We'd like to give you a status update on  
17 the study, walk you through the National Environmental  
18 Policy Act process, called NEPA for short, then  
19 describe how the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers planning  
20 process interfaces with the NEPA process. We will  
21 then identify the Tentatively Selected Plan and talk  
22 about the impacts and the benefits and the cost of  
23 that plan. And then we will go to the public comment  
24 period and ask for your input.

25 As both of the previous speakers

1 mentioned, we are about halfway through the study.  
2 We're just coming up on the third year, about  
3 two-and-a-half years left to go. The report was  
4 released on October 26th. The next big step in the  
5 study is to do detailed engineering and design.

6           What I want to focus on and make sure  
7 and emphasize again is that up until now, the  
8 information that has been distributed to you in the  
9 draft report is placeholder information. We are here  
10 to absorb your feedback, to discuss issues with you.  
11 And then in the next phase of the study, we go into  
12 something called optimization, which is where we take  
13 your comments and we take additional data that we  
14 derive from several different entities, fold that into  
15 the plan, and adjust on the -- on the next phase of  
16 the study. We are shooting for a targeted chief's  
17 report that will be sent to Congress in 2021.

18           This is a large study. A typical  
19 environmental impact statement under the NEPA process  
20 requires 45 days of public comment. But because it's  
21 large and complex, we have extended that to a 70-day  
22 -- 75-day review period. It started on the first day  
23 of the release of the report, which is  
24 October 26th. So, 75 days later puts us at January  
25 9th of 2019.

1           We are inviting all public comment, and  
2 that is part of the requirements of the NEPA process.  
3 All comments are welcome, be it negative or positive.  
4 Remember that the more specific you are with the  
5 comments, the easier it will be for us to understand  
6 your concerns and issues and to address those issues.

7           Public and agency input informs our  
8 decision-making process.

9           I will try to talk to this side as  
10 well. Sorry.

11           All the comments that we receive are  
12 going to be fully evaluated equally. And the review  
13 and the processing of these comments ensures that we  
14 make decisions on the best available data and  
15 information out there.

16           As you well know and as you saw in the  
17 video, we face a lot of problems in the Texas coastal  
18 region. We are subject to large coastal storm surges.  
19 We have both inland and coastal erosion problems. We  
20 are losing threatened and endangered critical habitat.  
21 We have losses of delta processes in our delta surges  
22 functioning now and we have hydrologic connectivity  
23 issues. These are the problems that our study is  
24 designed to address.

25           We have two specific mandates from

1 Congress, which are our goals -- coastal storm risk  
2 management and ecosystem restoration. To meet the  
3 goals in the Corps study process, we set up  
4 objectives. In this instance, our objectives are as  
5 follows: To reduce economic damage; to reduce risk to  
6 critical infrastructure but also to public health and  
7 safety; to enhance and restore coastal land forms and  
8 ecosystems; to improve the hydraulic connectivity of  
9 the those systems; and then to improve very specific  
10 ecosystems, such as marshes and bays.

11 We are receiving funding at the  
12 national level from Congress. To get that funding, to  
13 justify why we are doing the project, we have to lay  
14 out a series of nationally significant resources in  
15 the region. So, for example, you are probably well  
16 aware that the study area encompasses 18 counties in  
17 the state of Texas. In those counties, 6.1 million  
18 residents reside. That's more than 24 percent of the  
19 Texas population.

20 We also have within our study area  
21 several deep-draft ports. I have listed those there.  
22 But in addition, we have 450 miles of Gulf  
23 Intracoastal Waterway.

24 Industry is prevalent in our area.  
25 Forty percent of the nation's petrochemical industry



1 resides within the footprint of our study area, and  
2 that provides 45 percent to the national petrochemical  
3 refining capacity.

4                   We also have critical infrastructure.  
5 NASA is in our study area. And here on the Island at  
6 UTMB we have a Level 4 viral lab. Because we are  
7 dually purposed, we also have to point out the  
8 national significant resources that are natural. We  
9 have within our study area one of only six hypersaline  
10 lagoons in the world, the Laguna Madre. We also have  
11 the Padre Island National Seashore and two of the 28  
12 National Estuary Program sites.

13                   We have 12 National Wildlife Refuges.  
14 And up and down the coast, we have habitat that's  
15 significant for nursery fishermen and for commercial  
16 and recreational fishing. This includes oysters,  
17 shrimp, and finfish. We have lots of threatened and  
18 endangered species in our study area and we have  
19 several types of critical ecosystems that we are  
20 focusing on for our study.

21                   Now, I have to kind of explain how the  
22 Corps of Engineers formulates plans so I can lay out  
23 the process that we've been going through over the  
24 last three years. In engineering speak, we have  
25 building blocks that we put together that generate our

1 plans. Features are parts of those buildings blocks.  
2 They are things like levees and marshes and gates.  
3 Actions include things like construction and  
4 restoration. And treatments are things like beach  
5 renourishments and plantings of marshes. And when you  
6 combine those three, features, actions, and  
7 treatments, you get measures. And then measures are  
8 then combined into alternatives, a/k/a plans.

9           We were mandated in 2016 by Congress  
10 not to reinvent the wheel. We understand that there  
11 are several ongoing studies in this region that have  
12 been generating data for the last several decades. We  
13 were mandated to use that information and, if at all  
14 possible, when it was useful. So, I've listed a few  
15 things that we've been tapping into to do an analysis  
16 of not only the baseline or without project conditions  
17 but with the project conditions under the various  
18 plans.

19           We do know and acknowledge that GCCPRD,  
20 that the Rice SSPEED Center, that Texas A & M all have  
21 been formulating barrier plans and we have been  
22 ordered by Congress to take those in and to basically  
23 pull them together, bounce off of those with  
24 enhancements and then formulate our plan. So, what  
25 you are going to see tonight is not the -- is not the

1 coastal spine. We are proposing a coastal barrier  
2 system that incorporates not only the barrier  
3 solution, but ecosystem restoration. When together we  
4 formulate these, we get multiple lines of defense.  
5 That's why it's different. That's why it's bigger.  
6 And that's also why we were holding public meetings up  
7 and down to coast for everyone to engage.

8           We also know that the Army Corps of  
9 Engineers, being in the Army Corps of Engineers, we  
10 have several ongoing studies. We are approaching the  
11 Coastal Texas Study as a system. We know that those  
12 are happening. We know that they're either being  
13 studied or are in engineering and design or being  
14 constructed. We also know that the GLO has a master  
15 plan. And they, too are working on ecosystem  
16 restoration up and down the coast. Restore Act funded  
17 and great deal of work as well. The intent here is  
18 not to step on each other's toes but to work  
19 collaboratively to fill in gaps and then to operate as  
20 a system.

21           We started the process in 2014 with a  
22 series of scoping meetings. There were several other  
23 types of scoping meetings happening before that. But  
24 for this study up and down the coast, we focused on  
25 the Coastal Texas Plan and where we might take it. We

1 used that information with all the data that I just  
2 mentioned to start formulating measures.

3           We broke the system up into manageable  
4 units. Region 1 is the unit that you are living in  
5 now. Region 2, 3, and 4 march down the coast. And we  
6 formulated measures without each of the regions and  
7 used our goals and objectives to screen those down to  
8 a meaningful set of measures that could be combined to  
9 formulate plans that I will show you tonight.

10           In the Corps of Engineers, we have the  
11 three E's. Now, the first one I'm not sure is a real  
12 word. We will have to go into the dictionary and  
13 look. Engineeringly sound is the first criteria that  
14 our plans must meet, environmentally acceptable, and  
15 then economically justified. So, in each condition,  
16 when we formulate a plan, we use these criteria to  
17 compare and contrast the effectiveness of the plans.

18           The reason I am telling you this is  
19 that we use a series of tools to quantify each one of  
20 these criteria. So, for example, if you came in  
21 earlier, you could talk to one of the subject matter  
22 experts in front of the storm modeling poster. We  
23 have formulated six -- we have actually simulated six  
24 never-before-seen storms and run them across the  
25 landscape to determine what levels of flooding we

1 would see. And then we placed the barriers in their  
2 path and we rerun the storms to determine what kind of  
3 effectiveness those barriers have.

4 The storms range from rainfall events  
5 of 10-year intervals to megastorms, 5-plus category  
6 storms that we've never seen before, such as a  
7 10,000-year event. They bring with them ranges and  
8 surge. Some of the heights of surge are 12 to 27  
9 feet.

10 We also use the series of models to  
11 assess what the potential impacts would be of a  
12 barrier system and we assess things like changes in  
13 salinity that we would like to see in the bay, changes  
14 in velocities, changes in sedimentation within the bay  
15 because all of these are important when we are looking  
16 at the environmental acceptability of a plan.

17 I give you all of this information so  
18 that I can caveat and say that we use these details to  
19 screen down the options to two large plans in this  
20 region specifically. The first plan is called  
21 Alternative A. It's called the Coastal Barrier. It  
22 starts at High Island with a 12-to-17-foot levee  
23 system. It goes down across the GIWW. There will  
24 need to be a gate at the GIWW. It would go down to  
25 the Bolivar peninsula all the way down to the crossing

1 at the Galveston inlet at Bolivar Roads.

2 We would need a series of gates to go  
3 across that the Roads pass and then tie it to the  
4 seawall up here on the island. We would enhance the  
5 seawall along the front of the island and propose a  
6 ring barrier on the backside of the island. We would  
7 then tie in at the bottom of the seawall and take that  
8 barrier all the way down to the Luis Pass.

9 Up in the left-hand portion of the map,  
10 you will see a hatched area that's kind of a turquoise  
11 green. If you look on the screen, you might be able  
12 to see turquoise. That is an area where we propose  
13 nonstructural measures. And, of course, that's razing  
14 some buildings and floodproofing of buildings. We  
15 need to deploy gates at the Dickinson Bayou and Clear  
16 Creek inlets or bayou, Clear Creek itself. We would  
17 also need a gate on the back of this island, on  
18 Offatts Bayou.

19 The triangles on the map are pumping  
20 stations. We recognize that when these gates are  
21 closed, there will likely be rainfall occurring.  
22 Every storm brings it. So, we would need pumping  
23 stations to basically draw off the water during the  
24 storms.

25 I want to point out a couple of

1 features that I need to specifically address because  
2 we are standing here in Galveston. The Galveston ring  
3 levee is -- and you will notice this in the report --  
4 is a structural feature and nonstructural feature.  
5 It's a combination and a hybrid. The other thing I  
6 want to point out is, these lines are conceptual and  
7 placeholders. We use the existing GCCPDR alignment to  
8 start this study and compare this plan against other  
9 plans in the region but not on the barrier system just  
10 to begin the project.

11           The next phase of the study is called  
12 optimization. And that's when we realign and we look  
13 at detailed engineering of these features. The other  
14 thing to realize is that these gate systems are -- the  
15 ring levee, for example, and the gates are kept open  
16 most of the time. Big barrier systems around the  
17 world often, on average, are closed approximately six  
18 times a year for operation and maintenance for testing  
19 in advance of storms or for other purposes. And then  
20 they are closed only infrequently.

21           These gates would remain open for the  
22 majority of the time and would only be closed in  
23 anticipation of storms or for operation of maintenance  
24 and testing.

25           If you look at this plan, and then I

1 switch the screen, what you will see is a ring  
2 barrier. This is other plan that we assessed after we  
3 used our screening elements to come down to a choice  
4 for this plan.

5           The ring barrier would start at  
6 San Jacinto and would cross with a gated structure and  
7 a pumping station, would run along the rim of the  
8 Galveston Bay all the way down to the Texas City Dike.  
9 We would have to enhance the Texas City Dike system  
10 because there would no longer be a structure blocking  
11 surge as it moved into the bay. And then we would  
12 have to extend the Texas City Dike system to the west.

13           It would still entail a porous ring  
14 levee system, which, remember, has nonstructural  
15 features with the pumping stations at Offatts Bayou.

16           One of the things that the Corps of  
17 Engineers is required to do once they formulate this  
18 plan is to compare and contrast them for benefits and  
19 costs. In addition, we have to look at the  
20 environment acceptability of each of these plans, the  
21 potential impacts that they will cause, and whether  
22 they are engineeringly sound.

23           We have listed here a series of  
24 criteria or a list of differences amongst Plan A  
25 and D. One of the examples Plan D, the rim solution,



1 does not provide protection to the Houston Ship  
2 Channel. It does not provide protection to the  
3 majority of the Galveston Island, nor does it provide  
4 the protection on the Bolivar peninsula. These types  
5 of things, these types of criteria allowed us to  
6 distinguish a plan and make a selection.

7           In the other regions of the state along  
8 the study area, we have also proposed additional  
9 measures for coastal storm risk management.  
10 Specifically on South Padre Island, they have been  
11 using beneficial use of dredge material to maintain a  
12 berm, beach berm system along the front of the island  
13 since 1988. The problem with that solution is that  
14 it's funding dependent. So, oftentimes, nourishment  
15 is intermittent.

16           What we propose to do is two miles of  
17 beach dune system, 12-1/2 feet high and 100 feet high.  
18 For about the two miles in the yellow boxes, we would  
19 propose to do a cyclical 10-year nourishment of those  
20 two reaches.

21           There is still time and interest in  
22 doing more analysis in the reaches to the north and  
23 south of the two yellow reaches to see if they can be  
24 economically justified or if they could become  
25 something called a locally preferred plan. A locally

1 preferred plan -- I will quit kicking that.

2 A locally preferred plan is where we  
3 are proposing something above and beyond the  
4 economically justified solution. And in that  
5 instance, the cost-share sponsor must shoulder 100  
6 percent of the additional cost.

7 As we mentioned earlier, it's not all  
8 about coastal storm risk management. We are also  
9 proposing ecosystem restoration; in this instance,  
10 160,000 acres of ecosystem restoration up and down the  
11 coast. It includes things like marshes, islands, sea  
12 grass restoration, beach and dune system, and  
13 complexes of all of these including oyster  
14 restoration. So, up and down the coast at nine  
15 different sites, we have proposed a series of  
16 configurations of restoration solutions that would  
17 offer not only ecosystem functionality increasing but  
18 some forms of multiple lines of defense when they are  
19 put in tandem with the coastal barrier solution.

20 So, the Tentatively Selected Plan is a  
21 combination of the Plan A, which is the barrier  
22 solution along the peninsula and along Galveston  
23 Island in combination with the nine ecosystem  
24 restoration sites and the coastal storm risk  
25 management solution along South Padre.

1                   What this gives you here in Region 1 is  
2 55 miles of beach and dune restoration. It gives you  
3 79 miles of bay waters that then protect the marshes  
4 behind them on the GIWW, for example. That gives us  
5 approximately 1200 acres of marsh restoration. But in  
6 the out years as we continually nourish in  
7 anticipation of things like sea level rise and  
8 erosion, we are expecting to restore 27,000 acres of  
9 marsh in your region alone.

10                   Nineteen acres of oyster restoration  
11 are also proposed and over 300 acres of ecosystem  
12 restoration. So, it's fairly significant, the  
13 ecosystem restoration that's being proposed in  
14 addition to the barrier system. And I want to point  
15 that out because people are comparing our plan and our  
16 costs to the Ike Dike, for example, and the coastal  
17 spine. And what you've got to realize is that  
18 40 percent of the cost of the 32 to -- the  
19 twenty-three to \$32 billion, 40 percent of that is  
20 ecosystem restoration that provides multiple lines of  
21 defense well into the future.

22                   And then that would be approximately  
23 8.9 to \$11.9 billion of ecosystem restoration. Plus  
24 our barrier would be 14.2 to \$19.9 billion, which is  
25 well within the ranges of the proposals from the

1 GCCPRD, for example. A small amount 71.6 to \$83.1  
2 million, this time with an "M," would be apportioned  
3 to the South Padre Island Coastal Storm Risk  
4 Management solution.

5           We are required and do acknowledge that  
6 we will be -- the plan does cause some impacts to the  
7 region. And we know that because we can assess what  
8 the line touches as we go down the system. 4500 acres  
9 of impact are anticipated at this point; 365  
10 additional acres at the South Padre site. We do know  
11 that we are proposing to put a gate system across the  
12 Galveston Bay inlet. That system is actually a series  
13 of gates.

14           We will have -- or have proposed a  
15 floating sector gate. It looks like fans when they  
16 close. When they open up, they are 1200 feet wide  
17 across. And then on the left-hand and the right-hand  
18 side of those gates would be an additional 39  
19 environmental vertical liftgates.

20           All of the gates will be in the open  
21 position the majority of the year. When the storms  
22 are coming, those gates will be closed; and then they  
23 will be reopened.

24           The configuration that we have proposed  
25 thus far constricts circulation into the bay by

1 27 percent. We are about to go into an optimizing  
2 phase of this study where we hope to get that number  
3 down a great deal.

4 Right now with the configuration that  
5 we have proposed, we estimate that the mitigation cost  
6 will range between 676 and \$906 million. We can  
7 optimize that and bring down constriction to  
8 15 percent or less. Then we won't have to mitigate as  
9 much. But do remember that there's still 160,000  
10 acres of ecosystem restoration being constructed in  
11 addition to the mitigation that we are going to have  
12 to do.

13 Optimization is a key word here.  
14 That's a Corps word. My mom doesn't know what it  
15 means; so, let me explain. The line is a placeholder.  
16 It is a conceptual construct. It will change over the  
17 next two years. We are open and welcome your feedback  
18 on these lines and on the features that we have  
19 proposed throughout the plan. We will be looking at  
20 things like realignment where the line will be moved.  
21 It could be moved to the front of the island or front  
22 of the peninsula, for example.

23 Construction type is also part of  
24 optimization. Is it a T-wall, which is sort of gray  
25 infrastructure that has base and a wall on top of it

1 so it doesn't wiggle when the storm hits. But we also  
2 can look at dunes. We can look at engineered dunes.  
3 We can look at combinations of the two. We can look  
4 at levees. We can also and intend to look at hybrids  
5 where we put maybe an engineered dune with a beach  
6 field in front or a dune field and beach and a berm.

7                   These are ideas that are still being  
8 worked through. We are interested in what you have in  
9 mind, as well. And now is a perfect opportunity for  
10 you to provide that information to us. We are only  
11 three years in. We still have two-and-a-half years to  
12 go. We do not like to wait until the end to show you  
13 the plan. But we do want to be able to show you  
14 something that you can actually comment on and provide  
15 us feedback on, which leads me to almost my last line.

16                   We are about halfway, a little bit more  
17 than halfway through the study process. When we are  
18 complete, we will be -- when it is complete, we will  
19 produce a report that our chief will sign and send up  
20 to Congress. Congress must authorize and appropriate  
21 funds for us to move into the next phase, which would  
22 be design.

23                   We are estimating that if we receive  
24 the funding, all the funding at the very beginning, it  
25 will take two to five years to complete all the

1 designs, and then another 10 to 15 years to construct  
2 the entire plan. Once we are finished constructing,  
3 we go into maintenance mode. And the maintenance of  
4 the structure will be turned over to cost-sharing  
5 sponsor.

6 Cost-sharing in the Corps of Engineers  
7 speak is different when you're in different phases of  
8 the process. So, right now, the GLO, Texas GLO is our  
9 cost-share sponsor for this study. They are paying  
10 50 percent of \$19.8-million to conduct the study.  
11 When we move into design, we must seek a new  
12 cost-share sponsor. It can, again, be Texas GLO or it  
13 can be a collaboration of groups to go into design and  
14 construction. And this will be dependent on the Texas  
15 Legislature. And they will be making decisions about  
16 this in either the next legislative session or the one  
17 after.

18 The Corps of Engineers receives funding  
19 to design and build in something called Water Resource  
20 Development Acts. In the last few years, they've been  
21 happening approximately every two years. We are set  
22 to receive one in 2020 and one in 2022. We are hoping  
23 to be inserted into the 2022, which means that we  
24 could start construction soon thereafter, design and  
25 construction soon thereafter.

1                   We know that the plan is large and that  
2 the budget is big. The operating budget of the Corps  
3 of Engineers on an annual basis nationwide is  
4 approximately 5 billion. We are asking for  
5 thirty-two. We understand that that's probably not  
6 going to happen in that manner. So, we are looking  
7 out into the future for the long term.

8                   This is a generational infrastructure  
9 to build and a generational infrastructure to  
10 maintain. When we do finish, it will be turned over  
11 to a cost-share sponsor again, which has not been  
12 designated. But we are anticipating a cost of a  
13 hundred to 130 million to operate and maintain into  
14 the future annually.

15                   There is time for you to provide us  
16 input. That's why we are here. We have already  
17 conducted several public meetings down the coast. We  
18 just had another public meeting in the upper coast  
19 last night at Winnie. We have two more planned after  
20 this, one in Bolivar this Saturday, and one next week  
21 in Seabrook.

22                   The key here is that you can come up  
23 today and talk to the mic and give us your comments  
24 and we will record them. We have a court reporter  
25 here to record your comments. You can write them down



1 if you are shy. I used to be shy. So, you can write  
2 them down and place them in the baskets in the back.  
3 But if you want to go on home and cogitate on this a  
4 bit or if you want to look up some things and think  
5 about this some more or talk to your friends in your  
6 community or your elected officials, we welcome that,  
7 as long as you get it to us in time.

8                   You can send it to us through the mail.  
9 The address is here, but I will also show you our Web  
10 site in a minute. You can hit us in our mailbox and  
11 send an e-mail and provide us comments that way. The  
12 key here is, we need your comments by January 9th for  
13 them to be incorporated into the administrative  
14 record. So, there is this deadline. We need you to  
15 think about it and get us your comments as soon as  
16 possible.

17                   I talk fast. I get that. And I'm not  
18 from here. I was born in Mexico, but I've learned to  
19 talk in Texas. We have a Web site that you can go to  
20 see the slides that I'm presenting. They will be  
21 posted next week. All of the posters in the back of  
22 the room are already posted. The video I showed just  
23 a minute ago is on that Web site, and the video that  
24 was portrayed in the back room is different. We will  
25 be posting that as soon as the public meetings are

1 over, as well.

2                   The report itself, all 450 glorious  
3 pages, are up on the Web site as well as the 1200  
4 pages of appendices. There is a 40-page executive  
5 summary that you can read. But in your packet when  
6 you came in is the newsletter. It's a little bit  
7 smaller consumable. In the bottom left-hand corner is  
8 my e-mail address and Tony's e-mail address. Please  
9 feel free to contact us if you have questions.

10                   And with that, I am going to turn the  
11 podium back over to my commander. And we will start  
12 the public comment period.

13                   Thank you.

14                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: At this time, I  
15 would now like to recognize elected officials who wish  
16 to make a statement. First, I would like to call upon  
17 Mayor Jim Yarbrough.

18                   (Applause)

19                   MAYOR YARBROUGH: Thank you, Colonel.  
20 Thank you. We appreciate you having a public hearing  
21 tonight. I wanted to make sure you knew that the City  
22 of Galveston has been on record since the very  
23 beginning stages of the discussions of any type of  
24 concept supporting a coastal spine. And we will give  
25 our written detailed questions and comments before

1 this January 9th deadline. We applaud the Corps. We  
2 think you chose the right framework when you had other  
3 options. Y'all went through the process. We think  
4 this coastal spine is the right framework.

5 We want to thank the Commissioner. And  
6 Tony, please convey our thanks to the General Land  
7 Office stepping up to be the local sponsor, the  
8 non-federal sponsor.

9 We have questions. We have concerns.  
10 The ring levee, we need to understand the necessity  
11 for the ring levee. We know it's a tentatively line  
12 in the sand. There's lots of constellation over  
13 there. We'll work with you on that. We need to work  
14 with you on our ecosystem restoration, making sure  
15 it's effective as well as natural, blend in in what  
16 we're trying to do here in Galveston. And we also  
17 have a concern and have discussions about the levee  
18 being on the landward side of our Highway 87 and 3005.

19 Again, I appreciate the opportunity.

20 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
21 comments, Mayor.

22 Next, I would like to invite Councilman  
23 Robert Michetich to come forward.

24 COUNCILMAN MICHETICH: No comment at  
25 this time.

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you,  
2 Councilman.

3 Next, Mr. Matthew J. Hay, if you're  
4 present, please come forward.

5 MR. HAY: I pass on comments at this  
6 moment.

7 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.  
8 Mr. Roger Rees?

9 MR. REES: Just a couple of quick  
10 points. We, too, are supportive of the system the way  
11 it's set up in the coastal study. I do have a few  
12 concerns about the ring levee and the effect it will  
13 have on the port's operation. I know this is still a  
14 little ways off in making those decisions. But I do  
15 hope that there will be some reconsideration of how  
16 that works. And I think it seems to me to be a little  
17 bit redundant. It seems like that there's other ways  
18 that we can control flood coming from the Galveston  
19 Bay back into, like, what happened in Ike.

20 And I would like to suggest one thing,  
21 is the possibility to extend the gates down past  
22 San Luis Pass because I think some of that water will  
23 come back up through the intracoastal waterway. And  
24 if we do the same type of gate, a smaller gate down  
25 the San Luis Pass, maybe that will help the flood

1 coming from the backside.

2 But we do -- we do support the issues  
3 here today. And I'm hopeful that, you know, there  
4 will be some considerations to the ring levee around  
5 Galveston.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir. I  
7 appreciate your comments.

8 (Applause)

9 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Next, I would like  
10 to invite Mr. Todd Sullivan.

11 MR. SULLIVAN: Colonel, great  
12 presentation, by the way. I'm a huge supporter of our  
13 region. I'm going to echo both what Rodger Rees and  
14 the Mayor said concerning the impacts socially, real  
15 estate values, the ring levee, around the island, just  
16 kind of the social impacts we'll certainly endure by  
17 engaging this levee. I also feel strongly to be part  
18 of your quest interest in Galveston Bay and San Luis  
19 Pass to prevent the influence of water during a storm.

20 I am certainly an engineer, both  
21 environmental and structural. And my comments are  
22 also being in support of making sure the industry in  
23 Galveston for the first time in a long time continue  
24 growing. We don't want to impact it by having  
25 unnecessary barriers to the efficiency of the port.

1 Thank you.

2 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
3 comments.

4 And, finally, I would like to invite  
5 Representative-Elect Mayes Middleton to come forward.

6 MR. MIDDLETON: Thank y'all for holding  
7 the meetings. Just real quick -- this is audience  
8 directed -- how many people are against the levee  
9 running north of 3005, north of 87, and everybody  
10 around Galveston?

11 (A showing of hands)

12 MR. MIDDLETON: Okay. That's a lot.

13 This plan -- look, I'm for a coastal  
14 barrier plan. I'm not for this current configuration.  
15 So, we need to relocate this. So, right now, it runs  
16 north of 3005 on the west end of the island. We have  
17 a ring levee around the east end from about 3rd  
18 Street, Fish Village. Bolivar, we have the levee  
19 running north of 87. We need to relocate that.

20 The original plan that we all thought  
21 was going to be on the end line. That's what we all  
22 thought. And this was, real frankly, a surprise to a  
23 lot of us, a big surprise. I'm very against it. And  
24 this is the purpose of the public comment period. I  
25 hope you-all listen to everybody here tonight because

1 people want to be heard. This is really bad, bad plan  
2 right now, that configuration, for our community. We  
3 need to go back to the original intent of it, which is  
4 a dune line protection plan.

5 Thank you.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you,  
7 Representative-Elect, for your comments.

8 I will now call upon members of the  
9 general public who wish to make a statement. I will  
10 call five names at a time. Please be seated in the  
11 front row in the reserved seats and wait for your turn  
12 to speak. I'd also like to make a reminder that this  
13 is a comment period. We had the question-and-answer  
14 period earlier this evening.

15 I've asked Mr. Stokes to assist me in  
16 keeping time. He will indicate when you have 30  
17 seconds left to speak and when your time has expired.  
18 I ask that you stop speaking after that one minute is  
19 up. When you're called upon, please come forward and  
20 speak into the microphone. Please identify yourself  
21 by your full name and the organization you represent,  
22 if any.

23 I would now like to call upon the first  
24 five individuals. Carol McCracken, Rodney Bulluch,  
25 Frank G. Incabera, Charlotte Sterling, and Jerry

1 Bentley, if you'd please come forward.

2 MALE VOICE: In that order?

3 COL. ZETTERSTROM: You are welcome to  
4 come forward. We will try to keep them in that order.  
5 But we are trying to bring five individuals forward to  
6 make it quicker for the transition.

7 Mr. McCracken, please come forward.

8 MR. McCRACKEN: My comments are really  
9 focused on how to fund this project rather than the  
10 project itself. And I'd like to see our elected  
11 officials, especially our representative, look at some  
12 innovative ways to do this. Maybe protection tanks on  
13 all the businesses that are dependent on the Ship  
14 Channel for the business.

15 That's it. Thank you.

16 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
17 comments.

18 Mr. Rodney Bulluch? Frank G. Incabera?

19 MR. INCABERA: I am a former member of  
20 the Corps of Engineers almost 39 years and I designed  
21 many of the plans that we have for controlling flood  
22 protection. I have a lot of concerns. And I think I  
23 am going to write the City rather than to give you all  
24 of my views.

25 One last thing that I want to mention



1 is personal. When I get up in the morning -- I live  
2 on [REDACTED]. I get in my car. I drive down the  
3 seawall. Believe it or not, the sun ray follows me  
4 all the way to [REDACTED]. Then I turn north. And  
5 it's so impressive to me because I'm a Galvestonian.  
6 I really love that. If you put that wall up there and  
7 turn there the way you can't see the ocean anymore,  
8 that bothers me a whole lot. I know it won't bother  
9 me very much because I'm old. But it's going to  
10 bother a lot of people that want to visit Galveston.  
11 It's a beautiful city that we have here. And we want  
12 to keep it beautiful.

13 Thank you.

14 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
15 comments. Next, Charlotte Sterling.

16 MS. STERLING: I am a resident of  
17 Bolivar peninsula. In recent years, coastal residents  
18 have built structures to federal, state, and local  
19 codes. FEMA, GLO, and the County, which require  
20 flow-through construction at ground level. How can  
21 the Corps and GLO support a plan that creates a surge  
22 on the Gulf side of the barrier that they are not  
23 built to withstand? This is purposeful destruction of  
24 private property which was built to government  
25 standards.

1                   The proposed plan barrier and gates 30  
2 to 40 miles for the Houston and industry will not  
3 prevent a storm surge from reaching these areas. This  
4 plan fails to protect Houston and industry from storm  
5 surge while sacrificing private property on the coast.  
6 For these reasons, I am against Plan A.

7                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
8 comments. If you'd like to return to your original  
9 seats, please.

10                  The next five individuals I would like  
11 to invite to make comments are Donna King, Kyle  
12 Vickison, Terry Carr, Frank Verbenin, and John  
13 McCoullum.

14                  If one of you gentleman would like to  
15 go come forward, please.

16                  MR. VICKISON: My name is Kyle Vickison  
17 and I live on [REDACTED]. That's, like, where the  
18 pump station is going in. I watched a lot of the  
19 things on the levees. I don't see how that can work,  
20 really.

21                  COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
22 comments.

23                  MR. MCCOULLUM: My name is John  
24 McCoullum. I'm a former member of the Corps of  
25 Engineers. I built some levees that did work really

1 well. I would like to support the ring levee and  
2 request that the City of Galveston and Galveston  
3 County both step up and become non-federal cost-share  
4 sponsors. I further request that priority  
5 construction of the ring levee so that pump stations  
6 can alleviate existing and worsening flooding in  
7 Galveston. The amount of water that is in Galveston  
8 Bay would be enough to flood the city with the north  
9 wind just like it did during Ike. So, I think we need  
10 to be careful.

11 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
12 comments, sir.

13 MR. CARR: My name is Terry Carr. I  
14 would like to have you take a close look at the spine  
15 levees on both Bolivar Island and down Galveston  
16 Island in terms of where you might place them and  
17 alternatives that might have less impact than the  
18 proposals that you currently have. I do support the  
19 ring levee. I would like to see the City of Galveston  
20 and the Corps of Engineers coordinate their efforts so  
21 that the flooding that occurs on a regular basis in  
22 Galveston can be alleviated either through separate or  
23 in coordination with your pumping stations.

24 Thank you.

25 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your

1 comments.

2 Next I would like to call for the next  
3 five individuals. David Hirsch, Greg Whittaker, Kelly  
4 Teichman, Maris Pappas, and Mark Zeller.

5 MR. HIRSCH: My name is David Hirsch.  
6 I live [REDACTED]. And  
7 where y'all have the levee placed now, just a line,  
8 during Ike, NOAA said we had 10 to 15 feet of storm  
9 surge. I had 22 inches of water because the water was  
10 able to go cross the island and then go back across  
11 the island with the seawall. If you built this on the  
12 north side of 3005, then we would have 15 feet of  
13 water in the house. So, that's my big issue.

14 The other one is, if you do build it  
15 there, the houses that are on the south side of that,  
16 then the property values go down or they get taken by  
17 eminent domain, a very large part of Galveston's tax  
18 base is going to disappear. And the 5-foot wall, the  
19 seawall will keep tourists here.

20 Thank you.

21 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

22 MR. WHITTAKER: I'm Greg Whittaker. I  
23 live at [REDACTED], which would then be what  
24 would be ring levee system. I have concerns about the  
25 fact that it's going to create this bowl that's going

1 to restrict the flow of water out.

2 We had an event that occurred on  
3 October 24th when Hurricane Willa was passing through  
4 the Houston area. It was a large lightning storm and  
5 a downfall of rain. And I stood in my backyard and I  
6 watched the channel that flows from Offatts Bayou into  
7 Lake Madeline rise more than 2 feet in 20 minutes.  
8 That was waterflow that was going into a deadened  
9 water source and it's directly related to rainfall  
10 coming down. If you put a gate across the Offatts  
11 Bayou end of that up by Teichman Road, it's going to  
12 restrict that water flow and flood houses within the  
13 levee.

14 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
15 comment.

16 MR. ZELLER: My name is Mark Zeller,  
17 owner of a unit at Seascape, which is 135 condominium  
18 unit directly on the beach about 100 yards west of the  
19 seawall, which it's already an engineered beach  
20 dealing with erosion caused by being at the seawall.

21 What I would like to oppose is a  
22 barrier north side of 3005. It would suggest the  
23 coupling of a dune, an engineered dune with a sand  
24 side under it. I sat there and watched -- my unit  
25 overlooks the ocean at Hurricane Ike. And the

1 geotubes that we had under that dune totally protected  
2 our structure and was 100 percent intact at the end of  
3 Hurricane Ike. And I have pictures to show and prove  
4 it.

5                   Additionally, we subsequently had a  
6 core, a clay-core dune. And the water cut through  
7 that like a hot knife through butter. So, I would  
8 urge that type of reinforced structure to do both,  
9 ecosystem and storm surge protection.

10                   Thank you.

11                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

12                   MR. PAPPAS: I live on [REDACTED].  
13 I just want to get down that --

14                   THE REPORTER: I'm sorry. I can't hear  
15 you.

16                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Speak up, please.

17                   MR. PAPPAS: I'm sorry. Thank you,  
18 sir.

19                   I just want to get on the record, we  
20 are opposed to the Teichman Road ring barrier there.  
21 If it were the case to be economical to buy out the  
22 properties, where a levee pump might go that would be  
23 on our property, if it were the case, it could be  
24 moved 200 yards to the east of the Texas A & M  
25 property. That might be more efficient.

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
2 comments.

3 MS. TEICHMAN: I'm Kelly Teichman. I  
4 would like to thank y'all for holding the meeting  
5 tonight. I agree with your project. I do believe  
6 that it could be modified to integrate economic,  
7 environmental, and social factors for the Texas coast.  
8 And I urge you to consider any suggestions to these  
9 modifications to your temporary plan. And, obviously,  
10 I am against the ring levee as well as some of the  
11 others.

12 Thank you.

13 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
14 comments.

15 Before I call up the next five  
16 individuals, I also want to clarify to the public, if  
17 you made comments, you are still allowed to make  
18 written comments tonight or submit comments by e-mail  
19 or mail, as well. So, the oral comments that you make  
20 do not prevent you from making any further comments  
21 through those other three efforts. Thank you.

22 Next, I would like to call for Lori  
23 Batias, Ron Gustafson, William and Margaret Dannemyer,  
24 and Shane Bonnot.

25 MS. BATIAS: My name is Lori Batias,

1 and I am here for Crystal Beach. I just want to note  
2 that what you have said is, this is not the final plan  
3 and that there is still various details of the study  
4 to be worked out and then a recommendation will be  
5 made to Congress. Why is the public only able to  
6 provide input in advance of the completed study?  
7 There's too many unknowns for us to understand how the  
8 project will actually impact all of us.

9 Because it impacts all of us  
10 economically and environmentally, it's our future and  
11 we feel that we should be able to have a voice in what  
12 plans will be presented for consideration.

13 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
14 comment.

15 MR. GUSTAFSON. I am Ron Gustafson  
16 from [REDACTED], which is just west of  
17 Jamaica Beach, the City of Jamaica Beach. I'm  
18 concerned about the houses, all the houses on the  
19 seaward side of the dike, which is the biggest  
20 percentage of all the west end. And mostly I am  
21 concerned about, when you get west of Jamaica Beach,  
22 where my property is, it doesn't involve 3005. It  
23 goes about six, 700 feet north of 3005 and take a  
24 bunch of other land including Indian Beach and a lot  
25 of the other developments out there. So, I'm not even



1 sure why it goes through there. It puts more property  
2 at risk.

3 That's all.

4 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
5 comments.

6 MR. BONNOT. I am Shane Bonnot with the  
7 Coastal Conservation Association of Texas, Marine  
8 Nonprofit Group here. There's about 60,000  
9 recreational members in our state. I will go back to  
10 the comments said previously. I will say it's  
11 difficult to give meaningful comment with regards to  
12 fisheries impact if we don't have the full plan. The  
13 plan is lacking in detail with regards to the  
14 fisheries impacts.

15 We are worried about when the gate --  
16 the gate system across Bolivar Road and what that  
17 could mean for larvae transport of red drum and  
18 southern flounder larvae, increased sedimentation on  
19 our oyster reefs and seagrass beds and increased  
20 residence of fresh water in the upper regions of the  
21 bay and what that can do to existing oyster reefs and  
22 fishery.

23 As the plan is finalized, we would like  
24 another opportunity to look at it and give input and  
25 give some meaningful comment.

1 Thank you.

2 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
3 comment.

4 Next, I would like to invite Marty  
5 Baker, Tom Devane, Jonathan Gerber, Brian Kuhn, and  
6 Richard White. Please come forward.

7 MR. BAKER: My name is Marty Baker.  
8 And I have been a resident of West Galveston Island  
9 for 45 years. I would like to speak strongly against  
10 the west end spine and where it's located on 3005.  
11 The way to solve the problem is with the beach side  
12 and an engineered beach and dunes. We had a mile and  
13 half of geotubes that worked for approximately a few  
14 years. What's going on now with geotubes is probably  
15 in the design and you could improve it.

16 I do commend you very much on your  
17 Plan D. I was going to suggest going north of the  
18 intracoastal and tying into the Texas City Dike. I  
19 think you beat me to it. I think this morning that  
20 Bill Earle commented on those things. I will leave  
21 you with that.

22 I think there is a lot of hard feelings  
23 about a fixed structure on the West Galveston Island.  
24 The slosh that would happen with a Cat 2 or Cat 3  
25 storm would sit there and bounce off that and bounce

1 back. Where we may have 4 feet of water we are going  
2 to have double that and we are going to get eroded on  
3 our own backwash.

4 Thank you very much. Thank you for being  
5 here.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

7 MR. KUHN: I am Brian Kuhn. I am a  
8 resident of Galveston. Restricting water flow up to  
9 27 percent between Galveston Bay and the Gulf of  
10 Mexico will have undetermined consequences on our  
11 ecosystem. This ecosystem is one of our greatest  
12 resources, and we should not create a risk. So, on  
13 behalf of the shrimps, crabs, and the larvae, I am  
14 strongly opposed to the gate system.

15 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
16 comment.

17 MR. GERBER: Good evening. Thank you  
18 for being here. My family and I built in Surfside for  
19 its natural wonder. We can support soft structures  
20 and ecosystem restoration but we cannot support your  
21 Plan A. What does an Ike dike look like during  
22 Harvey? A dam. Your plan will be ecologically  
23 devastating. Not acceptable.

24 It's not fiscally responsible to have a  
25 federal government bailout of risk development,

1 picking winners and loser. Follets Island and  
2 Surfside are likely casualties. I have seen Army  
3 Corps projects fail and have no faith that you can  
4 turn the tides or stop Mother Nature.

5 Please reconsider. Have a good  
6 evening.

7 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

8 MR. DEVANE: My name is Tom Devane. I  
9 live on [REDACTED]. I just mainly want to speak in  
10 favor of having more forums and more open continuation  
11 of the process of hearing the folks who are current  
12 custodians and current caretakers for daily and small  
13 and large, you know, activities. For folks who live  
14 here, the most impacted folks, I think the impression  
15 could be taken for the project that it's something  
16 more along the lines of something for the benefit of  
17 many at the expense of a few. I would submit that  
18 this is a scrappy few with along with the issue of  
19 being very influential. And I think in the interest  
20 of the project being less something along the lines of  
21 utility, you should not ignore the input of those most  
22 impacted and keep an open forum and not let January  
23 the 9th be a cutoff for input.

24 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
25 comments.

1 MR. WHITE: Richard White. [REDACTED]  
2 [REDACTED], Texas which is just  
3 across the Bay. I am for this project. It needs  
4 improvements. But I am concerned if you are going to  
5 leave San Luis Pass open with the depth of the water,  
6 the length of the surge, how long is it going to be  
7 here? How deep is it going to be? We will have  
8 flooding. And is there going to be any mitigation  
9 because of that flooding? I think it would be better  
10 if you close off San Luis Pass.

11 Thank you.

12 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
13 comments, sir.

14 Next, I would like to invite the next  
15 five individuals. Alice Wolford, Ross Novelly,  
16 Junior, Mona Goodson, Steve Hodgson, and Dick Tyson.

17 Seeing those individuals not coming  
18 forward, I will call the next five individuals. Jay  
19 Paul Abadie, Bruce Reinhardt, Ruth T. Yoast, Peter  
20 Sauschy, and Jeffrey Starling.

21 MR. ABADIE: I'm Paul Abadie. I've been  
22 a resident on the west end for 25 years, a business  
23 owner here. In fact, back in '83, I worked with  
24 hydrology and hydraulics with the Corps just for a  
25 short stint. And I understand that water seeks its

1 own level. And like one comment, if we close off --  
2 if we leave San Luis Pass open, then what's it going  
3 to do? It's going to flood us out. This proposed  
4 plan is now only Stewart Road that would evacuate.

5 I'm not for any structure on the west  
6 end, such as you are proposing, possibly, the ring  
7 dike that we talked about. But we take that  
8 responsibility when we build on the sand bar and we  
9 know what can happen, and seawalls, as we see the  
10 road, beaches and, you know, that's just not going to  
11 work.

12 So, with some kind of structure, if  
13 we're trying to protect the business interests and up  
14 the Ship Channel, then put the wall up there and let  
15 the island fend for itself.

16 Thank you.

17 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
18 comment.

19 MR. REINHARDT: Hi. I'm Bruce  
20 Reinhardt. I'm a developer on the west end. I think  
21 that the coastal spine is the right solution. I think  
22 the location needs to be improved. I was fortunate  
23 enough to go with Texas A & M to the Netherlands and  
24 see what their natural fortified dune systems look  
25 like. I think that would be a great attraction for

1 Galveston. And it would give us the same protection  
2 versus north 3005.

3 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
4 comment.

5 MR. STARLING: Hi. Good evening. I am  
6 Jeff Starling, and I am a full-time resident of the  
7 west end. My concern tonight is about the flood wall  
8 that's been proposed for the west end. I spoke with  
9 several members of the Corps earlier tonight and they  
10 said, hey, the placement is not certain. But it's  
11 been widely reported in the media that it's going to  
12 be north of F.M. 3005.

13 I'm concerned about that. And I think  
14 that -- I think that building a great wall down the  
15 middle of the west end is a bad idea. I think it  
16 would have a negative impact on the social fabric, the  
17 mobility, the property values, and wildlife and  
18 endangered species. And I would urge the project team  
19 to keep storm protection on the beach and fortify or  
20 re-engineer the existing dune system.

21 Thank you.

22 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

23 Next, I would like to call upon Scott  
24 Jones, Rhonda and Greg Hirsch, Martha Wilson  
25 Rappaport, Kathy Tyrnine and Jeff Sineshire.

1                   MR. JONES: Good evening. I'm Scott  
2 Jones. I am the Director of Advocacy for the  
3 Galveston Bay Foundation. I appreciate the  
4 opportunity to provide brief comments tonight. The  
5 foundation will be writing full written comments.

6                   GBF is very concerned about the effects  
7 of the gate structures on the bay's ecology,  
8 especially its fisheries, both recreational and  
9 commercial. After review of the draft of the  
10 environmental impact statement, I do not believe it  
11 meets National Environmental Policy Act requirements,  
12 specifically Title 40 of the Code of Federal  
13 Regulations, Part 1502.1 concerning purpose, and Part  
14 1502.16 concerning environmental consequences.

15                   While the Corps has provided discussion  
16 of the impacts that ties berms and circulation, there  
17 is no specificity as the impacts to species, including  
18 valuable fishery, crab, and oysters. Critically, a  
19 discussion of the movement of fishery and crabs, both  
20 golden and funnel forms in and out of a gate structure  
21 is likely.

22                   Given these deficiencies and the fact  
23 that the environmental gates may take various forms,  
24 as we saw in the presentation earlier tonight, we  
25 believe the Corps should be required to prepare a



1 supplemental environmental impact statement and then  
2 allow the public to comment once again.

3 Thank you.

4 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
5 comment.

6 MS. HIRSCH: Good evening. Rhonda and  
7 Greg Hirsch. And I am a resident of Galveston Island.  
8 The first thing, I have to applaud you for this crowd.  
9 You didn't bring cookies. Inside joke.

10 Anyways, I do applaud the efforts that  
11 the State and the Corps of Engineers has put into this  
12 project. Gate system and the protection of our  
13 coastal ecosystem as well as the energy coast is very  
14 important to this day in Texas and into the nation. I  
15 believe that, as we're looking for funding for this  
16 and non-federal sponsors, we should go up the Ship  
17 Channel and look at the industry that we're protecting  
18 and think about some private money to help fortify a  
19 budget for this project.

20 I also have a concern that Galveston  
21 Island is such a unique microcosm. We're rowdy and  
22 we're historic and we're eclectic. But it's such a  
23 unique community. And I think the levee system is a  
24 very hard strong structure for something that is so  
25 precious. And I think we need to look at fortifying

1 our dunes, looking at strong beaches and dune systems  
2 and continuing that for the length of the project  
3 along the coast itself.

4 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

5 MR. SINESHIRE: My name is Jeff  
6 Sineshire. I live in [REDACTED]. I am fourth  
7 generation BOI. I'm speaking today as a private  
8 citizen rather than for the organization I share, the  
9 Surfrider Foundation of Galveston Chapter. This seems  
10 the proper forum to shed light on what I consider to  
11 be advanced to investigate needed changes to the  
12 democracy.

13 Public comment periods now seem to  
14 allow citizens to remark on how to regulate federal  
15 elections but not to question or have involvement in  
16 such activities. Public participation in this respect  
17 simply offers citizens the opportunity to react to  
18 plans, decisions and technologies already in the  
19 making rather than perfect them in the first place.

20 NEPA does not even prohibit agencies  
21 from making decisions that may be for our public  
22 concern. Final decisions around the proposed project  
23 could lawfully go against the public input obtained  
24 throughout NAIS public comment period.

25 Our public comment process should be a

1 model to the world, a government/public partnership  
2 rather than a current one-way system. More authentic  
3 two-way delivery participation and open dialogue, this  
4 will minimize contention and maximize positive  
5 outcomes.

6                   Thanks for your dedication. God bless  
7 us all.

8                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
9 comments.

10                   Next I would like to invite J.J.  
11 Kitterlan, Jo Lee Hughes, Robert Madison, Susan  
12 Fennerhal and Jordan Macha.

13                   MS. HUGHES: I'm Jo Lee Hughes. I live  
14 on the island. I heard the Corps said about there's  
15 different ways to do the barrier. I think your best  
16 bet is going to be with the beachside dunes and --

17                   THE REPORTER: I'm sorry. Will you  
18 speak up?

19                   MS. HUGHES: -- and the houses that we  
20 have that are already on the beach side as opposed to  
21 north 3005.

22                   I asked the question about the pump  
23 system and where that water goes. And I was told that  
24 goes to the bay. I think that you probably need to  
25 figure out some ways to make it go back out to a ocean

1 or go both ways depending on what we need. And more  
2 water is likely to flood areas into the beach that are  
3 not in the levee system. And if it goes over the  
4 levee, then they are not going to work. So, that's  
5 all I have.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
7 comments.

8 MR. KITTERLAN: I am J.J. Kitterlan. I  
9 live on the west end.

10 THE REPORTER: Excuse me. Can you  
11 please speak up?

12 MR. KITTERLAN: I am J.J. Kitterlan.  
13 My concern is about the moments or the construction  
14 period. What are we going to do to evacuate during  
15 all this construction period? Is there any plan to  
16 facilitate evacuation if a storm comes?

17 And then my other concern is: Who is  
18 going to bear the burden during the maintenance  
19 portion? Is it going to be everybody in Texas or just  
20 the coastal residents?

21 Thank you.

22 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

23 MS. FENNERHAL: I am Susan Fennerhal.  
24 I live in Galveston. I am not on the west end. Most  
25 of your people are on the west end. But I want to

1 talk about the benefit cost ratio, which is really  
2 awful.

3                   And it needs to be broken down into  
4 seconds for the benefit cost ratio. I haven't been  
5 able to reconcile Tables 4.26 and 5.1. But it's clear  
6 from Table 3.6 that the City of Galveston's Corps  
7 accounts for 50 percent of the benefit but it does not  
8 account for 50 percent of the cost. And if the ring  
9 levee needs to be separated out in the benefit cost  
10 ratio so that we can see how much benefit is derived  
11 from the gate and how much is derived from the west  
12 end and Bolivar levees and how much is derived from  
13 just a ring levee around Galveston, from the looks of  
14 it, the ring levee around Galveston survives the  
15 benefit cost analysis but the rest of the project does  
16 not. And we are spending more money to protect less  
17 and we're just throwing away tax dollars that way.

18                   So, you need to be better and more  
19 explicit with your benefit cost ratio. You need to  
20 say that in the executive summary that there is real  
21 problems with the benefit cost ratio of this project.

22                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
23 comment.

24                   Next, I would like to call forward  
25 Anthony Brown -- sorry. Go ahead.

1 MS. MACHA: Thank you.

2 My name is Jordan Macha. I'm the  
3 Executive Director of Bayou City Waterkeeper. Thank  
4 you tonight for hosting and to the offices that are  
5 here tonight.

6 First and foremost, we are very  
7 concerned at the lack of specificity and comprehensive  
8 analysis on the environmental community impacts in the  
9 draft report DIS related to the coastal barrier  
10 alternative. For years prior to the release of this  
11 plan, Bayou City Waterkeeper and others have urged the  
12 Corps to provide these details. And to our  
13 disappointment, the draft DIS is woefully lacking.  
14 Additionally, in conversations with the Corps, the  
15 beach alignment would require sand that we just don't  
16 have. And, so, to us, that means the beach alignment  
17 would mean a seawall.

18 For the public to provide meaningful  
19 comments on the DIS, the Corps must identify the  
20 proposed placement and total design for the coastal  
21 barrier levees and Bolivar Road surge gates, as well  
22 as a complete and comprehensive environmental review  
23 and analysis for public review and comment before  
24 finalization.

25 It's not acceptable to take these

1 comments tonight to finish the other 90 percent of the  
2 design and issue a final plan of DIS without full  
3 public comment on a detailed comprehensive plan. We  
4 deserve more than a line on a map when we have so much  
5 to lose in the name of our protection.

6 Thank you.

7 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
8 comment.

9 MR. BROWN: Hello. Thank you. My name  
10 is Anthony Brown. I live on the island. I serve on  
11 the Galveston ISD board of trustees that serves not  
12 only Galveston, but also the children on Bolivar  
13 peninsula. In my day job, I'm legal counsel to the  
14 Port, local business, and property owners.

15 I appreciate the work. I think the  
16 coastal levee spine system is wonderful. I appreciate  
17 Ms. Burks-Copes' comment that the line as drawn is  
18 conceptual and not final. That causes a lot of  
19 concern because there's approximately 1800 properties  
20 that will need to be condemned through eminent domain  
21 to build the various levees as currently shown on the  
22 line. And over 14,000 parcels will be left  
23 unprotected.

24 When the seawall was built 100 years  
25 ago, it was unthinkable that it would not protect

1 everybody. And I think with some good engineering and  
2 study, you can put it on the dune line and protect  
3 everyone and do it in ways that will help everyone.

4 And for the record, Representative  
5 Middleton asked his question, a vast majority of hands  
6 went up in response to agreement.

7 Thank you.

8 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.

9 Next, I would like to invite Leonard  
10 Waterworth, Kristen Vale, James Buss, Herbert Turner  
11 and Dorothy Hogg.

12 MR. WATERWORTH: Are you ready for me  
13 to start.

14 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Yes, sir.

15 MR. WATERWORTH: Hi. I'm Leonard  
16 Waterworth. I'm from Texas A & M Galveston. I'm here  
17 with Dr. Merrell, the concept developer of Ike Dike 10  
18 years ago.

19 The Corps of Engineers are doing a good  
20 job. This is a really tough process, appreciated.  
21 But Dr. Merrell has gone through every page. He's got  
22 nine separate comments from placement of the barrier  
23 to the dune line, leaving nobody in front of the  
24 barrier, a gate at San Luis Pass. Maybe that helps  
25 alleviate some of the levee ring wall and active



1 management of the gates. All of these things are  
2 going to be provided to you.

3 We're also going to put it --  
4 Dr. Merrell is going to put it in editorials starting  
5 today and all nine points in editorials for the public  
6 to see.

7 So, thank you very much. You are doing  
8 a good job.

9 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

10 MS. VALE: Hello. My name is Kristen  
11 Vale with the American Bird Conservancy. I am sharing  
12 a similar sentiment, as others here, that there needs  
13 to be another public comment period once the barrier  
14 design is complete. And it needs to be a requirement  
15 under the NEPA process. It is not fair nor possible  
16 for the public to provide comments on a design that is  
17 not even fully designed. And I have a feeling the  
18 majority of the public is not aware there is no second  
19 public comment scheduled once the design is finalized.

20 And the layout of the barrier can have  
21 significant impacts to the ecosystem and the economy.

22 And that's it for now. I will provide  
23 more later.

24 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

25 MR. TURNER: Good evening. My name is

1 Herbert Turner. I am a resident of the east end of  
2 Galveston Island, in connection with the university,  
3 which saw quite a bit of devastation from Hurricane  
4 Ike, particularly the UTMB area, and it crippled our  
5 capacity for medical treatment.

6 I believe that a -- when I first came  
7 -- when I first started listening to this, I didn't  
8 realize how complex all this is. There is no one  
9 side. But I do believe, perhaps, you know, a gate  
10 system might prevent the kind of storm surge that  
11 impacted not only -- not only the east end, UTMB, but  
12 a significant amount -- a significant number of  
13 citizens of Galveston Island. I guess it's going to  
14 require a lot of more study. So, I just hope that  
15 transpires and you give more opportunity for people to  
16 comment.

17 Thank you very much.

18 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
19 comment.

20 MS. HOGG: I am Dorothy Hogg. I live  
21 on the island. This building project addresses only  
22 storm surge as is clearly stated on Page 11. Storm  
23 surge is only one of two sources of storm water  
24 damage. Rainfall events like Hurricane Harvey are  
25 neither addressed nor mitigated. They were not even

1 considered. See Section 1.0.1.

2 So, even with this project built, another  
3 not uncommon storm with catastrophic rainfall will be  
4 just as damaging, if not more damaging, because of the  
5 disrupted drainage and restricted outfall. So, you're  
6 only addressing one small part of the problem.

7 Harvey 2 will be as bad, if not worse.

8 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
9 comment.

10 I would like to invite Elizabeth Beaton  
11 for comments, please.

12 MS. BEATON: My name is Elizabeth  
13 Beaton, and I live in the core of the City of  
14 Galveston.

15 Please proceed as rapidly as possible  
16 with the ring levee around the City of Galveston. A  
17 well-designed levee can protect 95 percent of the  
18 City's residents, businesses, government buildings,  
19 and property values. Don't wait to build the levee  
20 until the coastal spine is constructed. Time is of  
21 the essence to protect Galveston, and the levee can be  
22 a standalone project that can be constructed much more  
23 rapidly and for significantly less cost than the  
24 spine.

25 Yes, the details of the location will

1 necessarily be controversial. But those can and must  
2 be resolved so that the city is protected before  
3 another disaster.

4 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
5 comments.

6 That concludes the individuals that  
7 identified themselves that wish to make oral comments.  
8 Are there other individuals at this time that would  
9 like to come forward and make comments as well?

10 MR. MOHN: My name is Jerry Mohn, and  
11 I live on West Galveston Island. And I'm president of  
12 the West Galveston Island Property Owner's  
13 Association. It's about 40 property owner's  
14 association on West Galveston Island.

15 We are not very supportive of a coastal  
16 barrier on F.M. 3005 either north or on the highway.  
17 The West End represents about 50 percent of the tax  
18 base of the City of Galveston. About 70 percent of  
19 the homes are south of F.M. 3005. Having a barrier on  
20 F.M. 3005 will certainly decrease the property values  
21 and increase our insurance costs.

22 We have been supportive of  
23 Dr. Merrell's Ike Dike system since its inception in  
24 2008 right after Ike. He has made presentations. I  
25 have made a lot of presentations on Ike Dike. So, we

1 are very supportive of the fortified dune system on  
2 the beach.

3 Thank you very much.

4 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
5 comments.

6 MR. FRENCH: Good evening. My name is  
7 Brian French. I'm a Galveston Island resident. I am  
8 speaking for myself. And I want to thank all of my  
9 neighbors for showing up for this and for actually  
10 caring about their community, and thanks to the Corps.

11 I know we need a plan, but I don't  
12 think it's this one. A couple reasons: First,  
13 environmental justice issues aren't really adequately  
14 addressed in this plan, particularly for the  
15 low-income communities along the west bay of  
16 Galveston. You're asking us to make a decision as to  
17 make comments on something that's only 10 percent  
18 done. I don't think anybody in this room would be  
19 content making a decision for long term like this with  
20 these consequences with only 10 percent of the  
21 information.

22 Last, I would ask the Corps or remind  
23 the Corps that this isn't a line in the sand. This is  
24 where people live. This is our community. And here,  
25 when you look at this, either you're outside, you're

1 inside, you're underneath this thing. These are our  
2 homes. This is where we live. If you would have been  
3 on Jamaica Beach last night and seen my neighbors and  
4 seen the looks on their faces when they realized that  
5 maybe their community is going to be gutted and  
6 decimated by this. Be aware how sensitive we need to  
7 be.

8 Thank you.

9 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
10 comments.

11 MS. JACKSON: Good evening. My name is  
12 Courtney Jackson. And I'm a proud Galveston resident  
13 and part of Galveston Corps, lost our home in  
14 Hurricane Ike, and was -- have been a part of  
15 restoration for Galveston.

16 And one of the things that I wanted to  
17 say was, first of all, thank you. I know it's hard  
18 work to bring all this together. I wanted to say  
19 thank you for working through the conceptualization.  
20 But one of the things that are so important for us,  
21 too, on Galveston is the ecosystem. I was very  
22 pleased to see that you looked at that as a whole and  
23 that one of the things that, when we look at it, is  
24 that we're going to have to consider for the whole  
25 island. So, there will be needs for compartmental

1 things and we have to look at not just the spine and  
2 not just the others, but perhaps that.

3 And to let you know that the bay side  
4 needs a lot, because during Hurricane Ike, that's what  
5 we lost. It came out through the bay side and  
6 devastated so much. And I live just right back here,  
7 behind here. And we're up high. We are considered  
8 the high part of the island. And we had 4 feet of  
9 water because it came in the back and knocked down the  
10 gates and all that.

11 Plus, also to consider this, is we get  
12 hurricane tornados that come in here. So, we have to  
13 consider that when we think of the storm surge.

14 Thank you.

15 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
16 comment.

17 MR. MORGAN: Hi. My name is Wendy  
18 Morgan. I am a resident on the island.

19 Several people have said they're not  
20 happy with the idea that we can't make further  
21 comment. And I would like to ask you directly to  
22 please have a public meeting after you have  
23 incorporated all of our comments so that we can hear  
24 how you heard us. I think that we are all owed that.  
25 I think I've seen that in a lot of cities where you

1 have a project, you go to the first meeting, you see  
2 the plans, you make your comments on those plans, and  
3 then you have another meeting showing you how you  
4 incorporated that. So, I think our citizens deserve  
5 that. In fact, we all do.

6 Thanks.

7 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
8 comment.

9 Are there any other individuals that  
10 would like to make a comment?

11 MS. GREGG: Hi. My name is Marcy  
12 Gregg. I am a resident in Jamaica Beach. I will make  
13 it short and sweet.

14 I like to drive the work and watch the  
15 sun come up. I like to drive home from work and watch  
16 the sun to go down. So, I don't want any wall. I  
17 don't want anything to change major. I like it the  
18 way it is. I think they feel the same way. This is  
19 our island. I've lived here for 12 years. I just  
20 bought my first home in my name, and I want it to stay  
21 at a good value, so, property value is a big problem,  
22 and whatever impact on nature, I would like to see a  
23 lot more details in that regard.

24 That's it.

25 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.



1                   Any remaining individuals that would  
2 like to make a comment at this time?

3                   MR. PASS: Hi. My name is William  
4 Pass. We are at Texas A & M University and we are  
5 looking at innovative concepts for the barrier gate  
6 system. And we would like to urge creativity and  
7 doing something that's not already been done before  
8 that we have seen, like in the Netherlands with the  
9 Eastern Scheldt, and coming up with something new to  
10 our unique situation and our unique island.

11                   Thank you.

12                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
13 comment.

14                   MS. WHITTAKER: Hello. I'm Margaret  
15 Whittaker. I am a resident on Galveston island. And  
16 I would like to, I guess, acknowledge and confirm some  
17 other comments about supporting additional time for us  
18 to comment on final plans. And we do need to take  
19 personal responsibility. We have chosen to live on  
20 this island. It's a shifting sands island. We know  
21 that. And permanent structures aren't consistent with  
22 that type of structure of the island and living. So,  
23 we really need to look at habitat restoration and  
24 consider some alternatives.

25                   Thanks.

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
2 comment.

3 MS. HOGG: Okay. I am the one that  
4 said this doesn't fix the Harveys. My last concern  
5 is, if we did get the multi-billion-dollar thing to  
6 build this project and the next Harvey-like storm  
7 comes out we're out many, many more billions of  
8 dollars, if we hold our hands out for more money to  
9 fix this still unresolved issue and although, but "B,"  
10 I have no doubt we'll be told had our chance. We  
11 already got plenty of money. This is no more coming.  
12 And we just get in our boats and run home.

13 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Ma'am, can you  
14 please reidentify yourself?

15 MS. HOGG: I have already talked.

16 COL. ZETTERSTROM: I know you did.  
17 Could you just please reidentify yourself.

18 MS. HOGG: Dorothy Hogg, Galveston  
19 resident, H-o-g-g.

20 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you very much.  
21 Sir?

22 MR. LYNCH: Jerry Lynch. I live on  
23 west beach. And I wonder about the strength of the  
24 wall they're building, the gates. We had a home  
25 behind the 17th grocery store when Hurricane Ike

1 came. It was completely blown away, posts, house  
2 and all. So, I'm wondering -- I wasn't there. How  
3 high was the surge when it went over that building.  
4 And the storms continue to grow stronger. If we  
5 start spending money on a project like this, is  
6 there any amount of money for maintenance and to be  
7 expanded?

8 Thank you.

9 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
10 comment.

11 One last invitation for any remaining  
12 individuals?

13 So, just as reminder, anyone that made  
14 oral comments this evening, I ask you to provide  
15 additional comments, both in writing or e-mail,  
16 through our Web site, comment cards tonight, or by a  
17 formal letter.

18 So, in conclusion, written comment  
19 of the draft integrated feasibility report and  
20 environment impact statement must be received on  
21 or before January 9, 2019, the conclusion of the  
22 75-day comment period that began on 26 October 2018.

23 I would like to thank the Texas General  
24 Land Office for their efforts and assistance in  
25 preparing for and holding this meeting. I thank you

1 for your, in advance, interest all of you have shown  
2 here tonight.

3 The formal meeting is adjourned.

4

5

6

\* \* \* \* \*

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION

I, Jo Ann Kelley, Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Texas, do hereby certify:

That the proceedings had in the foregoing caption was reported before me; that the hearing was then taken before me at the time and place herein set forth; that the testimony and proceedings were reported stenographically by me and were transcribed through computerized transcription by me; that the foregoing is a true record of the testimony and proceedings taken at that time; and that I am not interested in the event of the action.

Witness my hand dated the 16th day of January, 2019.

*Jo Ann Kelley*

-----  
Jo Ann Kelley, CSR, #5116  
Expiration Date: 12/31/19



## **Crystal Beach Public Meeting Transcript**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration  
Feasibility Study Public Meeting  
DECEMBER 15, 2018  
Crystal Beach, Texas

Reported By: Jo Ann Kelley, CSR# 5116

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Good afternoon,  
2 Ladies and Gentlemen. I am pleased to be here today.  
3 I am Colonel Lars Zetterstrom, the commander of the  
4 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District. I  
5 welcome you to this afternoon's public meeting to  
6 review the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration  
7 Feasibility Study.

8 For the record, let me state that this  
9 public meeting was convened at 1:00 p.m. on December  
10 the 15, 2018 at Crenshaw Elementary and Middle School  
11 in Crystal Beach, Texas.

12 Specifically, we are presenting  
13 information and accepting public comments on the draft  
14 integrated feasibility report and environmental impact  
15 statement for this study that was released for public  
16 review on the 26th of October 2018. A court reporter  
17 is here to transcribe these proceedings and all public  
18 comments.

19 The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and  
20 the Texas General Land Office have analyzed coastal  
21 risk reduction solutions that would reduce the risk to  
22 lives and property on the Texas coast. Ten years ago,  
23 the region was -- experienced Hurricane Ike, which  
24 disrupted many lives and resulted in expensive  
25 economic and infrastructure damages. The Texas coast



1 is also subject to ongoing coastal erosion, relative  
2 sea level rise, habitat loss, and water quality  
3 degradation. These coastal hazards are placing the  
4 environmental and economic health of the coast at  
5 risk, which negatively impacts the Texas and national  
6 economy.

7 This, along with storms such as  
8 Hurricane Ike, Dolly, and Rita, emphasize the need for  
9 enhanced resilience of the coast to not only reduce  
10 future damage and loss but to improve our ability to  
11 withstand and recover from future storms.

12 It is important to note that the  
13 Coastal Texas Study recommends a structural measure to  
14 reduce risk along the coast and that these  
15 recommendations support multiple investments and risk  
16 reduction that agencies and businesses are making  
17 along the coast. Coastal Texas is part of a larger  
18 effort of risk reduction action to make the coast more  
19 resilient over time. A cost effective plan has been  
20 identified that we would believe would significantly  
21 reduce the risk of damages from tropical storms and  
22 hurricanes as well as increase the net quality and  
23 quantity of coastal ecosystems.

24 This meeting is being held to describe  
25 the tentatively selected plan, or the TSP, and to

1 receive all of your comments. I hope that all of you  
2 had the opportunity to read the notice of availability  
3 either on the Galveston District's Web site or in the  
4 announcements that were mailed to individuals of  
5 organizations that may have an interest in the  
6 proceedings.

7                   Before we go any further, I would like  
8 to introduce a representative of the Texas General  
9 Land Office, our study's non-federal sponsor, Mr. Tony  
10 Williams, the planning senior director for coastal  
11 resources.

12                   MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Colonel  
13 Zetterstrom.

14                   Thank you everyone for coming out today  
15 to learn more about the Coastal Texas Protection and  
16 Restoration Feasibility Study, also known as the  
17 Coastal Texas Study.

18                   We have several members of the GLO here  
19 that many of you saw when you came in or saw answering  
20 questions. I want to thank them for being here. I  
21 believe some of them are still out answering  
22 questions, so, I'm not going to acknowledge them  
23 specifically.

24                   Addressing issues on the Texas coast,  
25 including storm surge and ecosystem restoration

1 continues to be on Commissioner Bush's top priorities.  
2 You may be asking why is the GLO the non-federal  
3 sponsor. The General Land Office was established to  
4 manage state-owned land, including state-owned  
5 submerged land from mean high tide out to more than 10  
6 miles off shore.

7                   The land office is also the state  
8 agency responsible for implementation of the coastal  
9 management program, protecting our beaches and dunes,  
10 implementation of the Coastal Erosion Plan and  
11 Response Act, oil spill response in state waters. GLO  
12 is also responsible for moving debris from bays and  
13 public beaches after storms. Personally, I spent a  
14 couple hundred hours after Ike removing debris from  
15 the bay behind Bolivar and was very instrumental in  
16 the beach removal, as well. We're also responsible  
17 for certain roles in the disaster recovery.

18                   In 2015, in November, the GLO signed  
19 the Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement with the Corps  
20 of Engineers. This obligated the GLO to funding  
21 approximately half of the million -- of the  
22 20-million-dollar study, much of which is being  
23 accomplished through work in kind. The land office  
24 committed to working with the Corps of Engineers to  
25 develop a plan to increase the resiliency of the Texas

1 coast through an integrated approach that includes  
2 ecosystem restoration and enhancement all along the  
3 coast and storm surge barriers and gates in the upper  
4 Texas coast.

5                   The plan is being presented today and  
6 incorporates habitat restoration and enhancement as  
7 well as gates, levees and flood walls to address  
8 erosion, habitat loss, and storm surge. These  
9 measures work together to increase the overall  
10 resiliency of the Texas coast.

11                   The plan that is proposed in the  
12 Coastal Texas Study was developed to work in concert  
13 with the Texas Coastal Resiliency Master Plan. The  
14 GLO is currently working on the 2019 version of the  
15 master plan which builds on the 2017 version. The  
16 2019 master plan identifies projects that coastal  
17 experts have identified as the one best suited to  
18 address coastal resiliency. The 2019 version also  
19 models future threats to the Texas coast and the  
20 benefits of the identified projects. The plan will be  
21 completed in early 2019 and presented to the Texas  
22 Legislature.

23                   The Coastal Texas Proposed Plan or  
24 Tentatively Selected Plan, as referred to in Corps  
25 documents, was jointly developed by the GLO and the

1 Corps of Engineers. We work with engineering and  
2 environmental firms, consulted with other groups  
3 addressing these issues, including local universities  
4 and international organizations. We consulted  
5 regularly with resource agencies, nonprofit  
6 organizations, and navigational interests.

7                   And as we move into the next phase,  
8 it's important to get feedback from all stakeholders.  
9 We value your input. It's critical at this point in  
10 the study. Please remember the study is only about  
11 halfway done, a little over halfway; and we still have  
12 a lot of details that need to be worked out. Again,  
13 we value your input and look forward to your comments.

14                   Thank you for taking the time to join  
15 us. I turn it back over to Colonel Zetterstrom.

16                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: At this time, I  
17 would like to recognize the public officials or the  
18 representatives who are attending the public meetings  
19 this afternoon. First, I would like to acknowledge  
20 Mr. Jed Webb, who is representing U.S. Congressman  
21 Randy Weber, U.S. House of Representatives District  
22 14. Next, I would like to recognize Representative  
23 James White, Texas House of Representatives for  
24 District 19; Mr. Braden Kennedy, representing Texas  
25 State Senator Brandon Creighton, Texas State Senate

1 District 4; Representative-Elect Mayes Middleton,  
2 Representative-Elect for Texas House of  
3 Representatives District 23.

4 (Applause.)

5 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Commissioner Darrell  
6 A. Apffel, Galveston County Commissioner; Mr. Kenneth  
7 L. Jencks, Galveston Independent School District  
8 Trustee; Kelli Mutlon, Galveston Independent School  
9 District; and finally, Tracie Camp, principal of the  
10 Crenshaw School.

11 (Applause.)

12 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for  
13 allowing your facility to be used for today's public  
14 meeting.

15 And now I will describe the ground  
16 rules and format for this afternoon's meeting. I hope  
17 everyone has completed an attendance card when they  
18 entered the meeting. The attendance cards are used to  
19 provide us your contact information so we can keep you  
20 updated on the status of the study. If you would like  
21 to make your comment orally tonight, please make sure  
22 that you've indicated such for your -- on the blue  
23 attendance card and turn it in to the meeting  
24 facilitators. If you have not done this already,  
25 please do so immediately at the facilitators at the

1 front of the school.

2 Those wishing to make an oral comment  
3 will be given an opportunity to do so after the  
4 presentation. If you prefer not to speak tonight,  
5 excuse me, this afternoon, you may submit your  
6 comments in writing by drop them in the basket  
7 provided or sending them to us by mail or e-mail.

8 Following these opening remarks,  
9 Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes, project manager for the study,  
10 will present an overview of this feasibility study.  
11 After her presentation, I will open the floor for  
12 public comments.

13 Federal and state officials that  
14 requested to make a statement will be recognized  
15 first. Next, representatives from federal and state  
16 resource agencies wish to make a statement will be  
17 called upon. And then I will recognize each  
18 individual from the general public who has indicated  
19 that they wish to make comments.

20 Please keep your remarks to one minute  
21 as we would like for everyone to have an opportunity  
22 to speak. We will need to adjourn this afternoon's  
23 meeting by 5:00 p.m. in order to depart the building  
24 on time as has been requested. Also, we would like to  
25 emphasize that this is not a question-and-answer

1 period. This meeting is to provide everyone an  
2 opportunity to publicly comment on the plan.

3 Please give all speakers the courtesy  
4 of not making any comments during their presentation.  
5 Please turn off all of your cell phones and hold your  
6 applause or reactions so that we can have an orderly  
7 meeting and respect everyone's time. All individuals  
8 here have an equal right to be here.

9 Now I would like to present Dr. Kelly  
10 Burks-Copes, the project manager for this study to  
11 make our presentation.

12 MS. BURKS-COPES: I will try not to  
13 fall down the stairs. I'm a klutz. I'm a klutz.  
14 It's -- you know, it's an action.

15 So, I need to start by -- I need to get  
16 closer to the mic, obviously; and I'm going to kick it  
17 all night long.

18 So, I need to start by kind of  
19 explaining why we're here. And then we'll go through  
20 a series of slides, it's pretty short, 24 slides. And  
21 then we will open it up.

22 Okay. The idea tonight is for us to  
23 provide a status update for the study, to walk through  
24 the National Environmental Policy Act process, and to  
25 describe how the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers planning



1 process interfaces with that process. Then I will  
2 identify the Tentatively Selected Plan and describe  
3 its impacts, its benefits, and its costs. And then  
4 we'll open the floor to receive your comments.

5           As both the speakers before me  
6 mentioned, we're halfway through, only halfway  
7 through. And that's important for y'all to realize.  
8 The report, we actually started in 2015. The report  
9 -- the draft report that you-all are here about was  
10 released on October 26th. The comment period closes  
11 on January 9th of 2019. At that point, we will go  
12 into the second phase of the study, which is  
13 optimization. I'll talk a little bit more about that.  
14 But it means that we will be looking at changing  
15 things like the alignment, changing the types of  
16 materials being used, changing the locations of  
17 different features or the capacities.

18           We are shooting for a report to  
19 Congress in 2021. After that, Congress would have to  
20 authorize and appropriate funds for us to continue  
21 with design and then construction.

22           The study is vast. It's huge. We  
23 understand that. A normal environmental impact  
24 statement period of comment runs 45 days. We  
25 recognized from the very beginning that this was so

1 large that we needed to give you a little more time.  
2 So, we have a 75-day period of review. That means it  
3 starts on October 26th with the release of the report  
4 and it goes through January 9th, as I mentioned.

5           Inviting public comment is a  
6 requirement of the NEPA process. And all comments are  
7 welcome. Negative, positive, it's fine. Okay.  
8 Remember, the more specific you are with your comments  
9 tonight or on your cards or in your e-mails in the  
10 future, the better it is for us to understand the  
11 concerns and issues and to address those.

12           Public and agency input informs our  
13 decision process. And all comments are going to be  
14 fully evaluated and equally valued. Review of comment  
15 of the -- of the -- ensures, basically, that our  
16 decisions are made on the best informed information.

17           You are well aware living here what the  
18 concerns are for the coast. We know that we are faced  
19 with vulnerability to coastal storm surge. We know we  
20 have inland, shoreline erosion, and coastal erosion.  
21 We have a lot of threatened endangered species up and  
22 down the coast and we are losing our natural deltas.  
23 We have disrupted hydrology that is playing into all  
24 of that as well.

25           We were mandated by Congress to look at

1 two things specifically and jointly -- coastal storm  
2 risk management and ecosystem restoration. In doing  
3 so together, we can formulate solutions that provide  
4 multiple lines of defense while enhancing resilience  
5 up and down the coast.

6 In Corps speak, the way that we do this  
7 is by formulating goals and then laying out a series  
8 of objectives that measure the success of achieving  
9 those goals. In this instance, our objectives are  
10 focusing on economic damage reduction, looking for  
11 reducing risk to critical infrastructure but also to  
12 public health and safety, and to increasing resilience  
13 through the enhancement and restoration of coastal  
14 land forms as well as improving hydrologic  
15 connectivity and then improving coastal ecosystems up  
16 and down the coast.

17 Because we are receiving funding from  
18 Congress, we have to provide a justification at the  
19 national level that something should be done in this  
20 region. In this instance, as you are well aware, the  
21 study area encompasses 18 counties in Texas. 6.1  
22 million people reside within that study area, which is  
23 more than 24 percent of the state population. We have  
24 several nationally or ranked deep draft ports, which I  
25 have listed here. But in addition, we have 450 miles

1 of Gulf Coast intrawaterways, GIWW. 40 percent of the  
2 nation's petrochemical industry resides in the study  
3 area and 25 percent of the national petroleum-refining  
4 capacity is experienced or determined inside this  
5 study area.

6 I want to focus on the fact that it's  
7 not just about industry; but it's about the people,  
8 the people that actually work at those plants, the  
9 people that rely on those plants.

10 In addition, we have NASA within our  
11 study area. And in overall Galveston, we have the  
12 UTMB, which has a Level 4 viral laboratory.

13 Remember that we are mandated, dually  
14 mandated to look not only at coastal storm risk  
15 management but also ecosystem restoration. So, we  
16 have to establish national significance for the  
17 natural resources as well. Within this study area, we  
18 have one of six in the world. Hypersaline lagoons,  
19 the Laguna Madre. We have 12 National Wildlife  
20 Refuges. We have the National Seashore of Padre  
21 Island. We have two of the 28 National Estuary  
22 Program sites in the country. We have critical  
23 habitat for threatened and endangered species up and  
24 down the coast and we have the Central Flyway  
25 Migration right through our study area.

1                   Lastly, but sometimes most importantly,  
2 we have nursery habitat for commercial and  
3 recreational fishing. Oyster, shrimp, and finfish are  
4 prolific in this area.

5                   I have to kind of explain how engineers  
6 work and how they speak. In the Corps of Engineers,  
7 we use building blocks to formulate plans. So, we  
8 identify things that are called features, treatments,  
9 and actions. And we combine those to make measures  
10 and then we combine those to make alternatives which  
11 is A/K/A a plan. All right?

12                  Features, for example, are levees or  
13 marshes or gates across the channel. Actions include  
14 restoration or construction or even raisings of  
15 structures. And treatments include nourishments and  
16 plantings.

17                  When we formulate those plans, we then  
18 need to assess their effectiveness. We were mandated  
19 by Congress in 2016 not to reinvent the wheel. We  
20 knew full well that other studies were either ongoing  
21 or complete in this area talking about coastal barrier  
22 systems. And we were directed by Congress to use, if  
23 at all possible, their data and their information and  
24 then bounce off of that so that we didn't waste any  
25 time.

1                   We know that NOAA has a sea level rise  
2 viewer that allows us to look at this area and the  
3 areas up and down the coast with respect to different  
4 scenarios of sea level rise and understanding that we  
5 do not have to justify why it's happening. We are not  
6 interested in that part for this study. We are simply  
7 looking at it and asking what if it were to happen.

8                   We know that the GCCPRD has alignments  
9 that they have been evaluating. So, we have used  
10 those. We know Texas A & M has been proposing things  
11 like the Ike dike and that the SSPEED Center has their  
12 own plan. I want to enforce the fact that this is not  
13 the Ike dike and this is not the SSPEED center H-gap  
14 plan, nor is this the spine. This is the coastal  
15 barrier because we were mandated to look at more than  
16 just a barrier system. We were -- we were mandated to  
17 look at that, plus ecosystem restoration, to provide  
18 multiple lines of defense up and down the coast, not  
19 only in this region.

20                   If U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has  
21 several ongoing studies that are either in feasibility  
22 or in design or construction along the coast and we  
23 are including those in the study in terms of  
24 recognizing synergies, actually things that we can  
25 read together to enhance resilience. We also know, as

1 Tony mentioned, that the Texas GLO has a master plan  
2 for the area. We are trying very hard not to step on  
3 their toes. The idea is not to waste money in the  
4 same place at the same time, to actually fill gaps and  
5 look at doing a resilient host as a system systems.

6 We did do a series of reconnoiters, or  
7 I want to call them scoping meetings in 2014 before we  
8 launched. And we take all of that information  
9 together with the actions and the treatments and we  
10 form our measures and then we actually use the goals  
11 and objectives to screen those and formulate plans.

12 We broke the system up into four  
13 compartments or regions. And then we formulated  
14 measures by region, made combinations, and then used  
15 goals and objectives to screen those down into  
16 manageable features and plans.

17 The Corps of Engineers has three E's  
18 that they look at -- engineeringly sound,  
19 environmentally acceptable, and economically  
20 justified. Every plan must meet these requirements.  
21 We have a series of tools that we use to assess these  
22 particular criteria. For example, we have been  
23 running -- using the engineer research and development  
24 center's laboratory for storm modeling. We have  
25 developed a series of 600 simulated storms that have

1 been run across this area to determine what the  
2 potential no action plan would be. And then we put  
3 barriers in place and ask whether those provide risk  
4 reduction in the face of those storms. The storms  
5 range from a 10-year event, which is just a rainfall  
6 system, to a 10,000-year event, which is a five-plus  
7 Cat 5. Okay.

8           The -- in addition to that, we have  
9 proposed a series of gates to go across the navigation  
10 channel, the inlet in total, and we understand and  
11 recognize that there is a potential for constriction  
12 of flow into the bay. And, so, we have used a series  
13 of advanced hydrologic models to assess sediment  
14 movement in the bay, flow into and out of the bay, and  
15 salinity changes in the bay.

16           All of these tools allow us to compare  
17 and contrast a variety of plans in all of the regions  
18 to meet the goals and objectives to assess and protect  
19 the resilience of the Texas coast.

20           We ended up with approximately five  
21 plans that we took through the -- the analysis and  
22 formulated the benefits and the cost of each of the  
23 plans. We landed down on two specific plans. The  
24 first one is what we call Alternative A, the coastal  
25 barrier system. Starting at High Island, we come



1 across the GIWW with a gate. That's the blue square.  
2 We go down onto Bolivar peninsula, go across the nav  
3 channel with the gate system, tie into the seawall on  
4 Galveston, make a ring barrier around Galveston. And  
5 then starting at the base of the seawall, the  
6 southernmost portion, continue on with the barrier all  
7 the way to San Luis Pass.

8           We are not proposing the closure of the  
9 pass at this point. We do understand that Texas A & M  
10 has been running some analyses for closing off San  
11 Luis. And we are meeting with them in January to take  
12 a look at that information and to incorporate that  
13 into our analysis.

14           In addition to the barrier along the  
15 island and the peninsula, we are also -- we understand  
16 that storms will still make it over the barrier and  
17 they will land inside the Galveston Bay and  
18 wind-driven surge is likely to push up into the  
19 Houston/Galve -- the Houston area. So, we have  
20 proposed a series of nonstructural measures -- in  
21 Corps speak, that's raisings and flood proofing -- to  
22 handle the wind-driven surge that still remains after  
23 the storm's passover. And we have proposed gates and  
24 pumping stations at Dickinson Bayou and Clear Creek.  
25 There are also three pump stations proposed for the

1 backside of Galveston Island and a gate at Offatts  
2 Bayou.

3                   In terms of gates, we are talking about  
4 a series of different types of gates that would only  
5 be closed during the storm and then would be opened  
6 back up afterwards. The pumping systems would be  
7 designed to help and maintain and draw off the water  
8 while those gates are closed. Along the nav channel  
9 and across that inlet, we're proposing two floating  
10 sector gates that look like fans. When they're  
11 closed, they're touching. And during most days, they  
12 would be wide open and on their own islands.

13                   To the left and right side of those  
14 gates would be a series of 39 environmental liftgates.  
15 The sector gates are 1200 feet wide. The  
16 environmental liftgates are 100 feet wide. These  
17 would cause approximately 27 percent constriction of  
18 flow into the bay as estimated with our storm models  
19 and our advanced hydrologic models at this time.

20                   Alternatively, we looked at a solution  
21 along the rim. It would start at San Jacinto and  
22 would cross with the gate and pumping station there.  
23 At this time, it would run along the rim of Galveston  
24 island, across Clear Lake with a gate and a pumping  
25 station again, across Dickinson Bayou at a different

1 location so that we can then tie in to the Texas City  
2 levee. We would enhance and improve the Texas City  
3 levee and then extend it off to the west of the lower  
4 portion.

5                   As you'll note again, a ring levee  
6 would be placed around Galveston Island with the  
7 pumping stations and the closure of Offatts Bayou.  
8 But in this instance, we would not be putting a  
9 barrier on the rest of the Galveston Island or the  
10 peninsula itself.

11                   The way that the Corps of Engineers  
12 assesses and evaluates these plans mandates or  
13 requires that we do a compare and contrast of what  
14 features are different. And, so, in certain  
15 instances, and as you can well imagine, a coastal  
16 barrier would provide protection for the peninsula as  
17 well as Galveston Island all the way down to San Luis  
18 Pass, whereas a ring barrier would not. We know that  
19 a coastal barrier would provide protection to the GIWW  
20 and the Houston Ship Channel, whereas a ring barrier  
21 would not.

22                   So, we do a comparison and contrast of  
23 each of these plans so that we can formulate and  
24 determine what the Tentatively Selected Plan would be.

25                   In addition to Region 1, which is this

1 area, we have also proposed a coastal storm risk  
2 management feature in South Padre. Right now, that  
3 island actually nourishes a beach and dune system, but  
4 it's infrequent based on funding availability. What  
5 we would propose is a more regular nourishment of that  
6 system, every 10 years, for example. And we would  
7 propose 2 miles of the 12-1/2 foot by 100-foot wide  
8 dune in the two regions that are highlighted here.

9           We are receiving additional economic  
10 information from that region. And with that  
11 information, we are looking at extending this coastal  
12 storm risk management feature both north and south.  
13 Even if it turns out that that is not nationally  
14 economically defensible, the locally preferred plan  
15 can still take that into account and extend those  
16 features.

17           Remember, though, that we were funded  
18 and mandated to look at not only coastal storm risk  
19 management but ecosystem restoration. In this  
20 instance, we have formulated 160,000 acres of  
21 restoration up and down the coast.

22           In this area on this peninsula  
23 specifically, we are proposing 45 miles of beach and  
24 dune. We're proposing 36 miles of break waters along  
25 the backside, 664 acres of marsh would be created

1 initially, and another 7,000 acres of marsh would be  
2 renourished into the future; 326 acres of islands  
3 would be formed and 18 acres of oyster reef are  
4 proposed for restoration.

5                   Together with the ecosystem restoration  
6 and Plan A, Alternative A, the coastal barrier, and  
7 the coastal storm risk management measure in South  
8 Padre, we have proposed a Tentatively Selected Plan.  
9 It includes all nine features of ecosystem  
10 restoration, the barrier along the peninsula, the  
11 closure across the inlet that would only be closed  
12 during storms, the ring barrier around Galveston, all  
13 the way down to San Luis Pass, and then the  
14 nonstructural measures and the gates and pump stations  
15 at Dickinson Bayou and Clear Lake, along with the  
16 South Padre Region 3 and 4 beach and dune nourishment  
17 project.

18                   All told, the cost is twenty-three to  
19 \$32 billion, but let me point out that 40 percent of  
20 that cost is ecosystem restoration. 8.9 to  
21 \$11.9 billion for ecosystem restoration, 14.2 to \$19.9  
22 billion for the barrier. That's in the same ballpark  
23 as what the GCCPRD plan is proposing, for example.

24                   The coastal storm risk management  
25 measure of the South Padre Island beach and dune

1 system would run 71.6 to \$83.1 million.

2 We do acknowledge that there are likely  
3 to be direct impacts of a barrier solution. We  
4 understand that 45 -- based on our mapping thus far,  
5 4500 acres would be directly impacted with Plan A and  
6 the South Padre solution would additionally impact  
7 365.8 acres. We do know the constriction to the inlet  
8 is likely to cause indirect impacts, but we are also  
9 creating 160,000 acres of restoration. The impacts,  
10 both indirect and direct, will have to be mitigated or  
11 optimization needs to buy those down. We are  
12 expecting a bill of approximately 676 to \$906 million  
13 for mitigation.

14 Optimization is what's key here. I  
15 want to stress to you that the barrier solution that  
16 we have proposed, the line that you have seen, is a  
17 placeholder. It is conceptual. We are only halfway  
18 through the study, and we are interested in your  
19 feedback and your comment on the alignment of that  
20 feature. We are open to your comments, and we are  
21 open to your suggestions. We know that we are only  
22 halfway through the study. And the next phase of the  
23 study, now that we have selected a barrier along the  
24 coast, we need to go through what we call  
25 optimization. We need to look at the alignment. We

1 need to reconfigure that so that we can maximize  
2 benefits for costs. We also need to look at the size  
3 and the type of barrier that it would be. It very  
4 well could be on the beach, an engineered dune with a  
5 series of dune fields in front and a berm and a beach  
6 in front of that.

7                   It could be different configurations of  
8 that and T-walls, for example, in areas of very high  
9 erosion. We need to work through how to get over that  
10 to the beach, for example, or whether we need to have  
11 openings to be able to access the beach with sliding  
12 gates, as an example.

13                   Okay. We also need to look at the  
14 pumping capacity for each of these pumping stations  
15 and determine how to optimize those and where and when  
16 we need to close off Offatts Bayou, Clear Lake, and  
17 Dickinson Bayou. All of these kinds of activities are  
18 what's to come. That is what we are planning on doing  
19 at the latter half of this study from here on out.  
20 And we are waiting for the comments from the public to  
21 begin that process.

22                   As I mentioned earlier, but I want to  
23 reiterate, we are halfway through. We still have got  
24 a lot of time left to take in your comments and to  
25 incorporate those into our study. Once we are

1 finished with our study, we send a report to Congress  
2 in 2021. The very earliest we can expect Congress to  
3 consider and authorize a design phase would be 2022  
4 under a Water Resources Development Act.

5 We also would need a cost-share sponsor  
6 at that point for design, and we will need a  
7 cost-share sponsor for building and constructing and  
8 anticipating.

9 Design, if we were -- received all of  
10 the money that we need to do the designs would take  
11 two to five years. Congress would have to give that  
12 to us. And then to build, it would take 10 to 15  
13 years if we received all of the funding right off the  
14 bat.

15 Understanding that -- and likening the  
16 study to putting dams on the Mississippi River, it  
17 could take a lot longer depending on the availability  
18 of funds from Congress.

19 At the end of this study of  
20 construction, we turn the project over to the  
21 cost-share sponsor who is then responsible for  
22 operation and maintenance out into the future. We  
23 understand that we're talking about infrastructure  
24 that's generational. It will last more than 100  
25 years. And, so, we're looking at operations and



1 maintenance over that time frame.

2                   We expect that it will cost  
3 approximately, and we have estimated it will cost  
4 approximately 100 to 130 million to maintain the  
5 entire project. That includes the ecosystem  
6 restoration up and down the coast, the barrier itself,  
7 and the South Padre Island barrier.

8                   We have conducted thus far six -- this  
9 is our one, two, three, four, five -- this is our  
10 sixth public meeting. They're all almost blurring  
11 together because it's been so crazy. This is your  
12 opportunity to stand up and give us your comments.  
13 We're not judging. We are open, and we're interested.  
14 Intentionally, we are here and not answering questions  
15 so we can get as much comment as possible.

16                   There is one more meeting. And I want  
17 you to tell all the folks that didn't make it in the  
18 room, because it was so limited in space, that there  
19 is another meeting next week on Tuesday up in Seabrook  
20 that we invite you to.

21                   If you're too shy to stand up -- I  
22 don't get to say this, I have to do this, stand up --  
23 if you don't want to stand up in front of the group,  
24 that's fine. You can submit your comments on the  
25 cards that we gave you. And there's baskets out front

1 that will take those. If you want to take them home  
2 and think about it a little more and then write them  
3 out, I have given you the e-mail address and then the  
4 mailing address that you can send those to. But the  
5 key here is to get these in before January 9th so it  
6 could be part of our administrator of record.

7 I talk fast. I completely admit that.  
8 I have some kind of weird accent compared to y'all.  
9 I'm from some other places. So, there is a Web site  
10 out there. Once we are finished with all of the  
11 public meetings, the slide deck that you just saw, the  
12 videos in the other room, the one that you've been  
13 kind of sitting through as we've been waiting for this  
14 to start, all will be on the Web site. The report  
15 itself is on the Web site, all glorious 450-plus pages  
16 of it, plus 1200 pages of appendices. The newsletter  
17 will be up there. The executive summary will be up  
18 there. And we will start in the future showing a  
19 series of seminars and Webinars that talk through  
20 different aspects of the plan, which is part of our  
21 information for you-all to absorb and to take in and  
22 comment on.

23 So, with that, I think I'm going to  
24 just close and let the Commander come back up and  
25 start the public comment process.

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Okay. I would like  
2 now recognize elective officials or the  
3 representatives who wish to make a statement. First,  
4 I would like to invite Commissioner Darrell A. Apffel,  
5 Galveston County Commissioner.

6 You are welcome to turn to face the  
7 audience or face --

8 MR. APFFEL: Thank you, Colonel  
9 Zetterstrom and Commissioner Bush and the GLO for  
10 coming to Bolivar peninsula and attempting to educate  
11 us and allowing us to give you comments regarding this  
12 barrier system.

13 I am Darrell Apffel, the County  
14 Commissioner here on Precinct 1. My public comments  
15 for the record are as follows: If we are going to  
16 have a true coastal barrier, we want one that benefits  
17 all at the expense of no one. Interestingly, in my  
18 humble opinion, the current alignment runs contrary to  
19 a U.S. Army motto, "Leave no one on the wrong side of  
20 the barrier."

21 Today I understand Land Commissioner  
22 George P. Bush agrees that the barrier must be at the  
23 coastline. I commend him for that. I would warn, if  
24 you place it on the beach to protect from Ike events,  
25 you must look at what effect it will have on the

1 inside in Harvey-type events.

2 Ten days ago, we lost and mourned our  
3 41st President. Mr. Pollock, please tell Commissioner  
4 Bush I want to thank him for the beautiful eulogy that  
5 he gave for his grandfather. He spoke of the family  
6 vacation home on Walter's Point in Kennebunkport,  
7 Maine. And I listened, as I'm sure many of you did  
8 intensely, he spoke of memories made and memories held  
9 there. I just want him to know and the GLO and United  
10 States Army Corps to understand, this is our Walker's  
11 Point in our Kennebunkport.

12 We ask you to thank Commissioner Bush  
13 of your vacation home and the effects this would have  
14 when fighting for us here. I will be asking Galveston  
15 County Commissioners Court, therefore, Galveston  
16 County, to speak --

17 MR. STOKES: Your time is up.

18 MR. APFFEL: Can I -- publicly -- just  
19 two seconds.

20 -- by passing a resolution for the  
21 barrier to leave no one unprotected from either surge  
22 or inland flooding.

23 Last, what I've learned, and most  
24 importantly, is if the United States Corps chooses to  
25 keep the levee at the current alignment, we can ask

1 for our state to do an alternate plan and pay for the  
2 difference. So, we should call on our state officials  
3 to help us with an alternate plan if the U.S. Army  
4 Corps does not do what we want them to do.

5 Thank you-all.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
7 comments, sir.

8 I would ask to remind that -- the  
9 audience that we have a one-minute per individual to  
10 ensure that everyone here wishing to make a comment  
11 has an equal amount of time.

12 I would like to ask Representative  
13 James White, Texas House of Representatives District  
14 19, for comments?

15 MR. WHITE: Thank you, Colonel. And I  
16 will go back to my officer briefing standard, be bold,  
17 be brief, be gone. Thank you for your service. Okay.  
18 And glad to see you got a Ranger badge on. Okay.  
19 Thank you for that.

20 With that, I want to thank the Corps  
21 and the land office and the principal and the school  
22 district for having this meeting and hosting us here.  
23 A lot of folks are probably wondering why I am here.  
24 My district is about an hour and 45 minutes north and  
25 east. But I have a lot of constituents that told me

1 to be here. So, we're complying with that.

2 But specifically, we know what this is  
3 about. A lot of us have asked for some type of  
4 barrier protection. Congress then has asked the Corps  
5 to do this work. And we know the situation you're in.  
6 But you have your three E's, and I have three C's.  
7 Let's make sure that we abide by common sense, that we  
8 are cost effective, and we come up with a plan that  
9 has consensus behind it. And right now, I think we  
10 have got some work on at least two of those.

11 So, thank you so much, very much. And  
12 Merry Christmas.

13 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.

14 Next, I would like to invite Mr. Jed  
15 Webb, representing Congressman Randy Webber, U.S.  
16 House of Representatives, District 14.

17 MR. WEBB: Thank you, Colonel.

18 Yeah. Jed Webb representing  
19 Congressman Webber. He wishes he was here. He's  
20 stuck in D.C., the whole shutdown, border  
21 conversation, working with the President.

22 With that being said, the Congressman  
23 is for common sense. He released a statement. We  
24 will give it to y'all so it's there. But he wants to  
25 protect folks. He's one of us. He's lived his whole

1 life here. He wants to make sure that everybody is  
2 okay.

3                   And with that being said, he is not in  
4 favor of any specified red line or any specifics. But  
5 he does want study and the answers and the questions  
6 that you guys are asking and the comments that are  
7 being made to be answered, because we all deserve a  
8 voice and we all need to have answers on what these  
9 impacts are.

10                   He has major concerns about eminent  
11 domain, taking away people's property, especially if  
12 it's been in families since 1836. Is that what it  
13 was? Been in here for a while. Folks have fought and  
14 lived on the Gulf Coast because it's important to  
15 them.

16                   But just know that the congressman, he  
17 is actively engaged with our federal partners, with  
18 our state partners and with our local partners. But  
19 the most important thing is y'all's voice. So,  
20 please, please, please, stay engaged. This isn't a  
21 one-day conversation. This isn't a one-week  
22 conversation. This is going forward and this is our  
23 livelihood.

24                   Thank you so much and thank you for  
25 being out here.

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

2 Next, I would like to invite Mr.  
3 Kenneth L. Jencks, Galveston Independent School  
4 District Trustee.

5 MR. JENCKS: Thank you for letting me  
6 speak. I'm Ken Jencks. I am a school board member  
7 for Bolivar, East Galveston, and Pelican Island. And  
8 yes, sir, there are students on Pelican Island,  
9 believe it or not.

10 But the whole key is, this affects GISD  
11 in a major way. Whether it's on that side of 87 or  
12 this side, it affects how the water will flow and  
13 things that will happen here. We do not -- it cost  
14 \$11 million to build this school in 2007 when it  
15 opened. So, probably 50 to 60 million, I imagine  
16 right now. We don't have that laying around in the  
17 district, believe it or not. So -- but I am here as a  
18 representative. I believe in the representative form  
19 of government regardless of what I feel it should be.  
20 I will be representing Bolivar.

21 That will be in the talks we have at  
22 the administration building on this issue if we decide  
23 to take a stand. I can always say that I'm going to  
24 make sure it gets brought up. We talk about it.  
25 I am going to listen to each and every person that



1 wants to tell me. " [REDACTED] " is my e-mail or  
2 just go to the Galveston Independent School District  
3 Web site and find my e-mail there. I am open to phone  
4 calls as well.

5 My time is up. But I am here to  
6 represent you regardless of my own opinion because  
7 this is a wonderful place to live.

8 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

9 I will now call upon members of the  
10 general public who wish to make a statement. I will  
11 call five members at a time. Please be seated in the  
12 front row to wait for your turn to speak. After your  
13 comments, if you could please return to your original  
14 seats.

15 As a reminder, if you make oral  
16 comments, you can still make written comments either  
17 on the blue cards this evening or written in mail or  
18 by e-mail. I've asked Mr. Stokes to assist me in  
19 keeping time. He will indicate when you have 30  
20 seconds left to speak and when your time has expired.  
21 I ask that you stop speaking after your one minute has  
22 elapsed.

23 When you're called upon, please come  
24 forward, speak into the microphone, please identify  
25 yourself by your full name and the organization you

1 represent, if any.

2 I would now like to call on the first  
3 five individuals. Brad Mertz, Christyn McCann, Don  
4 and Lisa Juneau and Neil Spiller.

5 THE AUDIENCE: Is it okay if  
6 Representative Middleton gets a chance to speak?

7 COL. ZETTERSTROM: I apologize,  
8 Representative Elect. Your name was not on the  
9 initial sheet for comment.

10 MR. MIDDLETON: Let me just start off  
11 real quick: Raise your hand if you're opposed to the  
12 current levee configuration.

13 (Audience Indicating.)

14 MR. MIDDLETON: Yeah. That's exactly  
15 what I thought. This is a very destructive plan for  
16 Bolivar. We've got 1800 homes and businesses that are  
17 going to be eminent domained and torn down in this  
18 process. And think of all the other houses and  
19 businesses that are not protected where the current  
20 levee is. We have got to change this. We have to.  
21 This can't happen with this current configuration.  
22 So, that's the bottom line. That's all there is to  
23 it.

24 That's all I have got. And I'm glad to  
25 hear from the rest of the people today. I hope they

1 -- I hear the same thing said in Galveston. They have  
2 got to listen to us because this is bad for our  
3 community the way it is right now. And we can't allow  
4 for this current plan to happen like that.

5 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
6 comments.

7 Once again, I would like to invite the  
8 first five individuals forward. Again, they are Brad  
9 Mertz, Christyn McCann, Don and Lisa Juneau and Neil  
10 Spiller.

11 You can start.

12 MR. SPILLER: Good afternoon. My name  
13 is Neil Spiller. I'm co-owner of the RE/MAX office  
14 here in Crystal Beach. And I'm speaking on behalf of  
15 the real estate community here.

16 If the -- the plan that's on the table  
17 right now, if that becomes the recommended plan, I  
18 would like to know what would be the impact on  
19 property values, the tax base of the peninsula, what  
20 would happen to floodplain insurance, and all of the  
21 impacts we will see in our community.

22 I also notice from the executive  
23 summary that there was supposed to be scoping meetings  
24 on the -- on the stakeholders. I'm not aware of  
25 anybody here on the peninsula who was invited to a

1 stakeholder meeting. Also, I would like to know will  
2 they include for divided dunes in the plan? Thank  
3 you.

4 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
5 comments.

6 MS. JUNEAU: I'm Lisa Juneau. This is  
7 my husband Don Juneau. We are property owners here on  
8 the peninsula as well as in Orange County. And our  
9 family owns property in Jefferson County.

10 This plan is not good for any of us,  
11 any of those counties as far as I'm concerned. My  
12 first question would be, though, you know, January 9th  
13 is the deadline for our comments. You know, we're not  
14 unintelligent people; but we don't have sufficient  
15 time to study this plan like we need to. Why have we  
16 not received notification in the past about this?

17 With regards to the refineries, many of  
18 us, maybe even a majority of us, you know, that's  
19 where our livelihoods have come from. That's why  
20 we're able to have homes here. We want to protect  
21 those refineries as well. But this is not the plan to  
22 do that. This is -- this is protecting the refineries  
23 at the expense of thousands of people. And, so, we  
24 feel like there is a better plan for it.

25 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

1 MS. McCANN: My name is Christyn  
2 McCann. I'm a property owner and homeowner on the  
3 peninsula. I find this plan to be concerning in the  
4 fact that many homeowners were lost in the  
5 consideration of what would be done. It seems that  
6 it's being passed under the guise of protecting  
7 wildlife environmental attributes. And while that is  
8 important to consider, I think that it's something  
9 that is just kind of being swept under the rug from  
10 all of the homeowners and citizens of this area. And  
11 that I think that is the biggest concern to me. It  
12 seemed a little secretive of what's been taking place.

13 Thank you.

14 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
15 comments.

16 I would like to call forward the next  
17 five individuals. Charles Osborne, David J. Wukoson  
18 -- excuse me if I mispronounce your name -- Suzy  
19 Chapman, Amery J. Champagne, and Jeanie Turk.

20 MR. OSBORNE: Can I start?

21 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Yes, sir.

22 MR. OSBORNE: I don't know if I need  
23 this or not. I am going to try to make it real quick.

24 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Please identify  
25 yourself.

1                   MR. OSBORNE: I'm Charles Osborne. I  
2 own property here on the Bolivar peninsula. I want to  
3 thank, one, what a challenge for the Corps of  
4 Engineers. I wouldn't want y'all's job on a bet for a  
5 project like this. But I want to thank y'all for  
6 trying to do what you think is the right thing.  
7 Right?

8                   What a unique community that we all  
9 live in. Right? I've been in lots of different  
10 places. I've been in the Marshall Islands. I've been  
11 down below New Orleans. Every place is different.

12                   Thirty seconds already?

13                   All right. So, I want to say, the  
14 levee options are the biggest concern. Right? What's  
15 being posed is the one right down the middle of 87.  
16 But what I hear back here is that that's not the only  
17 option, but that's what we're all being told. If  
18 there's an option to go on the Gulf side, then that's  
19 what we all want. If there's got to be a levee, then  
20 that's where it needs to be. But that's not what we  
21 were told. If we were mistaken, then we were  
22 mistaken; but I don't think so.

23                   I know my time is up.

24                   I'm -- I'm worried about the property  
25 values. What are we going to do in the interim while

1 we are waiting on all this junk to work this thing  
2 out. I bought seven lots. What the heck am I  
3 supposed to do? Wait until 2012?

4 That's all I'm going to say. Thank  
5 you.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

7 MS. CHAPMAN: My name is Suzy Chapman.  
8 I've been here since the Eighties. My family is from  
9 Port Arthur. My 89-year-old dad wanted me to say they  
10 built the seawall in Port Arthur. Hurricane Carla  
11 hit. Groves flooded. Homes were lost. You know,  
12 we've got this barrier talk. The water has got to go  
13 somewhere. We need to be more thoughtful about it.

14 No. 2, the fodder of all of this talk  
15 on the Internet is affecting our home values and it is  
16 affecting our community. We as Realtors are  
17 constantly getting e-mails, calls. You know, folks,  
18 when you're out there on the Internet, you know, be  
19 thoughtful because there's a lot of people that don't  
20 understand it. And we've got years of study to do.

21 Thank you.

22 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
23 comments.

24 MR. CHAMPAGUE: My name is Jim  
25 Champagne. I'm a property owner here on Bolivar. And

1 this is a repeat of a lot of what's been said here,  
2 the same sentiment that most of you have about the  
3 barrier being north of Interstate -- of Highway 87. I  
4 think the focus should be on the beach. The focus  
5 should be on beach nourishment, engineered dunes,  
6 those kinds of things.

7           And I was happy to hear that it was  
8 stated that the proposed barrier north of Highway 87  
9 is not a done deal. I think the focus needs to be  
10 south. If a seawall can protect Galveston, why can't  
11 something like that protect us here.

12           COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
13 comments.

14           MR. WUKOSON: Hello. My name is David  
15 Wukoson. My wife and I have owned property, beach  
16 houses on Bolivar for over 30 years.

17           I'm kind of offended by y'all. Y'all  
18 must think we're stupid. You use the idea of saying  
19 that Harvey is justification. Harvey was a flood  
20 event. If you have 50 inches of rain in Houston, that  
21 water is coming down here to drain. What y'all want  
22 to build is a dam. So, wherever you build a dam,  
23 Bolivar is going to be dead.

24           If you build it on the beach, we'll  
25 have no tourists. People won't come down here to



1 spend money. Everybody who owns a business down here,  
2 sell it now. Anybody who owns a beach house -- we  
3 have three acres on the beach. What are you going to  
4 pay us for our three acres and our house? What are  
5 you going to pay these folks, if you're not on the  
6 beach, who have property inland for their diminution  
7 of value claim? They can't sell their houses. They  
8 can't sell their property.

9 I'm offended also because this is a  
10 done deal. Y'all are hammers, and all you see are  
11 nails. You're going to build this thing because  
12 you're engineers. You have not come down to talk to  
13 us. You have not sought our opinion. You are coming  
14 in here half ass at the 11th hour after you've made up  
15 your mind. It's wrong. This thing should not be  
16 built any place on the peninsula.

17 Thank you.

18 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

19 I would like to invite the next five  
20 individuals.

21 MS. TURK: Wait.

22 COL. ZETTERSTROM: oh, excuse me,  
23 ma'am. I'm sorry.

24 MS. TURK: Hi, everybody. I'm Jeanie  
25 Turk. I have a little bit more positive attitude

1 toward our property values and our homes on Bolivar  
2 peninsula.

3 And this coastal spine project that  
4 affects 40 percent of the United States economy and  
5 six to 8 million people in the Galveston  
6 infrastructure and the Houston infrastructure. And I  
7 am really pleased to tell you-all that I am happy to  
8 be able to have input into this.

9 And I agree totally with Mayes  
10 Middleton that the line in the sand here that we are  
11 starting out with on Highway 87 is absolutely totally  
12 ridiculous. It devastates Bolivar peninsula. And it  
13 definitely should be changed to fortified natural dune  
14 systems that work on the beach side of the Bolivar  
15 peninsula.

16 And thank you.

17 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
18 comments.

19 I would like to invite the next five  
20 individuals for their public comments. James Fincher,  
21 Cathy Fincher, Stewart Hanley, Tad Felton, and Nelva  
22 Maxey.

23 MS. MAXEY: I'm going to pass, Nelva  
24 Maxey.

25 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

1 Sir, you may begin.

2 MR. FINCHER: If this has to be done --  
3 this is my opinion, and I'm old, so, I'm going to read  
4 it.

5 My name is James Fincher. My wife  
6 Cathy and I live in Crystal Beach. I will address the  
7 coastal barrier as the road dike in my proposal and  
8 opinion. As other senior citizens, as my wife and I  
9 that live on Bolivar peninsula have saved, worked  
10 hard, and planned for our retirement, my proposal is a  
11 sand dune -- now, this is if they have that have  
12 something -- my proposal is sand dune dike with a 1200  
13 yard ship lane opening for boating traffic,  
14 overlapping walls for the beach traffic. The beach  
15 dike could be covered with sand. This proposal should  
16 not make a serious impact on wildlife.

17 In my opinion, this is a win-win for  
18 people, cost, maintenance, and wildlife.

19 I have given for my country as a  
20 veteran, Vietnam, four years military, steel worker 15  
21 years, police officer 35 years, I'm 74 and still a  
22 paid public servant active. My thoughts are for my  
23 family, for your family, for our land, and wildlife.

24 In closing, would the short distance  
25 from the highway to the beach really make a

1 difference? Yes, it would, to the homeowners.

2 Thank you.

3 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
4 comments.

5 MS. FINCHER: Mine is short.

6 My name is Cathy Fincher. No barrier.  
7 We love our Beach. We love our homes. Just save our  
8 beach.

9 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
10 comments.

11 I'd like to invite the next five  
12 individuals to come make their public comments.  
13 Velinda Pachlhofer.

14 MS. PACHLHOFER: Pachlhofer.

15 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Pachlhofer. Thank  
16 you for the correction.

17 Kathy Hazlett, Lauri Mathias, Mike  
18 Walz, and Shawn Pachlhofer, please come forward.  
19 Thank you.

20 COL. ZETTERSTROM: If you would like to  
21 begin, you are the first one up.

22 MS. HAZLETT: Does the minute start  
23 when we say our name or after.

24 COL. ZETTERSTROM: You get a whole  
25 minute, ma'am.

1 MS. HAZLETT: Thank you.

2 My name is Kathy Hazlett. I have a  
3 home here on Bolivar peninsula and Nederland, Texas.

4 I would like to stipulate that any  
5 quote that I say in my whole minute is from the GLO's  
6 Web site regarding the Coastal Erosion Planning and  
7 Response Act. This program provides funding on a  
8 bi-annual basis for the following types of projects  
9 and studies: Beach nourishment on both Gulf and bay  
10 beaches, shore line stabilization, habitat restoration  
11 and dune restoration.

12 I would like to request that you  
13 perform these projects since you are already  
14 authorized to do them and you are already authorized  
15 to do it every two years. It's never been done on  
16 this island.

17 I had a whole lot more to say. But let  
18 me tell you this: If you continue with the barrier  
19 plan as outlined today, I will continue to fight it  
20 whether in Austin or Washington because as the old  
21 saying goes, it's not the size of the dog in the fight  
22 but the size of the fight in the dog. And you, ladies  
23 and gentlemen, have just kicked the dog.

24 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
25 comments, ma'am.

1                   Are any of the four individuals that  
2 were invited to the last group still wanting to make  
3 comments? If not, I will move to the next group of  
4 five individuals.

5                   I would like to invite the next five  
6 individuals forward then. Lynda Smith, William  
7 Comeaux, Ange Scheibel --

8                   MR. COMEAUX: Comeaux.

9                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Comeaux. Thank you  
10 for the correction on the pronunciation.

11                  Angie Scheibel, Peter Chase, and  
12 Wini fred Burkett.

13                  If you would like to begin while you  
14 are still standing.

15                  MR. CHASE: My name is Peter Chase and  
16 -- representing a property owner here on Bolivar.  
17 And, basically, I just want to say that the boondoggle  
18 of \$30 billion being spent on a gate system when the  
19 doctor already second-guessed it and said it may not  
20 work for wind-driven bay water which is what flooded  
21 Rockport. I was in Harvey. We've owned property out  
22 here since the Twenties. And God blessed us with a  
23 barrier island system. Yes, it will flood. It will  
24 wash over it. But if you close a gate and you have a  
25 wobbling hurricane that goes north, the north wind

1 will flood everything anyway.

2                   So, the gate, all the money spent on  
3 it, it's worthless. And also, the hurricanes come  
4 every 10, 20, 30, 40 years. Port Aransas wasn't hit  
5 by a hurricane for 47 years until Harvey. It was a  
6 flood system with all the rain in Houston. The gate  
7 system, the \$30 billion, which is probably on the low  
8 end, is just going to be worthless money spent. So,  
9 spend it somewhere else. Okay. The gate system is  
10 not going to work. That's it.

11                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
12 comments.

13                   MS. BURKETT: My name is Winifred  
14 Burkett. I live in Port Bolivar. I am here concerned  
15 about the unknown impacts to the Galveston Bay ecology  
16 associated with the gate system. Have been told that  
17 it will constrict the tidal flow 27 percent. We would  
18 like to suggest that a corresponding 27 percent  
19 reduction in post larvae shrimp and blue crab egg  
20 recruitment from the Gulf to nursery in the bay will  
21 occur. This will mean a 27 percent reduction in the  
22 shrimp and crab population in the bay complex. And  
23 that logically translate to 27 percent reduction in  
24 recreational and commercial catch of crab and shrimp.

25                   Also, this is 27 percent less food

1 available for finfish and food fish and 27 percent  
2 less food available for birds. This is a significant  
3 impact on the bay's ecology and on the region's  
4 economy. And we think it should be studied.

5 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
6 comment.

7 MS. SCHEIBEL: My name is Angie  
8 Scheibel. I live here in Crystal Beach. I grew up 10  
9 miles inland from Surfside and wanted to live at the  
10 beach all of my life. I finally got to move here full  
11 time in 2008. Ike washed away my house and most of my  
12 neighbors. We built back stronger and higher. And we  
13 understand the risk of living on the coast.

14 What I resent, I never thought I would  
15 say, is our government doing something to us to take  
16 away our dreams. We build stronger. I planned for my  
17 children and my grandchildren. And this is an assault  
18 from our government on our way of life.

19 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
20 comment.

21 I would like to invite the next five  
22 individuals for their public comments. Melinda  
23 McWhite, Matt Pace, Hollis Gassen, Jeannie Martin and  
24 Don Juneau.

25 MS. McWHITE: Are you ready for me to



1 start?

2 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Please.

3 MS. McWHITE: My name is Melinda  
4 McWhite. I own a small plain --

5 THE AUDIENCE: Melinda, speak into the  
6 mic so we can hear you.

7 MS. McWHITE: Okay. I own a small  
8 plain pre-Ike cabin on the beach side of ■. The most  
9 important fact to me about this cabin is, it's  
10 currently above base flood, at least on the ground  
11 floor. You raised that base flood a couple of feet  
12 and I go from losing my stairs to losing my house.

13 The immediate impact on me is the  
14 decrease in real estate value. And it makes sense  
15 that when somebody increases your risk of losing a  
16 property, the value of the property goes down. What  
17 am I going to do about this? Well, the only thing I  
18 can see to get my money out is to convert my family  
19 retreat to a rental house. What's the impact of  
20 increased rental houses on a society, it's negative.  
21 Look at Airbnb that's currently plagued New Orleans.

22 Now, I'm going to switch -- shift to  
23 economic justified. The Corps of Engineers is  
24 currently the target of litigation arising from its  
25 increased risk to property owners out in Barker and

1 Addicks reservoirs in Houston and also there's first  
2 condemnation litigation occurring in Fort Bend and, I  
3 believe, several other jurisdictions. What I want to  
4 see is that you factor in your cost analysis,  
5 litigation cost and potential damage awards, since you  
6 admit that you are increasing our risk if you slide it  
7 on 87.

8                   Finally -- and this is directed to the  
9 GLO -- five years ago, we reported to the GLO that  
10 there were several significant dune cuts by private  
11 property owners in front of blue water. The G -- the  
12 GLO increased -- admits that it's illegal. Five  
13 years, they're still there. So, excuse me if I don't  
14 have a lot of faith in the commitment of the GLO to  
15 protect Bolivar. Please prove me wrong. Do not let  
16 Bolivar become a sacrificial limb.

17                   Thank you.

18                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

19                   MR. PACE: I'm Matt Pace. I used to  
20 insure quite a few homes in this area. You call your  
21 plan the Coastal Barrier Plan. I would like to refer  
22 to it more as the barrier system plan. For brevity,  
23 I'll call it the "BS plan."

24                   The -- the concern -- one of the main  
25 things you say is the intention of the plan is to

1 protect the refineries in those areas on the northwest  
2 barrier of the Galveston Bay system. That's great.  
3 Why don't we have the refineries build 10-foot levees  
4 around themselves and protect themselves from storm  
5 surge.

6                   Secondly, if you want to protect that  
7 Galveston -- west Galveston Bay shoreline, those  
8 wonderful communities over there, there is an  
9 excellent alternative, the Rice University Galveston  
10 Bay Park plan. If you have not had to chance to  
11 evaluate that plan yet because it just came out, so,  
12 please evaluate that plan. It's not a great  
13 supplement to your plan. It's a great alternative to  
14 your plan. We don't want the BS plan on 87. We don't  
15 want the BS plan down on the dunes. We want the BS  
16 plan built up there where you want to protect those  
17 areas.

18                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
19 comments.

20                   MR. GASSEN: Hello. My name is Hollis  
21 Gassen. I have a house down in Crystal Beach at  
22 Sandpiper subdivision. I represent the president of  
23 the homeowner's association for Sandpiper's  
24 subdivision.

25                   The first thing I would like to say to

1 Mayes Middleton, I agree with you 100 percent what you  
2 had to say.

3                   The second one, if they do build this  
4 thing down 87, you're going to have the beach side and  
5 you're going to have the bay side. If you have a  
6 storm come in here, the highway is on -- 87 is on the  
7 beach side. You're going to cut off evacuation for  
8 people leaving out of here. And if you have a storm  
9 coming in here, after the storm is over, people will  
10 not be able to get down on the peninsula to evaluate  
11 damage to their houses.

12                   And the second one I am hearing, also,  
13 is looking at protecting the refineries and chemical  
14 plants. I retired from Shell after 35-1/2 years. We  
15 have never had a plant shut down because of a  
16 hurricane. We have reduced -- reduced skeleton crews  
17 working the plants. And after the hurricane was over,  
18 the plant came back up.

19                   So, I like your Alternative 2 plan.  
20 And I'd appreciate it if you look at that to consider  
21 that very heavily versus the one you have now.

22                   Thank you.

23                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
24 comments.

25                   I would like to invite the next five

1 individuals to come forward and speak. Gwen Sifford,  
2 Sharla Marek, Greg Whittaker, Patsy Stockton, and  
3 Ellis Pickett.

4 You can go first.

5 MS. SIFFORD: I don't have a whole lot  
6 of new stuff to present, but I want you to see who the  
7 residents are. We're permanent residents here in  
8 Crystal Beach.

9 THE REPORTER: Speak into the  
10 microphone.

11 MS. SIFFORD: We moved here in 2016.  
12 We've owned our home for over 25 years. We love  
13 living here. I can't tell you how stunned I was that  
14 I didn't know that there was public comments available  
15 in 2014. I'm just hearing about that around now. I'm  
16 not happy about that. So, that's why I'm here today.

17 I am not happy with being on the side  
18 where we're going to be inundated with the flood, with  
19 the water, et cetera. We're on the wrong side of that  
20 coastal spine on that wall. That wall needs to be  
21 down by the beach. Why can't we do fortified dunes?  
22 Why can't we do something other than black out all  
23 these residence, all these businesses, right? I love  
24 this place. I love living here. And all of my  
25 neighbors love living here. All of my friends love

1 living here. And we're not going to be able to.  
2 Right? I know the end of time is coming. I know the  
3 water is coming. No wall is going stop it. But don't  
4 rush it what you are going to do with that wall.  
5 Okay?

6 Thank you.

7 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
8 comment.

9 MR. WHITTAKER: My name is Greg  
10 Whittaker, and I am speaking on behalf of the Houston  
11 Audobon Society. Houston Audobon Society publicly  
12 raises our concerns that the video presentation at the  
13 outset of today's public meeting seems to contradict  
14 our experience with that process and perception of the  
15 Tentatively Selected Plan.

16 Houston Audobon is one of the largest  
17 landowners on the Bolivar peninsula with several  
18 sanctuaries managed as resident and migratory bird  
19 habitat.

20 As stakeholder that actively  
21 participated and provided input over several years, we  
22 were not notified of the release of this document for  
23 review. We were also surprised to note that none of  
24 the Houston Audobon properties were mentioned in the  
25 scope of this study document as protected areas

1 weren't in consideration in the proposed placement of  
2 the barrier systems and hard-structure features.

3           It seems disingenuous to include  
4 preservation and improvement of ecosystem features for  
5 the expressed purpose of providing vital habitat for  
6 coastal bird species when the plan seems to pose  
7 significant direct disturbance to several existing  
8 managed sanctuaries of high economic and ecological  
9 importance.

10           COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
11 comments.

12           MR. PICKETT: My name is Eric Pickett.  
13 I've been coming to Bolivar since 1955. I've enjoyed  
14 it every time I come down. I've surfed here, fished  
15 here, flounder-gigged here, camped here, cut donuts on  
16 the beach, everything.

17           But I'm with Surfriider Foundation. I'm  
18 a volunteer. Most people don't know about us. We're  
19 a 501-C-3 coastal nonprofit organization. Public  
20 beach access is our main issue on this -- on this  
21 project.

22           And if the thing is built on the beach,  
23 I haven't really seen a provision that says they are  
24 going to be able to maintain a public beach in front  
25 of the thing. It costs about 18 to \$30 million a mile

1 to renourish beaches in Texas. I don't see where  
2 we're going to have enough money, especially since in  
3 order to be elected with -- no offense to any elected  
4 officials, but the easiest way to get elected in Texas  
5 is to say "no new taxes."

6 To maintain this -- this -- this  
7 project, Texas taxpayers are going to have to come up  
8 with a lot more than they're talking about. This is  
9 the owner's manual for the Texas coast. I recommend  
10 that everyone read it. It's the formation and future  
11 of the upper Texas coast by Dr. John Anderson at Rice.  
12 If you haven't got a copy, you can get one at Amazon.  
13 You can talk to the Corps of Engineers the way they  
14 need to be talked to. You will know the information.

15 Thank you.

16 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
17 comment.

18 I would like to invite the next five  
19 individuals to come forward for their public comments.  
20 Mike and Penny Everitt, Myra Cisneros, Kristian  
21 Koengeter, and Seawillow Edward.

22 If you would like to begin since you  
23 are still standing.

24 MR. EVERITT: I am going to let her  
25 talk.



1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Yes, sir.

2 Ma'am, would you like to go? Or  
3 whichever one of you individuals would like to do to  
4 go first, please.

5 MS. EVERITT: My name is Penny Everitt.  
6 We just built our house on Bolivar. It's been my  
7 dream since I was 9 years old.

8 Anyway, you know, you can draw a line  
9 on paper so it looks straight, but it doesn't mean  
10 it's straight. They can do all of their  
11 investigations, but it doesn't mean they're right. It  
12 doesn't mean they're going to work.

13 I have heard a lot of comments from the  
14 people here, factual comments. I don't think we're  
15 receiving facts from them. I was taught when I was  
16 little, don't lie. Were y'all told that when y'all  
17 were little?

18 We don't want the wool pulled over our  
19 eyes. We want the truth; and we want options, good  
20 options. Plus, why haven't they been down here on our  
21 beaches? After Ike, nobody came down to rebuild our  
22 beaches or our dunes. Who built them? We did. Where  
23 have they been?

24 THE AUDIENCE: In their office.

25 MS. EVERITT: Thank y'all.

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
2 comments.

3 MR. EVERITT: The only thing I want to  
4 say: I hope that everything that's been said here  
5 today up till now is not going in one ear and right  
6 out the other.

7 That's all I've got to say to you.

8 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Sir, please state  
9 your name for the record.

10 MR. EVERITT: My name is Mike Everitt,  
11 and I'm with her, on a house here on the Bolivar  
12 island. I'm just saying that I hope everything that's  
13 been said, seriously, is not going in one ear and  
14 straight out the other. I hope there is something in  
15 between here blocking it to where something is going  
16 to catch it. Okay?

17 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
18 comments.

19 MS. CISNEROS: Good afternoon. My name  
20 is Myra Cisneros. I am speaking on behalf of the  
21 Cisneros family. We purchased a home here in Crystal  
22 Beach. This was a family dream of ours. After we  
23 lost in Ike, we all had to go through, all right, is  
24 it the wind that blew the house down or is it the  
25 flood that took the house down. And litigation

1    ensued. Right? And then we had to build our house no  
2    longer 8 feet, it had to be 18 feet tall and all that  
3    stuff.

4                    So, we couldn't afford that. We dipped  
5    into our family savings to rebuild because we were  
6    still very passionate about living here. This is our  
7    home. This is our family, where we come for vacation,  
8    make memories. My dad had his pulse on what was going  
9    on with the city, with the government; and at no time  
10   did we ever hear about this line down 87. If  
11   anything, we heard that the freeway was going to  
12   increase, because I was really happy since I knew that  
13   sometimes we can't commit to the ferries to get us off  
14   this island. So, if they get rid of that, there is no  
15   way for us to get off. If it floods, my parents can't  
16   get off this island.

17                   So, that's what I want to see. That's  
18   what I thought this was about. I don't want there to  
19   be a wall. There is no reason for a wall. I  
20   understand about if we want to. I've been a part of  
21   places where we were given options. I don't see where  
22   we are given options. They're talking about a wall.  
23   We don't need a wall.

24                   Thank you.

25                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your

1 comments.

2 MS. KOENGETER: Hello. My name is  
3 Cristian Koengeter. I am from Germany. And I moved  
4 here 10 years ago. I am a builder here in Bolivar at  
5 a house on 87 right by the ferry.

6 And when we had a wall in Germany, it  
7 got torn down when I was 7. We were real happy about  
8 it. I don't know why we need a wall in Bolivar. I  
9 was thinking -- I mean, Holland has no wall. England  
10 probably has no wall through their country. You know,  
11 they have building in the front of the wall, they have  
12 dunes to protect themselves. So, I mean, I hear you  
13 guys working always international. So, I think they  
14 wouldn't say, you know, build a wall on Bolivar.

15 Thank you.

16 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
17 comments.

18 MS. EDWARDS: Hello. My name is  
19 Seawillow Edwards. My family has owned property on  
20 the peninsula since 1952. Thank you for your  
21 ecosystem restoration portion of your proposal. I  
22 think we definitely need it. We have obviously been  
23 very negligent on that area.

24 I am disappointed that our public  
25 comments are being heard before the completion of the

1 study. To me, that doesn't make sense. You should  
2 really decide what you're going to do and then let us  
3 at least have some, you know, comments after the study  
4 is completed. I think it's pretty immature almost.  
5 You don't know where you are going to turn on this.

6           Also, I'm looking at your proposal for  
7 South Padre CSRM. It involves strictly dune and beach  
8 restoration and ours involves a coastal barrier. I  
9 would like to see us move more towards the dune --  
10 more emphasis on the dune and beach restoration  
11 portion of it and hopefully not do a coastal barrier  
12 wall.

13           You used the Netherlands gate as a -- I  
14 hear you -- you used the Netherlands gate as a study.  
15 But wouldn't it make more sense the way that that was  
16 set up, to put the gate by Baytown instead of way  
17 across the gulf, I mean, across the bay? But if you  
18 look at that Netherlands project, it was a very small  
19 canal instead of -- it's a very different structure.  
20 So, I don't really understand how you feel that that  
21 is a good comparison.

22           Thank you.

23           COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
24 comments.

25           I would like to invite the next five

1 individuals. David Swaim, Darlene Nelson, William  
2 Nantz, Ray-Dar Kaskie, and Byron Berry.

3 Go ahead, sir.

4 MR. SWAIM: My name is David Swaim. It  
5 is my understanding that several years prior to  
6 Hurricane Harvey that USACE issued an 11-page document  
7 regarding Addicks and Barker reservoir and their  
8 levees and gates were no longer in a condition to  
9 adequately protect downstream properties in the event  
10 of a major rain event and that this could possibly  
11 involve lawsuits against USACE. The decision was made  
12 to risk the lawsuits and to do some minor repairs and  
13 not to do major structural work that was known to be  
14 needed. This was reported in the Houston Chronicle.

15 We all know what happened to thousands  
16 of people downstream after Hurricane Harvey. Why  
17 should I believe that USACE continues to officially  
18 maintain an upgrade of 30-billion-dollar coastal  
19 barrier and flood system? They're not already taking  
20 care of what they've already got. And the lawsuits  
21 are happening already. I own property there. I own  
22 property here. My wife and I vote in every single  
23 election. I want that to be aware. Every one.

24 Thank you.

25 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your

1 comments.

2 Any of the other four individuals that  
3 I previously commented upon available for their  
4 comments?

5 Sir, are you one of those four  
6 individuals?

7 MR. NANTZ: I am.

8 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Please begin, sir.

9 MR. NANTZ: Hello, I am all about  
10 Bolivar peninsula and support a lot of communities,  
11 people homeowners, organizations, churches. And there  
12 are -- there has got to be other alternatives as far  
13 as jetties out along the beach, dredging, bringing the  
14 sand back in. The 17-foot barrier is ridiculous. And  
15 there is nobody here that is going to put up the bat.  
16 There are better alternatives.

17 And I just want to comment that, yes,  
18 it could be used better in certain areas, maybe the  
19 Ship Channel, maybe the refineries. But Bolivar  
20 peninsula has been here for over 2000 years and it's  
21 going to stay without the 17-foot barrier.

22 Thanks.

23 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
24 comment, sir.

25 If none of the other three individuals

1 from the last group are here for comments, I will move  
2 to the next five individuals. I would like to invite  
3 Sam Johnson, Phillip Marin, George Morgan and Amy and  
4 Jim Dellinger, please come forward.

5 I see none of those individuals coming  
6 forward. I would move to the next five individuals.  
7 Linda and Bob Brown, Richard L. Rodriguez, Susan  
8 Standefer Taylor and Kerry Aycock.

9 If you would like to begin, sir.

10 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

11 First of all, thank you to all of you  
12 for the presentation. It's very informative. I know  
13 a little bit about project management. This is a  
14 huge, huge effort to do this.

15 Bluntly, if Mother Nature kicks my  
16 butt, I can live with it. I can't live with my  
17 government doing it. Sorry. I think it's time to get  
18 the lawyers involved. I don't know how many attorneys  
19 we have got in the room here, but our property values  
20 are getting trashed. If you can get flood insurance  
21 when this thing goes live, you are going to pay a  
22 fortune for it. We have been burdened negatively.  
23 And I believe more than three people constitutes a  
24 class-action lawsuit. The 30 billion can go to fifty.

25 But in closing, this is a cool place.



1 You know, please don't trash it. You can stand in  
2 front of people in a cowboy hat and shorts and feel  
3 okay about it. That's what this is. It's not a  
4 place. It's a state of mind.

5 Thank y'all.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
7 comments.

8 Are there any of the other group from  
9 the last five individuals I have called for present  
10 for comments, please?

11 MS. TAYLOR: I am Susan Standefer  
12 Taylor. We've been coming here since '65. My folks  
13 help start Kona-Kai. And to lose that place or lose  
14 Bolivar like we know it, I don't think you are  
15 thinking about the people. I've been touched by  
16 people who are homeowners here who have lived here a  
17 long time. I'm concerned about the gates, the  
18 increase in the philosophy, and what's it's going to  
19 do with fishing in the bay. The bay side is  
20 phenomenal for sport fishermen.

21 And -- okay. The -- we have cattle  
22 grazing on the land and you're going to have eminent  
23 domain on it if you put the road down 87. I think  
24 that will affect the whole appearance. I was  
25 concerned with the water coming down from Houston.

1 And if you have gates shutting everything off, how is  
2 it going to get out? I don't know that y'all have  
3 considered all of that.

4 I have seen problems with Clear Creek  
5 and the gates there. Okay. The school, I believe,  
6 needs to be protected.

7 And -- okay. And I just don't like  
8 this project at all. I am concerned about the gates  
9 because they are not anchored well as the Netherlands.

10 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
11 comments.

12 I would like to invite the next five  
13 individuals forward for their comments. Jo Ball, Dana  
14 Carroll, Ray Thompson, and Andrea Sims-Kaptchinskie.  
15 I apologize. Thank you, ma'am. I apologize for the  
16 pronunciation. Francine I. Roy Bolis.

17 MS. SIMS-KAPTCHINSKIE: My name is  
18 Andrea Sims-Kaptchinskie. I cashed in my 401(k) and  
19 bought a house here, cashed in my 401(k) and built a  
20 business here -- you're not going to tell me I have 30  
21 seconds -- because you want to take away my life, my  
22 business, my home. Your red line goes right on top of  
23 my business. My house is on the seaward side.  
24 Ironically, both my business and my house both  
25 survived Hurricane Ike.

1                   You are not building this to protect  
2 this peninsula. You're building it because you're an  
3 engineer, and you like to build. I get it. Build it  
4 where it's needed over those petrochemical plants.  
5 Let them help pay for it. We live here. This is our  
6 life. This is our family. Every one of these people  
7 are my family. How dare you. How dare you.

8                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
9 comments.

10                  MR. BALL: Hello. My name is Joe Ball.  
11 I'm the general manager of the company the current  
12 water utility on this district. I seen the breakdown  
13 of the funds you had earlier. Nowhere did I see  
14 relocation of critical infrastructures. Early  
15 estimates for us is twenty to \$30 million to relocate  
16 the funds or the water lines currently. Right now,  
17 you have your barrier going right down 40 miles of  
18 20-inch water line that is the sole supply of current  
19 water usage for this peninsula.

20                  No. 2, have you given any thought on  
21 where you're going to relocate us? If you relocate us  
22 on the beachside, you've done away with the complete  
23 water system. I ke nearly took care of it then. It  
24 cost us over \$4 million to rebuild then.

25                  Have you given any thought to what

1 you're going to do to the utilities down here when we  
2 lose half our customer base from the first hurricane,  
3 plus the 1800 homes you're going to take just to build  
4 the levee. We current have about \$17 million in debt  
5 with the Texas Water Development Board, your neighbors  
6 in the building right upstairs from you. Oh, well.

7           Are you going to pay our debt off that  
8 with that as well, because once you decrease our  
9 customer base, we can no longer use our debt. You can  
10 ask anybody in this room, because I talk to them all  
11 the time, they already think our water bills are too  
12 high at \$50. Can you imagine what you're going to do  
13 to them when you take half of our customer base? It's  
14 going to do the same thing to energy and the same  
15 thing to the water bill. They're going to be two or  
16 \$300 a month to provide you services.

17           Thank you.

18           COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
19 comments.

20           I would like to invite the next five  
21 individuals for their public comments. Jennie  
22 Vickers, Danny Stafford, Bill Billings, Katricia  
23 Billings and Gerald M. Brones.

24           MR. STAFFORD: My name is Danny  
25 Stafford. I'm a homeowner here. My comment is to the

1 public official of Galveston, mainly. If I'm south of  
2 this barrier, why would I ever pay my taxes again if I  
3 have a homestead? Why would the Government take, or  
4 I'm going to say the government, the Corps take my tax  
5 dollars to build something to destroy me and protect  
6 someone else?

7 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
8 comments.

9 Are any of the four individuals that  
10 were called in the last group of five citizens so  
11 wishing to make their comments?

12 The next individuals I would like to  
13 call for further comments are Dorma B. Brones, Azure  
14 Bevington, and Mary Fergeson.

15 MR. BRADFORD: Hi. My name is Mary  
16 Fergeson Bradford. I am a lawyer who has -- now has  
17 an encore career with a local shop here I opened for  
18 my autistic son on Bolivar peninsula. I was an  
19 Assistant U.S. Attorney in Beaumont and a plaintiff's  
20 trial attorney in Beaumont for a full career.

21 I'm here not just to ask y'all to pull  
22 Alternative A that runs the wall down 87 off the  
23 things being considered. I'm asking you to do it  
24 immediately. This has already -- people are freaked  
25 out. Our property values are already -- we cannot

1 sell things. I had somebody who was going to buy a  
2 lot. They were getting ready to sign and came in and  
3 said: Everything is off because of this Ike Dike. I  
4 am not going to do a thing on this peninsula.

5                   If y'all don't immediately issue a  
6 public statement that this Alternative A that runs  
7 down 87 is off the table, y'all are going to  
8 strangle-hold us and kill us in very short order.  
9 This is my third go-round with this. I've had a beach  
10 house for 20 years. I have my badge on from the last  
11 time that y'all came. This is the third time people  
12 have come after us on this peninsula to take our  
13 property values away without paying us any money for  
14 it. The first time was, they tried to throw us out of  
15 TWIA, the windstorm. We got over that. The second  
16 one after Ike, they tried to do away with the Texas  
17 Windstorm Insurance Exchange, which would have made  
18 our properties have no value.

19                   This is the third time that y'all are  
20 trying to kill us by taking our property values away.  
21 I'm asking y'all to immediately act and pull this  
22 Highway 87 wall down before we are over -- it's  
23 happening fast. Please act fast. Y'all please pull  
24 that barrier down Highway 87 off immediately and let  
25 it be known publicly.

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
2 comments. I appreciate it.

3 MS. BEVINGTON: So, my name is Azure  
4 Bevington. I have met you. I am just really quickly  
5 going to say the 87 placement is unconscionable. And  
6 I'm glad that you came here on a beautiful sunny  
7 Saturday and you got to see what you drew that line on  
8 top of.

9 The gate system will destroy the  
10 ecological productivity of the Galveston Bay. You  
11 have done no studies to even look at that. And if you  
12 did or if you do in the future, which I don't have a  
13 ton of faith that you will, because I have talked to a  
14 number of your ecologists and none of them can tell me  
15 the adequate studies the will be conducting.

16 Partial transfer is not larval --  
17 larval movement. None of your answers are sufficient.  
18 I will be sending more about that eventually in  
19 writing.

20 So, the beach placement is  
21 unacceptable. It is equally as bad. I know it sounds  
22 better. I know it's in front of people's house. It's  
23 better from that perspective. It will -- if we wanted  
24 to sacrifice the beach. The beach is why we live  
25 here. What will happen with that placement along the

1 beach? It will exacerbate the effect of sea level  
2 rise. Y'all like to show the sea level rise and what  
3 will happen if Bolivar cease and subsides and the sea  
4 level rises, that is bunk if you let the natural  
5 processees work.

6 I am going to explain, because Colonel  
7 Zetterstrom expressed to a number of people at the  
8 meeting in Winnie that this would protect us from sea  
9 level rise. That is extremely false. An introductory  
10 coastal processees class at any university would teach  
11 you that. I have taught people that, and I am happy  
12 to teach everyone else that.

13 We will lose our beach if we build it  
14 there. There is not enough sand to cover a wall.  
15 There is no such thing as an engineered dune. There  
16 are dunes, and then there are walls covering sand.  
17 That is it.

18 The dunes and the natural processees  
19 and the beach renourishment that is in this plan are  
20 good. They will protect us. They will let the sand  
21 move over across the peninsula and build it up like it  
22 has been done for thousands of years. That is what  
23 natural coastal barriers are. That is what barrier  
24 islands are. That is what this peninsula is. That is  
25 what we need to allow to happen. Build gates up



1 there. That's fine.

2 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you very much  
3 for your comments. I appreciate it.

4 At this time, that concludes the list  
5 of individuals that have identified themselves to make  
6 oral comments. Is there anyone in the audience that  
7 didn't previous make it onto the list that would like  
8 to come forward for further comments?

9 MS. KERRY: That would be me.

10 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Ma'am, I think  
11 there's a few gentlemen that are already standing.

12 MS. CARROLL: I was standing. I'm just  
13 short. By the way, I'm late for work.

14 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Could you please  
15 identify yourself.

16 MS. KERRY: I'm Deborah Kerry. I live  
17 in Crystal Beach. I've been coming here my whole  
18 life.

19 What I want to know is if you put that  
20 thing down 87, how are we going to get down Diamond  
21 Road or East Canal or West Canal? Are you going to  
22 put a gate at every road or are you going to block off  
23 all the roads? That's what I want to know. But  
24 you're not here to give answers. You're just here to  
25 pretend you care about us. You're just giving --

1 letting us -- you to be a sound board. That's all you  
2 are. Because if you want to do it, you are going to  
3 do it. There ain't no two ways about it. This is  
4 just ridiculous. Okay? Because you're going to do it  
5 whether we say so or not. Thank you.

6 And I have a house in Trinity. I can  
7 go there. But I want to be right here. It's my  
8 American right to be right here. And I am a native  
9 American. I was here first.

10 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
11 comment. I appreciate them.

12 Sir, if you would like to come forward  
13 and please identify yourself for the comments.

14 MR. McCLELLAND: My name is Craig  
15 McClelland. I am a graduate of Texas A & M University  
16 at Galveston. Whoop. I'm an attorney in Houston. I  
17 represent property owners throughout the state of  
18 Texas in dealing with property values against  
19 appraisal districts. I now reside here in Bolivar.

20 And I have looked at this plan. The  
21 gate is going to ruin oystering. Oystering is a major  
22 industry in this area. If you don't shrimp, you  
23 oyster if you work on the water. It's going to  
24 increase the fresh water back into the bay, which is  
25 going to drown the oysters.

1                    Additionally, the current placeholder  
2 was a terrible placeholder, if it was just that. It  
3 really riled everybody up. Not only did it rile up,  
4 it has tanked the real estate industry. If it is  
5 going to be a real wall, it is going to plow through  
6 churches. It's going to go plow through our water  
7 supply. Literally, our water tanks are going to have  
8 to be torn down, not mention other homes and  
9 businesses in the area.

10                    It is going to make -- our only  
11 significant store is going to be bulldozed. No one is  
12 going to be able to live here even if their houses  
13 were on the protected side of the wall.

14                    The other side of the wall is going to  
15 be subjected to extra storm surge damage, which, I  
16 believe, our Commissioner Bush said was, this was  
17 supposed to be preventing Ike-like damage. That is  
18 going to be encouraging Ike-like damage, not to  
19 mention the photos of Harvey that you had on there,  
20 which is actually going to be a backup of water behind  
21 the dam that you put across the channel.

22                    The wall on the beach is a least  
23 objectionable alternative, although we are a barrier  
24 island. We are already the barrier. We don't need a  
25 gate in there. I already pay at the pump and every

1 time I buy something plastic for chemical in the store  
2 for those multi-billion-dollar corporations to build  
3 their own barriers around their plants.

4 Thank you.

5 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

6 MR. DEERBON: My name is Tim Derrbon.  
7 I'm actually a new owner. I just bought September  
8 2018. So, I've only owned for two-and-a-half months.  
9 But it's just as important to me to say, I've just put  
10 over, you know, half a million in investment in the  
11 area. So, it's important to me.

12 What I would say is, I tried to review  
13 all 442 pages of the document. It says that the  
14 purpose is to make us be more resilient and less  
15 vulnerable. But the whole report contradicts that  
16 because nowhere in the report does it say any of the  
17 people that live here are going to be more resilient  
18 and less vulnerable. In fact, it says the opposite,  
19 that we're going to be at higher risk and we are going  
20 to have induced flooding and there is going to be  
21 greater surge and wave impacts during storm.

22 So, my question is: Based on your own  
23 criteria, you should have already ruled out this plan  
24 because it does not even meet your own objectives for  
25 this community. So, what I say is, go back and come

1 up with a plan that does meet your objectives and not  
2 hurt this community. I am strongly against this plan.

3 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
4 comments, sir.

5 Are there any other individuals that  
6 would like to make a comment? Please come forward,  
7 ma'am.

8 MS. DEFORD: My name is Pam Deford.  
9 About two months before Harvey hit, we bought our  
10 forever home. And I just want you to know, this  
11 community is really neat. And there is a lot of  
12 wonderful people here. And I have my own business.  
13 My husband has his own business. And we're looking to  
14 bring our children, our grandchildren, and just to  
15 enjoy this wonderful place we've been coming to all  
16 our lives. And I'm glad to be a part of this  
17 community.

18 And I just -- I don't want to see this.  
19 I want to make sure my grandchildren get to still come  
20 and my great grandchildren can know that Gigi loved  
21 them.

22 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
23 comments.

24 Anymore comments?

25 MR. COTAR. My name is Tom Cotar. My

1 family is new to the peninsula with some of you folks.  
2 My father bought the property on Caplen Beach between  
3 Gilchrist and Crystal Beach in 1954. We built a house  
4 then before there was permitting on the peninsula.  
5 So, we build a ground level. So, if water came, it  
6 would either blow us away -- back then you didn't have  
7 FEMA flood insurance for those kind of stuff.

8           But anyway, the home got too small.  
9 So, we tore it down in 19 -- 20 -- excuse me -- 2006,  
10 rebuilt a new one by all the specs and by all the  
11 regulatory people and moved in it in September of '08  
12 and it was gone. When we went to inspect it, we had  
13 three pilings leaning toward Texas City and the water  
14 meter. We since rebuilt. We're beach front.

15           And from what I have absorbed today or  
16 learned from this, there's too much incomplete  
17 information to really decide from what I've heard of  
18 what is best for this peninsula. But I would favor  
19 retaining our beach, the beach front. And I  
20 appreciate y'all giving us an opportunity to talk.

21           COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
22 comments.

23           MR. WREN: My name is Jason Wren. I am  
24 a property owner here on the peninsula. I am not in  
25 favor of the current alignment and plan that is in

1 place. I ask today for one of the options to be in  
2 place is a no build where nothing is done here on the  
3 peninsula.

4 I would like to thank all you guys for  
5 coming out and supporting everyone here. Visit  
6 Bolivar.org. All of you guys, we're putting up a  
7 fight for you. That's a voice here for the peninsula.  
8 You talk about the line, you know, the line on the map  
9 or the line on the sand. You guys here have drawn the  
10 line on the sand here today. And I hope you guys  
11 listen to these folks.

12 Thank you.

13 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

14 MR. TAYLOR: Chuck Taylor. Our family  
15 has had a place here since 1965. And I would like to  
16 say a few things. Y'all are doing a fine job, by the  
17 way, of opposing this. I applaud you.

18 I have got some additional things to  
19 say about the plan. First of all, don't do anything  
20 that is going to restrict the flow of water out of  
21 Galveston Bay. We need to have that all open or else  
22 we will all be flooding up in there.

23 Secondly, it's been stated that a  
24 reason for the barrier is because the risk to the  
25 nation -- to the nation of future storm surge is

1 economically catastrophic. The front -- the  
2 refineries and the petrochemical plants up there, they  
3 need to mitigate these hazards themselves. They have  
4 money to do that. I worked in the chemical plants.  
5 And what we do is, we look at what's a risk; and we  
6 eliminate that.

7                   And the third thing, just briefly, is:  
8 Do something with the -- make sure you get approval of  
9 these plans from the Houston and Galveston pilots.

10                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
11 comments.

12                   Are there any other additional citizens  
13 that would like to make oral comments at the time?

14                   MR. RUNTY: Good afternoon. My name is  
15 Allen Runty. I am a property owner here on Bolivar  
16 peninsula for 15 years. I live in Jefferson County.  
17 And what I'd like to encourage -- I'm not going to get  
18 in the emotions of everything. Clearly, people are  
19 here because we expect our property to be protected  
20 and our investments.

21                   But I think we are missing the point  
22 here on the impact -- and the gentleman who spoke just  
23 in front of me mentioned that -- on water retention.  
24 I have lived all my life behind what we know as a  
25 seawall in Jefferson County. It protects in south mid



1 Jefferson County. My home is currently above what's  
2 required for flood insurance. But pretty much  
3 everybody that lives in that area has always owned  
4 flood insurance because of the concern of the rising  
5 water.

6                   Drainage District 7, which controls  
7 that system that the Corps of Engineers maintains is a  
8 good system. It's got 20 pump stations. It pumps 6  
9 -- it pumps 8.2 million gallons per minute, which  
10 sounds like an awful lot of water. That equates to  
11 about 12 billion gallons of water a day.

12                   Conservatively, Harvey dropped a  
13 trillion gallons of water on Harris County,  
14 19 trillion gallons of water in southeast Texas. Most  
15 of the -- all of the flooding occurred not from storm  
16 surge. One in five people in south mid Jefferson  
17 County were impacted by rising rainwater.

18                   So, my question is, is I haven't seen  
19 anything on how you are going to handle actually  
20 removing the water that could be backed up from that.  
21 People north of Interstate 10 suffered greatly from  
22 that as well. We're in a different environmental  
23 condition now with rainfall. And, so, I'm very  
24 concerned about that.

25                   Thank you.

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
2 comment, sir.

3 MS. RINN: My name is April Rinn. I  
4 represent "savebolivar.org." Just want to tell  
5 everybody that this fight is going to be fought and  
6 won in the Congress and the Senate. So, you need to  
7 go to the Web site "savebolivar.org" and you need to  
8 write letters, e-mails, do what you need to do. You  
9 will find all the content information on this Web  
10 site, "savebolivar.org." So, everybody get involved.  
11 Thank you.

12 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
13 comments.

14 Are there any other individuals that  
15 would like to make comments?

16 GENTLEMAN'S VOICE: Why aren't y'all  
17 answering any questions, by the way?

18 WOMAN'S VOICE: Because he told us he  
19 wasn't here to answer questions.

20 GENTLEMAN'S VOICE: Yeah. But why  
21 aren't they answering any questions?

22 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Ma'am, if you would  
23 like to make your comments, please.

24 MS. PERKINS: My name is Claudia  
25 Perkins. I am property owner here at the community

1 with all my friends.

2                   Earlier in a conversation, which I know  
3 is not part of the public record because it was a  
4 poster question, which I guess is on purpose. But one  
5 of the gentlemen said he had been contacted by his  
6 insurance agent and was told if one shovel of dirt is  
7 dug for this project, they cancel his insurance. So,  
8 I have got a mortgage that requires flood insurance.  
9 Then what happens? I can't get insurance? I walk  
10 away from my mortgage? Or do I pay off my house,  
11 which is why I have a mortgage. Tell us what we  
12 should do, because probably most people have a  
13 mortgage that's requiring flood insurance.

14                   My insurance, it was over \$8,000.  
15 Luckily, I had help to get it down to 3,000. My house  
16 is valued at like one-fifty. Tell me how I can pay  
17 for that?

18                   Thank you.

19                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
20 comments.

21                   Sir, are you coming to make comments?

22                   MR. DROMATIX: Yeah, please.

23                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.

24                   MR. DROMATIX: Again, I want to thank  
25 you for coming up here own presentation. I know you

1 are the messenger and you are getting hit pretty hard.

2 My name is Kent Dromatix. And I bought  
3 a beach house beachfront about two years ago, about  
4 half a million. You know, beach front is not cheap.

5 I have got a question. Why can't we  
6 build that dike -- build a dike on the north side of  
7 the intracoastal canal where there's nothing out  
8 there? We don't have -- we have insurance to protect  
9 ourselves here. We've all -- it's not going to affect  
10 our insurance one way or the other. It will probably  
11 go up a lot.

12 That's just something I was thinking  
13 about. Why don't we put it on the north side of the  
14 intracoastal canal so it's not a threat to all these  
15 businesses.

16 Thank you for your time.

17 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
18 comment.

19 Any last individuals that would like to  
20 come make comments.

21 GENTLEMAN'S VOICE: I have a question.

22 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Sir, are you going  
23 to make a comment.

24 GENTLEMAN'S VOICE: I have a question.

25 COL. ZETTERSTROM: This is a comment

1 period to make sure that we have equitability amongst  
2 all the meetings.

3 GENTLEMAN' S VOICE: It's something that  
4 was said earlier about extending the comment period  
5 perhaps a month. Can you tell us about that.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Sir, this is a  
7 comment period.

8 Are there any other individuals that  
9 have not spoken yet that would like to make a comment?

10 GENTLEMAN' S VOICE: We have time. I  
11 mean, we're not at 5:00 o'clock yet. Why don't you  
12 answer the questions?

13 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Are there other  
14 individuals that would like to make a comment?

15 Please make a comment, sir.

16 MR. O'NEILL: My name is O'Neill. I am  
17 a business owner born and raised in Houston, Texas.  
18 My whole family is there. So, I know about Harvey  
19 firsthand. I was down here for the storm.

20 As near as I can tell, that fellow just  
21 said all these trillions of gallons of water were  
22 dropped over a short period of time, but, you know,  
23 that water has got to go somewhere, you know. And I  
24 can't believe that people would be surprised that they  
25 live on the coast and they're surprised that we will

1 get a storm from time to time. You know, if I lived  
2 in Oklahoma, flat out, I would expect a tornado. If I  
3 lived in California, I am going to expect an  
4 earthquake. And there's really nothing that will say,  
5 "Hey, I'm surprised by this."

6 So, by putting a wall there to trap,  
7 how many, 19 trillion gallons of water which, roughly,  
8 put that over the entire United States, you know, if  
9 you were to do that, it's got to go somewhere. So,  
10 it's trapped.

11 Plus, you've got all the houses over  
12 here being hammered on it. I just don't understand  
13 how anybody can actually believe that this dike is a  
14 good idea for anybody, whether it's a resident, people  
15 in Houston. It floods there all the time. I have  
16 seen it. I swam in the bayous when they're  
17 overflowing. It happens. But nobody in Houston says,  
18 "Oh, my God, we're getting a lot of rain." They  
19 didn't say that during Alicia. They didn't say that  
20 during Allison. They didn't say that during Harvey.  
21 Well, they kind of said it in Harvey because we got  
22 more than we expected.

23 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
24 comments.

25 MR. O'NEILL: It doesn't make any sense

1 how anybody could stand behind this and say this is a  
2 great idea. You know, it's made to help nobody but  
3 the people who are receiving the money for it.

4 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
5 comments.

6 MR. O'NEILL: I am glad you rushed me  
7 off.

8 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Any last individuals  
9 who would like to make comments in the comment period?

10 Ma'am, have you made comments before?

11 MS. VELASTRO: I have not.

12 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Please make your  
13 comments.

14 MS. VELASTRO: My name is Caudia  
15 Velastro. I didn't choose to make a comment because I  
16 would be too emotional. So, really, my only comment  
17 is that this minute limitation is ridiculous.

18 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
19 comment.

20 In conclusion, written comments on the  
21 draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environment  
22 Impact Statement must be received on or before  
23 January 9, 2019, the conclusion of the 75-day comment  
24 period that began on October 26, 2018.

25 I would like to thank the Texas General

1 Land Office for their efforts and assistance in  
2 preparing for holding this meeting. I thank you for  
3 your attendance and the interest all you have shown  
4 here tonight.

5 The meeting is adjourned.

6

7

8

\* \* \* \* \*

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION

I, Jo Ann Kelley, Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Texas, do hereby certify:

That the proceedings had in the foregoing caption was reported before me; that the hearing was then taken before me at the time and place herein set forth; that the testimony and proceedings were reported stenographically by me and were transcribed through computerized transcription by me; that the foregoing is a true record of the testimony and proceedings taken at that time; and that I am not interested in the event of the action.

Witness my hand dated the 14th day of January, 2019.

*Jo Ann Kelley*

-----  
Jo Ann Kelley, CSR, #5116  
Expiration Date: 12/31/19



## **Seabrook Public Meeting Transcript**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration  
Feasibility Study Public Meeting  
DECEMBER 18, 2018  
Seabrook, Texas

Reported By: Jo Ann Kelley, CSR# 5116

1 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Good evening, Ladies  
2 and Gentlemen. I am pleased to be here this evening.  
3 I am Colonel Lars Zetterstrom, the commander of the  
4 Galveston District of the U.S. Army Corps of  
5 Engineers. I welcome tonight's public meeting to  
6 review the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration  
7 Feasibility Study.

8 For the record, let me state that this  
9 public meeting was is -- has -- was convened at 5:30  
10 p.m. on 18 December 2018 at the Bay Area Community  
11 Center in Seabrook, Texas.

12 Specifically, we are presenting  
13 information and accepting public comments on a draft  
14 integrated feasibility report and environmental impact  
15 statement for this study that was released for public  
16 review on the 26th of October, 2018. A court reporter  
17 is here to transcribe this proceeding and all public  
18 comments.

19 The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and  
20 Texas General Land Office have analyzed coastal risk  
21 reduction solutions that would reduce the risk to  
22 lives and property on the Texas coast.

23 Ten years ago, the region experienced  
24 Hurricane Ike which disrupted many lives and resulted  
25 in extensive economic infrastructure damages. The

1 Texas coast is also subject to ongoing coastal  
2 erosion, relative sea level rise, habitat loss and  
3 water quality degradation. These coastal hazards are  
4 placing the environmental and economic health of the  
5 coast, which negatively impacts the state and national  
6 economy.

7 This, along with storms such as  
8 Hurricane Ike, Dolly, and Rita emphasize the need for  
9 enhanced resiliency of the coast and not only reduce  
10 future damage and loss but to improve our ability to  
11 withstand and recover from future storms.

12 It's important to note that the Coastal  
13 Texas Study recommends structural measures to reduce  
14 risks along the coast and that these recommendations  
15 support multiple investments and risk reduction that  
16 agencies and businesses are making along the coast  
17 today. Coastal Texas is part of a larger effort of  
18 risk reduction actions to make the coast more  
19 resilient over time.

20 A cost-effective plan has been  
21 identified that we believe would significantly reduce  
22 the risk of damage from tropical storms and hurricanes  
23 as well as increase the net quality and quantity of  
24 coastal ecosystems. This meeting is being held to  
25 describe the tentatively selected plan for the TSP,

1 and to receive your comments.

2 I hope that all of you had an  
3 opportunity to read the notice and availability either  
4 on the Galveston District's Web site or announcements  
5 that were mailed to individuals or organizations that  
6 may have an interest in these proceedings.

7 Before we go any further, I would like  
8 to introduce a representative of the Texas General  
9 Land Office, our study's non-federal sponsor, Mr. Tony  
10 Williams, the planning senior director of coastal  
11 resources.

12 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, Colonel  
13 Zetterstrom.

14 I want to thank everyone for coming out  
15 tonight to learn a little bit more about the Coastal  
16 Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study,  
17 also known as the Coastal Texas Study.

18 I want to thank our GLO folks here. We  
19 have several representatives from our upper coastal  
20 field office and Austin headquarters. They've been  
21 here to provide assistance. Thank you for showing up  
22 tonight.

23 Addressing the issues on the Texas  
24 coast, including storm surges and ecosystem  
25 enhancement continues to be one of the top priorities

1 for Commissioner Bush. You may be asking why is the  
2 GL0 involved in this study.

3                   The land office was established to  
4 manage state-owned land including state-owned  
5 submerged land under tidal influence over 10 miles  
6 offshore. The land office is also the State agency  
7 responsible for implementation of the coastal  
8 management program, the coastal erosion plan and  
9 response act, beach and dune protection, oil spill  
10 response in state waters, and certain roles in  
11 disaster recovery.

12                   Personally, I've been involved in  
13 debris removal in Galveston Bay after Harvey and Ike.  
14 And I don't know if y'all remember the cars that were  
15 in Seabrook Slough, one of our contractors wanted to  
16 use a helicopter to pull those out to minimize impact.  
17 So, I've been here for a while dealing with these kind  
18 of issues.

19                   In November of 2015, the GL0 signed the  
20 feasibility cautionary agreement with the Corps of  
21 Engineers for the Coastal Texas Study. This obligated  
22 the GL0 to fund approximately half of the  
23 20-million-dollar study, much of which is being  
24 accomplished through work in kind.

25                   The land office committed to working

1 with the Corps of Engineers to develop a plan to  
2 increase the resiliency of the Texas coast through an  
3 integrated approach that includes ecosystem,  
4 restoration enhancement, along with infrastructure.

5           The dry plan that is being presented  
6 incorporates habitat restoration and enhancement as  
7 well as gates, levees and flood walls to address  
8 erosion, habitat loss, and storm surge. These  
9 measures work together to increase the overall  
10 resiliency of the Texas coast.

11           The plan that's being proposed in the  
12 Coastal Texas Study was developed to work in concert  
13 with the Texas Coast Resiliency Master Plan. The GLO  
14 is currently working with stakeholders along the coast  
15 to develop the 2019 version of the master plan, which  
16 builds on the original plan that was released in 2017.  
17 The 2019 version of the master plan identifies  
18 projects that coastal experts have identified as the  
19 ones most effective at increasing coastal resiliency.  
20 The 2019 version also includes modeling the identified  
21 threats to the Texas coast and benefits of identified  
22 projects. The 2019 version of the Coast Resiliency  
23 Master Plan will be completed early next year and  
24 presented to the Texas Legislature.

25           The Coastal Texas Study proposed plan



1 or tentatively selected plan, as is referred to in the  
2 Corps of Engineers documents, was jointly developed by  
3 the GLO and Corps of Engineers. We worked with  
4 engineering environmental firms, consulted with other  
5 groups looking into these issues, including local  
6 universities and international organizations, had  
7 multiple meetings with resource agencies,  
8 environmental groups and navigation interests.

9 As we move into the next phase of the  
10 study, it's important to get feedback from all  
11 stakeholders on the proposed plan. Please remember  
12 that the study is only a little over halfway through  
13 and there's still a lot of details that need to be  
14 worked out. Again, we value your input and look  
15 forward to your comments.

16 Thank you for joining us here and  
17 taking the time to learn more about the study.

18 Colonel Zetterstrom.

19 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you,  
20 Mr. Williams.

21 I would like to recognize public  
22 officials that are attending this evening's meeting.  
23 First, I would like to recognize Congressman Randy  
24 Weber, U.S. House of Representatives District 14.

25 (Applause)

1                   Beverly Ferguson and other  
2 representatives representing Congressman Brian Babin,  
3 U. S. House of Representatives District 36.

4                   (Applause)

5                   Representative Dennis Paul, Texas House  
6 of Representatives District 129.

7                   (Applause)

8                   Paula Nelson, representing Texas House  
9 Representative Briscoe Cain, Texas House of  
10 Representatives District 128.

11                  (Applause)

12                  Kara Rose, representing Texas House  
13 Representative-elect Mayes Middleton, Texas House of  
14 Representatives District 23.

15                  (Applause)

16                  Mayor Michael Bechtel, Mayor of the  
17 City of Morgan's Point.

18                  (Applause)

19                  Mayor Pro Tem Amanda Fenwich, Mayor  
20 Pro Tem of Clear Lake Shores.

21                  (Applause)

22                  Mayor Pro Tem Natalie Picha, Mayor Pro  
23 Tem of the City of Seabrook.

24                  (Applause)

25                  If I mispronounced the name, I

1 apologize.

2 Neil Moyer, Shoreacres City Council.

3 (Applause)

4 Larry Millican, League City City

5 Council.

6 (Applause)

7 And Wanda Zimmer, City of Kemah City

8 Council.

9 (Applause)

10 Additionally, I would like to recognize  
11 members of the project delivery team of the U.S. Army  
12 Corps of Engineers. Team, if you could raise your  
13 hand to be recognized.

14 (Applause)

15 And now I would like to describe the  
16 ground rules and format for tonight's meeting. I hope  
17 that everyone completed an attendance card when you  
18 entered the meeting. That attendance card is used to  
19 provide us with your contact information so we can  
20 keep you updated on the status of the study. If you  
21 would like to make your comment orally tonight, please  
22 make sure you have indicated your intent on your blue  
23 attendance card and you've turned it in to the meeting  
24 facilitators. If you have not done this already,  
25 please do so immediately with the facilitators at the

1 front of the room.

2                   Those wishing to make an oral comment  
3 will be given an opportunity to do so after the  
4 presentation. If you prefer not to speak this  
5 evening, you may submit your comments in writing by  
6 dropping them in the basket provided or send them to  
7 us by mail or e-mail.

8                   Following these open remarks,  
9 Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes, the project manager, will  
10 present an overview of this feasibility study. After  
11 her presentation, I will open the floor for public  
12 comments. Federal and state officials that are  
13 requested to make a statement will be recognized  
14 first. Next, representatives from federal and state  
15 resource agencies wishing to make a statement will be  
16 called upon. And then I will recognize each  
17 individual from the general public who has indicated  
18 that they wish to make a comment.

19                   Please keep your remarks to one minute,  
20 as we would like for everyone to have an opportunity  
21 to speak. Also, we would like to emphasize, this will  
22 not be a question-and-answer session. This meeting is  
23 to provide everyone to publicly comment on the plan.

24                   Please give all speakers the courtesy  
25 of not making any comments during their presentation.

1 Please turn off your cell phones and hold all applause  
2 or other reactions so that we can have an orderly  
3 meeting and be respectful of everyone's time. All  
4 individuals here have an equal right to be here.

5 Now I would like to present to you  
6 Dr. Kelly Burks-Copes, the project manager, to make  
7 our presentation. Thank you.

8 MS. BURKS-COPES: Good evening. I'm  
9 short. Hold on just a minute. All right. So, what I  
10 need to do is kind of lay out why you're here and what  
11 we're intending to do as a part of this process.

12 Tonight, we are here to provide you  
13 with an update on the status of the Coastal Texas  
14 Protection and Restoration Study. I would like to  
15 then describe the National Environmental Policy Act  
16 and describe how that interfaces with the United  
17 States Army Corps of Engineers planning process. I'll  
18 identify the selected plan and then walk through the  
19 benefits, the impacts, and the cost of the plan. And  
20 then we'll open the floor for public comment for each  
21 of you to have an opportunity to comment on the plan.

22 As the two previous speakers mentioned,  
23 we're only halfway through the study. We're about the  
24 end of the third year. We have two-and-a-half years  
25 to go. We began in 2015, and we're targeting report

1 to Congress in the early spring of 2021. The draft  
2 report was released in October the 26th and this is  
3 seventh -- this is the final of seven public meetings  
4 that we've held up and down the coast for the last  
5 month and a half.

6 The study is massive. It's enormous.  
7 It's complex. Usually when you do an environmental  
8 impact statement, you allow for a 45-day public review  
9 comment. Because the study was so large, we decided  
10 to extend that to 75 days, which means that it began  
11 on the day that the report was released in October of  
12 twenty -- October 26th of this year, and it will close  
13 then on January 9th of 2019.

14 Inviting public comment is mandated by  
15 the NEPA; and all comments are welcome, positive or  
16 negative. Remember, the more specific you are with  
17 your comments, the easier it will be for us to  
18 understand what your concerns and issues are and to  
19 address those you issues.

20 Public and agency input then informs  
21 our decisions, and all comments that are provided will  
22 be evaluated equally. The review and the comment,  
23 then, ensures that our decisions are based on the best  
24 available information.

25 You're very well aware of the threats

1 to this region. We know that there is a threat to the  
2 economy based on -- as a result of coastal storm  
3 surge. We know we have inland erosion as well as  
4 coastal erosion. We're losing -- threatening  
5 endangered habitat up and down the coast. And we're  
6 losing our deltas, the natural processes that form  
7 that. We also experience a great deal of disruptive  
8 hydrology.

9                   In the Corps of Engineers, the way that  
10 you work through the planning process is that you  
11 identify goals and objectives. In terms of goals,  
12 Congress mandated that we not only look at coastal  
13 storm risk management but also ecosystem restoration.  
14 And by doing both of those simultaneously, we can come  
15 up with multiple lines of defense to promote  
16 resilience up and down the coast.

17                   To meet the goals, we set up a series  
18 of measurable objectives. In this instance, our  
19 objectives are highlighted here, to reduce economic  
20 damage, to reduce risk to critical infrastructure but  
21 also to public health and safety, and to increase  
22 resilience by enhancing restoring coastal land forms  
23 as well as improving hydrologic connectivity up and  
24 down the coast and then keying in or honing in on  
25 critical habitats such as coastal marshes and bays.

1                   We received funding at a national level  
2 from Congress, which means that we have to justify the  
3 significant resources in our region to receive that  
4 funding.

5                   In this instance, as you're well aware,  
6 the study area covers 18 counties. Within that area,  
7 there's 6.1 million people, which is about 25 percent  
8 of the Texas population. We also have a series of  
9 deep-draft ports, which we have listed here, and 450  
10 miles of Gulf intracoastal waterway. Forty percent of  
11 the nation's petrochemical industry resides in the  
12 footprint and 25 percent of the national petroleum  
13 refining capacity happens within our study area.  
14 But in addition to that, we have NASA. And down on  
15 Galveston Island, we have UTMB, which has a Level 4  
16 Viral Lab.

17                   Because we were dually funded for both  
18 coastal storm risk management and ecosystem  
19 restoration, we have to highlight and point out the  
20 national -- national significant resources that are  
21 natural. In this instance, we have one of only six in  
22 the world, rare hypersaline lagoon, the Laguna Madre.  
23 The Padre Island National Seashore is in our study  
24 area, as well as 12 National Wildlife Refuges.

25                   We have 2 of the 28 National Estuary



1 Program sites and the central flyway migration  
2 corridor runs straight through the study area.

3 All told, we have critical habitat up  
4 and down the study area for threatening endangered  
5 species. And in terms of ecosystems, we're talking  
6 about wetlands, seagrasses, oyster reefs, and sea  
7 turtle nesting habitat.

8 Now, the way the Corps works is that we  
9 formulate plans in sort of like a building block  
10 process. We combine features and actions and  
11 treatments to formulate measure, and then combine  
12 measures to generate plans, or alternative is another  
13 word.

14 In this instance, features are levees  
15 and marshes and gates. The actions are things like  
16 restoration and construction. And the treatments are  
17 things we might do now and also in the future, such as  
18 plantings or renourishments. When we combine those  
19 together, we get measures and then we get plans.

20 In 2016, we were mandated by Corps --  
21 the Congress not to reinvent the wheel. Several  
22 agencies and entities in the region have been  
23 accumulating data. For example, NOAA has a sea level  
24 rise viewer that you can go out and look at different  
25 scenarios to determine what might be inundated under

1 our variety of sea level rise scenarios. FEMA has the  
2 inundation mapping already. We also have several  
3 other types of studies going -- ongoing in the region.  
4 The GCCPRD has a plan. Texas A & M has the Ike Dike,  
5 for example. GCCPRD has the coastal spine. SSPEED  
6 Center has something called -- they call the H-Gaps  
7 plan. This is not those, but this starts with those.

8 We were directed by Congress to bounce  
9 off of those, take what we could from those plans,  
10 combine them and formulate a plan much bigger in terms  
11 of not only Coastal Storm Risk Management, but to  
12 combine ecosystem restoration with the plan.

13 The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has  
14 several ongoing studies in the area, particularly  
15 after post Harvey with the Recovery Act. And, so, we  
16 were looking at something of a systems-of-systems  
17 approach where we could fill gaps where those plans  
18 were not focused. GLO also has a master plan, as Tony  
19 mentioned, where they have identified numerous sites  
20 up and down the coast for ecosystem restoration. And,  
21 so, our plan fills gaps that that plan does not cover.

22 The Restore Act as well as Autobahn has  
23 sites out here. And those sites are connected. And  
24 we were looking for synergies when we proposed the  
25 sites that we had proposed in the plan.

1                   We began in 2014 with a series of  
2                   scoping meetings in the region. And we took all of  
3                   that information together with the goals and  
4                   objectives and formulated our plans.

5                   The measures were kind of caveated by  
6                   region. Each region had a series of concerns and  
7                   issues that needed to be addressed. And, so, we  
8                   formulated measures to address those concerns. We  
9                   used screening criteria, including the goals and  
10                  objectives to bring those down to a manageable number.  
11                  And then we made plans from those measures.

12                  We assess plans and their success or  
13                  their functionality on the basis of the three E's in  
14                  the Corps of Engineers -- engineering sound, which I'm  
15                  not sure that's a word; environmentally acceptable,  
16                  and economically justified.

17                  We have used the series of tools to  
18                  assess each of these criteria. So, for example, we  
19                  have developed a series of novel coastal storms using  
20                  ADCIRC, which is an advanced circulation model, to  
21                  basically set up storms that we have never seen  
22                  before.

23                  Six hundred storms were actually  
24                  created with the tools. And then we ran them against  
25                  the coast and assessed what the water levels were with

1 each of those storms. And then we put barriers in  
2 place and looked at the reductions in risks and then  
3 assessed benefits of putting barriers in place.

4 In addition to the storm models, we  
5 also ran something called ADH, which is an advanced  
6 hydrologic model, that looked at constrictions that  
7 might be caused by the barriers put in the channel and  
8 what that would do to the back bays. So, in other  
9 words, would it affect salinity, would it affect  
10 sedimentation, would it affect velocities and  
11 currents.

12 And, so, we used these tools to compare  
13 and contrast a variety of plans and then to ultimately  
14 select a tentatively-selected plan that met these  
15 criteria.

16 So, I'm going to talk about two of the  
17 final plans that we actually looked at. The first one  
18 we call the Coastal Barrier are Alternative A. It  
19 starts at High Island. It moves across the GIWW with  
20 the gate. And then it runs down the Bolivar peninsula  
21 to the inlet. We have navigatable gates that connect  
22 to the seawall on the Galveston side. We tie into the  
23 ring levee, and then we run down the rest of Galveston  
24 Island to San Luis Pass, keeping San Luis Pass open.

25 Around Galveston, there is a ring levee

1 proposed with pumping stations. That's what the  
2 triangles are on the map. And a closure at Offatts.

3 Up on the west side of the Galveston  
4 Bay, we do anticipate, even though the surge barrier  
5 would reduce the storm surge or capture that storm  
6 surge of the front, once the storm moves over the  
7 peninsula and lands in the back bay, it would still  
8 have wind-driven surge that would push up into this  
9 area. So, we are proposing two gated systems, one at  
10 Dickinson and one at Clear Creek. And as we expect,  
11 when those gates are closed, water could potentially  
12 back up behind them. So, we had proposed pumping  
13 stations at those locations to draw the water off  
14 until we raise the gates back up as the storm passes.

15 The wind-driven surge could potentially  
16 affect some of the locally -- some of the communities  
17 here. So, we have proposed what the Corps calls  
18 "nonstructural measures" in the area. That's raisings  
19 and flood-proofing, looking at evacuation routes, and  
20 potentially buyouts, but not necessarily. And,  
21 ultimately, that would be a last effect.

22 Keep this plan in mind when I move to  
23 the next plan. This one is along the coast, whereas  
24 the second plan is along the rim. The idea would be  
25 that we would start at San Jacinto and cross with a

1 gated structure and a pumping station and then run a  
2 barrier along the rim going across again at Clear Lake  
3 and at Dickinson Bayou with much larger structures  
4 this time because the water would be held back from  
5 the entire barrier and we would need larger pumping  
6 stations. We would tie into the Texas City levee and  
7 enhance the levee system and then extend it off to the  
8 west.

9                   In this plan, we would still have a  
10 ring barrier around Galveston that would need to be  
11 closed on the back. And water that comes in during  
12 the storm would need to be pumped out. We'd still  
13 need a gate at Offatts Bayou. The thing to be aware  
14 of is that the Galveston ring levee would need to --  
15 the ring levee would need to be higher because it  
16 would have to withstand the full front of the forces  
17 that are coming at it.

18                   In the Corps of Engineers, when we  
19 generate these plans, then we have to compare and  
20 contrast the pros and cons of each of the plans. So,  
21 for an example, Plan A does provide risk reduction to  
22 the nav channel, to the navigation channel, and to the  
23 Gulf Coastal Interwaterway. The Plan D does not. It  
24 is up along the rim. And, so, it exposed -- it leaves  
25 them exposed.

1                   Plan A provides benefits for all of the  
2 different streams of benefits, whereas, Plan D does  
3 not. And, so, what we do is, we prepare and contrast  
4 the plans in this fashion. And we determine what the  
5 benefit cost ratio is and then we select a  
6 tentatively-selected plan.

7                   Now, all of this is focused on  
8 Region 1, which is up in this region, the  
9 Houston/Galveston area. Down in the South Padre  
10 Island area, they have been using beneficial use of  
11 dredge material to build up dunes and beaches along  
12 that beach shoreline. But it's intermittent. It's  
13 dependent on funding. And, so, it doesn't happen  
14 regularly.

15                   So, what we're proposing is a  
16 2-mile-long stretch of 12-1/2 by 100-foot dunes that  
17 would be renourished every 10 years. It's currently  
18 economically defensible in reaches 4 and 3. But we  
19 are receiving new economic input. And in the next  
20 phase of the study, we will continue to access the  
21 other reaches in that region.

22                   But remember that our mandate was not  
23 only coastal storm risk management, but ecosystem  
24 restoration. So, in this instance, we have proposed  
25 nine separate locations where we would restore

1 marshes, beaches and dunes, islands and seagrass, for  
2 example, to the tune of approximately 160,000 acres of  
3 restoration up and down the coast.

4           They not only provide habitat for  
5 critical species, but they also provide first and  
6 second lines of defense. If we put beaches and dunes  
7 out in front of the coastal barrier and marshes in the  
8 back, then we're providing one after another after  
9 another line of defense for coastal storm surge.

10           So, the tentatively selected plan is a  
11 combination of Plan A, which is the coastal barrier,  
12 in addition to the nine ecosystem restoration sites  
13 and the coastal risk management structures in South  
14 Padre. The cost is 23 billion to \$32 billion. But  
15 remember that 40 percent of that cost is ecosystem  
16 restoration. The barrier system would run  
17 approximately 400 -- sorry -- 14 to 19 billion. And  
18 the ecosystem restoration would run approximately 8.9  
19 to 11.9 billion.

20           The thing to remember is that the cost  
21 of the barriers in this plan mimic or are very similar  
22 to the GGCPRD's proposal.

23           We do anticipate impacts with the plan.  
24 We will be directly impacting approximately 4500 acres  
25 on shore of different types of habitats as we move



1 down the coast. But we also know that the barrier  
2 that we have proposed that crosses the navigation  
3 channel will cause a constriction.

4                   The system is open most of the time.  
5 It is a proposed flooding sector gate like a fan.  
6 When the storm comes, it closes; but the rest of the  
7 year, it's open. It has to reside on artificial  
8 islands, and those islands take up a cross section  
9 inside the nav channel or across that inlet, for  
10 example.

11                   We have those two planned in addition  
12 to a recreational gate which will allow smaller ships  
13 to move through, smaller boats. And then to the right  
14 of that and the left of that would be another 38  
15 vertical lift gates, all closing off the paths when  
16 necessary when the storms are coming but staying open  
17 the rest of the year.

18                   Each time you have something in the  
19 water, it's causing a reduction in the cross section.  
20 So, it causes a constriction. So, at this point and  
21 -- at this time in our plan, we are estimating a 27  
22 percent constriction. In the next phase of the study,  
23 we are hoping to bring that down.

24                   Right now, we expect that mitigating  
25 that will cost between 676 and \$906 million. But that

1 is in addition to the 160,000 acres of ecosystem  
2 restoration that we are proposing.

3                   What I need to point out, what I really  
4 need to emphasize tonight is that this system is still  
5 a placeholder. It is conceptual. In the next phase  
6 of the study, once we receive input from yourselves  
7 and others from the other public meetings, as well as  
8 feedback that we've received through our mailbox and  
9 through the mail, we will be refining the plan.  
10 Refining includes realignments where we would move the  
11 line in different directions. It could come, for  
12 example, on Bolivar towards the ocean. We are looking  
13 at types of features that can be used. It does not  
14 all have to be gray infrastructure. It can be  
15 combinations of dunes and T-walls. It can also  
16 include ecosystem restoration in front and back. And,  
17 so, we're talking about a system of multiple lines of  
18 defense.

19                   As part of the optimization, we have to  
20 look at types of gates. We would like to minimize the  
21 -- the impacts that we're seeing and bring that  
22 constriction number way down below 27 percent. Any  
23 design that we are proposing from here on out will  
24 never exceed the 27 percent constriction for benefit  
25 cost reasons. But we also need to look at pumping

1 stations and the capacity of the pumping stations and  
2 the gates at Dickinson, Clear Creek, Offatts, and the  
3 GIWW.

4                   So, it's early. It's early in the  
5 process, and that's why we are here. We've proposed  
6 something, and we're asking for your feedback. We  
7 have about two-and-a-half years left for the study.  
8 And then we generate a report that we present to  
9 Congress. Congress needs to then authorize us to  
10 continue to the design phase and appropriate funds for  
11 us to do so. Once they have done that, we begin the  
12 design process. If we receive all the funding all at  
13 once, we can start the design. And it would take two  
14 to five years. But if it's piecemealed out, then it  
15 will take longer.

16                   We will also need to have a cost-share  
17 sponsor identified at that point to go into design.  
18 Right now, the study is 50/50 cost shared with the  
19 Texas GLO. We do not have a cost-share sponsor  
20 identified yet for design. The Texas legislature is  
21 meeting in January. They may be able to take it up  
22 this year. If they can't, then we have to wait till  
23 2021 for the next cycle.

24                   We do realize that -- or you need to  
25 realize that the Corps of Engineers is funded through

1 Water Resource Development Acts. And those happen  
2 approximately every two years. So, once we present to  
3 Congress the report, the next Water Development Act is  
4 in 2022, if they continue funding as they have in the  
5 last two or three cycles.

6 Building and construction would begin,  
7 then, after the two to five years of design, if all  
8 goes well. And it could take up to 15 years to build.  
9 Once it's constructed, we turn it over to the  
10 cost-share sponsor for operations and maintenance.  
11 100 percent of the cost is shouldered by the  
12 cost-share sponsor.

13 We are anticipating or we estimated  
14 that operation and maintenance would cost between 100  
15 and \$130 million each year annually. The same thing.

16 So, here is the point. It's early in  
17 the process. We are trying to gather comment from the  
18 public. We have held six meetings thus far. This is  
19 our seventh, and concluding meeting so far. If you  
20 would like to come up to the mic tonight and provide  
21 comments, that would be great. If you don't want to  
22 do that, you have comment cards that were handed out  
23 today. You can fill those in and place those in the  
24 baskets in the back of the room.

25 I think one of the things we need to

1 mention is that you can do both. You can come up and  
2 comment, and then you can go back and turn in a card  
3 as well. You can send a letter. We have the address  
4 here, or you can hit our mailbox and send an e-mail.  
5 But the key here is, that we need the comments by  
6 January 9th to be able to incorporate them into the  
7 administrative record and our process.

8                   Now, I talk very fast. I have a funky  
9 accent. I completely get that. There is a Web site  
10 out there, "coastalstudy.texas.gov." It houses the  
11 reports and all of the appendix -- appendices. The  
12 video that you just saw as well as the video in the  
13 corner will be out there starting tomorrow. All of  
14 the posters have been loaded up. And my presentation  
15 will be loaded up so you can review it at your  
16 leisure.

17                   But that's -- that's basically it. We  
18 have the information up there and we are interested  
19 and very, very interested in what you have to say,  
20 what your feedback would be, and any kind of specific  
21 comments that you can provide us informs our  
22 decision-making process.

23                   So, I want to thank you for coming  
24 tonight. I want to encourage you to talk to us. If  
25 you're a little bit shy, fill in the comment cards.

1 It works the same.

2 Thank you very much.

3 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Ladies and  
4 gentlemen, at this point of this evening's public  
5 meeting, I would like to call upon the elected  
6 officials or the representatives that have indicated  
7 that they would like to make oral comments for the  
8 record this evening.

9 First, I would like to invite  
10 Congressman Randy Weber, U.S. House of Representative  
11 District 14 for his comments.

12 CONGRESSMAN WEBER: Well, thank you,  
13 Colonel.

14 I am Randy Weber, the congressman from  
15 Galveston County, Jefferson County, southern half of  
16 Brazoria County. I've lived in a 20-mile radius for  
17 65 years.

18 For my own survey, how many of y'all  
19 had lived here 65 years in a 20-mile radius? There's  
20 about a dozen of you. We're old-timers, aren't we?  
21 I'm talking about you guys.

22 This is an important area. You guys  
23 know this. This is an absolute salt-of-the-earth  
24 population that lives along the Texas Gulf Coast. I'm  
25 going to read from the study here in just a little

1 bit. It talks about how important Texas is.

2 I've got 30 seconds remaining? Man,  
3 this guy is tough. You know -- you know, more points  
4 of how long a minute depends on which side of the  
5 bathroom you're on.

6 So, my kids -- two of my kids got  
7 married at the NASA Road Hilton, People. I know this  
8 area like the back of my hand. I grew up here. I  
9 learned to ski in Offatts Bayou when I was -- in 1969.  
10 I know this area well. I know it well. It's  
11 important to us. You know, the salt-of-the-earth  
12 people live here, play here, work here, go to church  
13 here and the industry, they have their jobs here.

14 I'm going to read from the very own --  
15 y'all's very own quotes on Page 6. I'm quoting now.  
16 It says: "This country needs what flows from Texas  
17 Coast."

18 I'm here to say that if we recognize  
19 that, we ought to have extreme painstaking care to  
20 make absolutely sure we get this right. And I'm going  
21 to read what else this says: "This includes tourism,  
22 recreational fishing, commercial fishing, the state's  
23 ports, intracoastal waterway, and energy production."

24 Let me read this last sentence. Y'all  
25 listen to this. It's in the study. It's on Page 6.

1 "Texas' transportation and energy hubs cannot be  
2 replicated anywhere else."

3 This is an important area. This is an  
4 important undertaking. Galveston is extremely  
5 concerned about the ring levee and what that will do.  
6 We want the least amount of eminent domain. We want  
7 the most consideration. We want to protect family,  
8 lives, jobs, kids, and livelihoods.

9 So, I just want to make sure y'all --  
10 y'all know that we're working on this. For the  
11 audience's benefit, we have requested through our  
12 office a 45-day further extension period for more  
13 input. We want to make sure everybody gets their  
14 voice heard.

15 I apologize on the overtime. But this  
16 is very, very important. Thank y'all for being here.  
17 Thank you for the indulgence.

18 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir. I  
19 appreciate your comments.

20 Next I would like to invite Beverly  
21 Ferguson, representing U.S. Congressman Brian Babin,  
22 U.S. House of Representatives District 36.

23 MS. FERGUSON: Good evening. We are  
24 here representing Congressman Brian Babin to hear your  
25 input. So, if you have anything, your comments, we



1 want to hear your comments. And we also have put in a  
2 letter of support for a 45-day extension so that you  
3 can provide your comments and, so, to give you time to  
4 do that. So, thank you.

5 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
6 comments.

7 Next I would like to invite Paula  
8 Nelson, representing Texas House of Representative  
9 Briscoe Cain, Texas House of Representatives District  
10 128.

11 MS. NELSON: We'll e-mail you our  
12 further questions.

13 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Yes, ma'am.

14 MS. NELSON: But we are in support of  
15 it.

16 COL. ZETTERSTROM. Thank you.

17 Next I'd like to invite Commissioner  
18 Ken Clark, Commissioner for Galveston County,  
19 Precinct 4.

20 MR. CLARK. Thank you, Colonel.

21 I'm Ken Clark, County Commissioner,  
22 Galveston County, Precinct 4. I just want to  
23 encourage you to do the 45-day increase in the time  
24 because even though you started this process in  
25 October, we are just now really kind of getting a

1 sense of what y'all are presenting. We need input  
2 from our citizens to be able to make good decisions.

3 In the season of Christmas and the  
4 holidays, public agendas are limited. Some councils  
5 only meet once a month, once in December. And we have  
6 a 72-hour posting requirement. Plus, it takes us time  
7 to get our thoughts together and come up with our  
8 comments moving forward. And we could use the extra  
9 time. Because if we do that, we'll make better  
10 decisions on this first round of public comment. So,  
11 hopefully, in the end, we will shorten the gap up and  
12 have a better project moving forward.

13 Thank you.

14 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you,  
15 Commissioner.

16 Now, I would next like to invite Dennis  
17 Paul, Texas House of Representatives, for his  
18 comments.

19 MR. PAUL: Thanks a lot. Congressman,  
20 I've been here 58 years. I ain't got 65.

21 But I would like to say support for the  
22 project. I think we're really interested in getting  
23 this going forward and making it happen. Hopefully  
24 Congress can fund it off of this report when it comes  
25 out.

1                   Also, I would like to say, I really  
2 want to make sure we emphasize the coastal spine  
3 Option A, as well as maybe looking at the gate at  
4 San Luis Pass if that's necessary. That might be  
5 something that we could use. And we are going to be  
6 working hard on this in this session to make sure that  
7 we get the necessary State requirements to do -- to  
8 get this done and be in partner with y'all. Thank you  
9 for what you are doing. And we look forward to  
10 hearing the final part of this study and working what  
11 we can do to get it done.

12                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.

13                   Next I would like to invite Mayor  
14 Pro Tem Amanda Fenwick, Mayor Pro Tem of Clear Lake  
15 Shores.

16                   MS. FENWICK: I have no comments.  
17 Thank you.

18                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

19                   I would like to invite Councilman Neil  
20 Moyer, Shoreacres City Council.

21                   MR. MOYER: Good evening. I am a  
22 resident of Shoreacres, a member of the City Council  
23 there. Shoreacres has about 650 residents. More than  
24 half of them were affected and damaged by storm surge  
25 of Hurricane Ike and more than 10 percent of them were

1 effected by storm surge as a result of Harvey.

2                   Needless to say, managing, mitigating,  
3 minimizing storm surge on Galveston Bay, Clear Lake,  
4 Taylor Lake, and up through Taylor Bayou are  
5 absolutely necessary. Those are the sources, as well  
6 as Galveston Bay, of these storm surge and flooding  
7 which occurred in Ike and subsequently with Harvey.  
8 Needless to say, we are strongly interested in seeing  
9 a plan and, ultimately, implementation. I'm hoping I  
10 might be around by the completion of that, to see that  
11 approach taken.

12                   We also strongly recommend the U.S.  
13 Fish and Wildlife Service and the Texas Parks and  
14 Wildlife Agency be specifically drawn into  
15 environmental studies under NEPA.

16                   Thank you.

17                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
18 comments.

19                   I would like to invite Councilman Larry  
20 Millican, League City City Council.

21                   MR. MILLICAN: Yes, sir. Thank you  
22 very much for having an open house and an informative  
23 session tonight.

24                   I'm concerned about two things: One  
25 being the conveyance of water from Clear Creek and

1 Dickinson Bayou with the additional storm surge  
2 protection there, those two outlets, worrying about  
3 the need for the increased conveyance currently right  
4 now on both those watersheds and if putting some sort  
5 of storm surge protection would affect that in any way  
6 because the need to increase that.

7                   The other thing is, that I would say  
8 is, I'm concerned about which to do first. And I  
9 think that the storm surge barrier along the perimeter  
10 of the Gulf Coast would be better served to build that  
11 first than worry about inland reconstruction.

12                   Thank you.

13                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.

14                   I will now call -- excuse me. I will  
15 now call members of the general public who wish to  
16 make a statement. I'll call three names at a time.  
17 Please be seated in the front row to wait your turn to  
18 speak. I've asked Mr. Stokes to assist me in keeping  
19 time. He will indicate when you have 30 seconds left  
20 to speak and when your time has expired. I ask that  
21 you stop speaking after your one minute has elapsed.

22                   When called upon, please come forward,  
23 speak into the microphone, please identify yourself by  
24 your full name and the organization you represent, if  
25 any.

1                   I will now call upon the first members  
2 of the general public to come forward. Mike Chambers,  
3 Sandra Chambers, and Phyllis Clary, if you could  
4 please come forward for your comments.

5                   MR. CHAMBERS: Thank you, Colonel.

6                   My name is Mike Chambers. I represent  
7 the residents, I guess, along the coastline. My wife  
8 and I recently purchased a lot at [REDACTED]. We  
9 have plans of retirement there. And we just closed on  
10 it and found out -- we just now found out about this  
11 plan. So, we have some concerns, and the whole  
12 neighborhood that I am with out there is concerned.

13                   The barriers that we have recently  
14 heard about, you know, one is the barrier along 3005  
15 and we're concerned with the backwash there. We're  
16 concerned if that barrier was placed on the Gulf side  
17 shore that it also would affect our views. So, we are  
18 in favor of the more natural ecological views of  
19 structured dunes.

20                   That is what we support.

21                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
22 comments.

23                   Were two of the other individuals  
24 present for their comments? If not, I will move to  
25 the next three individuals. Joe Camarata, Jay

1 Williams, and Joan Addison, if you could please come  
2 forward.

3 MS. ADDISON: I have my comment card.

4 MR. CAMARATA: Howdy. I am Joe  
5 Camarata. I was affected by Ike and also affected by  
6 Harvey. I lost property over in Bolivar. And, of  
7 course, Harvey put 18 inches of water in my house.  
8 So, I am glad that we are doing something. I  
9 appreciate it, the effort.

10 And I am more of a natural one instead  
11 of the walls and stuff like that. But I just  
12 appreciate that you are going to get something going.

13 Thank you.

14 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.

15 I'll move on to the next three  
16 individuals. I would like to invite Marvin Davis,  
17 Marcus Rives, Director of Galveston County  
18 Consolidated Drainage District, and Lori Westerman, if  
19 you are available for your comments.

20 MR. DAVIS: My name is Marvin Davis. I  
21 have a home down on the west end of Galveston. It's  
22 not my primary home. It's a secondary place. But I  
23 think y'all are doing a lot of good work here. I know  
24 that the pumping stations and the levee in Texas City  
25 have provided lots of protection for Texas City.

1 They've been great. Myself and my family lived in  
2 Texas during Hurricane Carla before the levee was  
3 built and, wow, what a mess we had.

4                   As I have looked at everything around,  
5 all the posters and everything, I have had trouble  
6 understanding why there's not a barrier being built at  
7 San Luis Pass. They've tried to explain it. I  
8 haven't been able to quite justify it in my mind  
9 because that worries us that we're going to get a  
10 surge from the backside of the new levee when you put  
11 it in. So, just take that into consideration. I am  
12 sure you are already.

13                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
14 comments, sir.

15                   Ma'am, if you'd like to come forward.

16                   MS. WESTERMAN: I am Lori Westerman. I  
17 am a business owner here in Seabrook. We were  
18 affected greatly during Ike, not so much during  
19 Harvey. We appreciate all the information you have  
20 given us. And the approach that you are taking looks  
21 to be something that we're very excited about, that  
22 it's actually happening much better than going up 146  
23 which would have left off way too many of us.

24                   My concern is, though, that we've been  
25 to so many of these meetings. We've always put our



1 name down to please contact us of things going on.  
2 The information going out that these public meetings  
3 are being held is not going out well. And, so, for  
4 future public meetings, please, please, try to inform  
5 our city. The Seabrook people are doing really well  
6 in disseminating any information they find, but they  
7 aren't getting some of the information either. If we  
8 can get a better dissemination of information, you'll  
9 have this room flooded with people standing outside.

10 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
11 comments.

12 I would like to invite the next three  
13 members. Hubert Brasseaux, Georganna Collins, and  
14 Shady Henry.

15 MR. HENRY: Thank you, Colonel.

16 My name, I'm Shady Henry. I am a  
17 resident of Seabrook, Texas. I am encouraged by what  
18 you are doing and by the time and expense you are  
19 taking to communicate with us. Thank you very much  
20 for that.

21 I would like to echo some of the  
22 comments by the League City official. It's to stress  
23 the focus on the coastal barriers as seen by the  
24 models, seem to be much more effective.

25 Also I would like to ask you, consider

1 the rainfall, the rate of rainfall during a storm as a  
2 very important part when a storm surge situation is  
3 coming to our area. Rainfall comes, and it greatly  
4 affects our city. And the drainage from that will  
5 collect somewhere. So, I want to encourage you to  
6 consider that in some of the models.

7 I have seen on the NOAA Web site that  
8 there are some estimates on that -- on that and  
9 history of data of previous storms. We can probably  
10 use that to consider that and the rate of drainage  
11 that we don't create another barrier that just  
12 collects water behind the levees.

13 Thank you.

14 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.

15 MR. BRASSEAU: I'm Hubert Brasseaux.  
16 I have lived here 57 years.

17 I guess in looking at your proposal,  
18 one of the things I am concerned about is the dams or  
19 the flood gates in the Clear Creek channel and  
20 Dickinson Bayou and the engineering of those. I  
21 thought they were going to be natural but, you know,  
22 in part of the presentation, I heard of pumps needed  
23 as well. You know, kind of a -- those could easily  
24 become dams in a Harvey situation. And we also have  
25 problems with electricity at times of the storm so

1 trying to get that -- that there.

2 I do appreciate y'all actually looking  
3 at the program and looking at doing something. It is  
4 one of my concerns. I do agree with the Bolivar  
5 thing. And then I was thinking with the -- with the  
6 gates across the channel, are y'all thinking of  
7 putting a road on that as well to bridge across  
8 Galveston Bay versus continuing or relying on a ferry?

9 I know during a time of a hurricane,  
10 it's also very difficult getting in and out of Bolivar  
11 because the ferry stops running after a certain point.

12 Thank you.

13 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
14 comments, sir.

15 MS. COLLINS: Thank you. I'm Georganna  
16 Collins. My family moved here to Texas in 1904, and  
17 my mom was born on Galveston Island.

18 I've worked with Berdache and we're  
19 developing international guidance documents for  
20 natural endangered base features. So, I wanted to  
21 encourage the Corps to look at opportunities to  
22 undertake engineering with nature, which is an  
23 intentional alignment of engineering and environmental  
24 sciences. And we've developed a plan where we can  
25 link restoration and protection, not have them

1 separate. And the plan actually shows or highlights a  
2 50-million-dollar benefit to the oyster industry, huge  
3 water quality benefits, additional habitat, 30,000  
4 jobs being created, as well as millions of dollars of  
5 damages being avoided when we also use natural  
6 nature-based features in Galveston Bay.

7 Thank you.

8 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
9 comments.

10 I would like to invite the next three  
11 individuals for their comments. Paul Grout, Deb Hale,  
12 and John E. Wilson. And just as a reminder, if you're  
13 called for your comments, there are chairs reserved for  
14 you.

15 MR. GROUT: My comments have been  
16 expressed already.

17 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, sir.

18 Any other two individuals I called  
19 still available for comments?

20 I would like to invite the next three  
21 individuals. Holly Larsen, Melissa Terrell and Craig  
22 and Sherry Weisiger.

23 I'm seeing those individuals not coming  
24 forward. I will move to the next three. Dave  
25 Peterson, Diane Humes, and Charles Taylor.

1                   Thank you. I'm Diane Humes. I'm a  
2 volunteer who spent about 20 years living here doing  
3 prairie and wetland restoration and also water quality  
4 testing. And I would just like to encourage you to do  
5 as much ecological restoration in your project as  
6 possible because I think it will have maximum and  
7 multiple benefits for everybody in every facet.

8                   Thank you.

9                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you, ma'am.

10                  MR. TAYLOR: I would like to turn this  
11 around because I want to speak to you-all out there.

12                  I would like to draw your attention to  
13 the structures going across the mouth of the inlet to  
14 Galveston Bay. You saw it in the video, and you can  
15 see it back there. And if you haven't -- if you  
16 missed that, you can catch it on the Houston  
17 Chronicle, on the Web, an the article of November 12.

18                  So, those structures, I would like you  
19 to stay focused on those structures. It shows the  
20 large swing gate and some other smaller structures in  
21 line with that. Now, those are lift gates. And in  
22 between each one is a concrete structure. It's 38  
23 gates, 39 structures, 102 feet each. So, that adds up  
24 to 4,000 feet across this 9,000-foot opening. That's  
25 quite a restriction.

1                   We don't want restriction of water out  
2 of the bay. We need that. So, now they told me that  
3 it's a 27 percent increase in restriction. My  
4 calculations were a lot more. They're probably right,  
5 but we don't want any.

6                   I think they are trying and I believe  
7 it's -- they are really trying to do that. But  
8 Hurricane Ike was \$30 billion of damage. That's a  
9 hurricane. Hurricane Harvey was \$125 billion of  
10 damage. That was a rain event for Houston, for  
11 Houston, Harvey, a rain event, of which we have many.  
12 So, my message to you is, don't let them put up any  
13 restriction across the mouth of Galveston Bay. We  
14 need to let that water flow out. That's the important  
15 part.

16                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
17 comments, sir.

18                   I would like to invite the next three  
19 individuals. Thomas E. Diegelman, Dale Coulthard, and  
20 Joe Bryan.

21                   MR. DIEGELMAN: My name is Tom  
22 Diegelman. I am a resident of Seabrook. I've been  
23 here for 40 years. I have seen a few things come and  
24 go called storms. And despite the fact that there are  
25 some people that ecologically think this is a

1 challenge, I think that can be addressed because I've  
2 seen that done. I was part of the wetlands board in  
3 the City of Seabrook. I know what you can do when you  
4 put your mind to it.

5                   So, you know, I think we know how to  
6 build walls, although the big challenge would appear  
7 to me to be not how to construct this and ecologically  
8 sound but to get the funding for these walls, because  
9 as I see going on now, walls are a popular thing.

10                   And that aside, the will to do it and  
11 you put a singular plan out there that is not going to  
12 die a death of a thousand cuts, which is what's  
13 happened to our space program, happened to many other  
14 things in this country, you have to say: This is what  
15 we need to do, we need to go do it and here is the  
16 reason why. The other alternatives don't measure up.  
17 Sir, this is so many dollars, and move on.

18                   That's what we need to see. And I hope  
19 we can get there in the study.

20                   Thank you.

21                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

22                   MR. COULTHARD: My name is Dale  
23 Coulthard. I live in Houston. It seems like a big  
24 part of this study is focusing on the refinery  
25 capacity in the Baytown area and protecting that. To

1 do that, how about just put a levee around Baytown  
2 refineries and leave it at that? It worked well in  
3 Texas City. And leave the coastline, the 70 miles of  
4 protection alone and let natural habitat exist.

5 That's it.

6 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
7 comments.

8 I would like to invite the next three  
9 individuals. John Powell, Christina Vazquez, and Mark  
10 Kramer.

11 MS. VAZQUEZ: Hello. Thank you for  
12 being here tonight. I am Christina Vazquez. I am a  
13 League City resident but we have a secondary property  
14 on the Bolivar peninsula.

15 Our little home actually survived Ike  
16 with only garage damage. And I do ask that you guys  
17 give full consideration to the residents not only of  
18 Bolivar but to Galveston Island as well. We have a  
19 lots of concerns over the backflow, and not only that,  
20 but the insurability and the property value of our  
21 homes there.

22 Thank you.

23 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
24 comments.

25 MR. KRAMER: Mark Kramer, resident of



1 the Galveston Bay Area. I have a special interest in  
2 Galveston Bay as someone who loves to paddle and fish  
3 in the area.

4                   And I know from an estuarine  
5 perspective how critical salinity levels are in  
6 waterways like Galveston Bay. Estuaries are a place  
7 where rivers meet the sea, where seawater and fresh  
8 water mix. And by my understanding of the complexity  
9 of how rainfall rates are changing in Houston as we've  
10 experienced in Hurricane Harvey, how impermeable  
11 services are increasing in Galveston Bay watershed,  
12 and how increasingly development, since Hurricane  
13 Carla, which was my first hurricane to go through here  
14 that happened, that there is a significant change in  
15 fresh water influence and to be concerned, for me,  
16 about how that tidal influence is going to be altered  
17 over time.

18                   I'm curious why we don't have a  
19 comparative analysis if we're going to spend  
20 \$34 billion, why it all has to be structural, if there  
21 is any reason why we can't spend money on other  
22 alternatives. I have a family that comes from New  
23 Orleans and I have had an opportunity to witness  
24 structural solutions and pump solutions. And we here  
25 in Harris County recently had a ballot measure that

1 enabled citizens to give some input in their flooding  
2 opinions. I encourage you to consider the same thing.

3 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
4 comments, sir.

5 The next individuals who have asked to  
6 speak this evening that I would like to invite forward  
7 are Allen Hill, Teresa Morris, and Leslie Clift.

8 MS. MORRIS: I'm Teresa Morris. I'm  
9 here representing Turtle Island Restoration Network.

10 Eighty percent of the water in  
11 Galveston Bay comes through Bolivar Roads. Any  
12 restriction of flow will significantly impact the  
13 species that rely on that pass for their life cycles,  
14 including brown and white shrimp, blue crab, gray  
15 snapper, red drum, specks, sandies, southern flounder,  
16 Atlantic croaker, black drum, sheepshead, gafftops,  
17 and Gulf whiting.

18 Mullet, menhaden, and anchovies rely on  
19 this pass for foraging. Commercial landings and fish  
20 and shellfish in Galveston Bay accounted for  
21 \$127 billion from '06 to 2015. Tourists to the Texas  
22 coast accounted for \$10 billion in 2014 alone.

23 Hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing  
24 on our coast accounts for \$5 billion a year. This  
25 study states that there will be impacts to these

1 species but they do not quantify them. So, we are  
2 asking the Corps to quantify the loss of each species  
3 listed in the study due to increases and decreases in  
4 pollution, dissolved oxygen, sedimentations, salinity,  
5 acidification, habitat loss, algal blooms, water flow,  
6 velocity, and tidal prism.

7 We need to see not only the expected  
8 loss of population estimates and negative impacts on  
9 our food web but also the net profit loss for Texan  
10 income on top of the exorbitant tax fees we are  
11 expected to pay.

12 Thank you.

13 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

14 MS. CLIFT: My name is Leslie Clift,  
15 and I've been a resident of Galveston since 1988.  
16 This is my third time moving back to Galveston. I  
17 would not buy a home if the system were in place, and  
18 I would not buy it if it goes under water either.

19 Galveston is a sand-barrier island.  
20 Because of that, and with climate change, it may not  
21 be my forever home and I'm okay with that. I've lived  
22 on islands for almost my entire adult life. I don't  
23 want to pay for the structural system, but I do want  
24 to pay and would pay for land acquisition for  
25 conservation, dune and wetland restoration.

1 I am very concerned with the  
2 biological, ecological, chemical, and geological  
3 impacts to Galveston and its bays. Also, I think  
4 industry, the oil and gas industry, should pay for the  
5 protection of its own products.

6 Thank you.

7 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

8 I would like to invite the next three  
9 individuals. Kristen Vale, Rodrigo Cantu, and Jeff  
10 Steinhaus.

11 MS. VALE: My name is Kristen Vale, and  
12 I'm with the American Bird Conservancy.

13 I am opposed to the proposed barrier  
14 and gates. I am for habitat restoration but not in  
15 combination with the barrier and at the expense of  
16 permanently impacting our environment.

17 I believe it is unfair that the Corps  
18 releases the USACE report to the public just before  
19 the holiday season and expect everyone to have the  
20 appropriate amount of time to read and understand the  
21 400-odd-page report and 2,000-page appendix to provide  
22 critical and knowledgeable comments to the Corps.  
23 This is a mega study and first of its kind in Texas.  
24 And if the barrier is built, it will have severe  
25 environmental impacts to our coastline and ecosystem

1 around Galveston Bay.

2 And if it wasn't for a concerned group  
3 of organizations who wrote Colonel Zetterstrom asking  
4 the Corps to double the public comment to 90 days  
5 instead of the standard 45 days, I believe the public  
6 would still only have 45 days to comment. We now have  
7 75 days, but it would be better to have 90.

8 The proposed barrier and gates will  
9 negatively impact critical bird habitat that has been  
10 spoken of tonight.

11 Thank you.

12 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
13 comments.

14 MR. CANTU: Yes. My name is Rodrigo  
15 Cantu. I am an attorney with Lone Star Legal Aid  
16 representing an area nonprofit called Caring for  
17 Pasadena Communities.

18 One, we would like to reiterate the  
19 previous request to extend the comment period by 45  
20 days, if not more. Two, in reading through the EI --  
21 the plan, there is just a lot of vague issues around  
22 dredging. We know that dredging of the area is going  
23 to be required; and we're concerned about where you  
24 are going to put that dredge material, while being  
25 stored temporarily. We want to emphasize that not be

1 put in residential areas, especially where people  
2 live. It could provoke a lot of health hazards.

3                   There's also a lot of issues around  
4 wetland restoration. The plan talks about so many  
5 thousand acres of mitigation. But when it actually  
6 goes through the plan, it doesn't identify all the  
7 areas of wetland restoration. So, we would encourage  
8 you to actually name those areas, show us where they  
9 are on a map, and then talk a little bit about how  
10 that wetland restoration is going to mitigate the  
11 wetlands that we are going to be losing.

12                   Thank you.

13                   COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
14 comments.

15                   MR. STEINHAUS: My name is Jeff  
16 Steinhaus. I am a Galveston Island resident by  
17 choice. With the current placement of the coastal  
18 barrier system, over 1,800 homes in Galveston Bolivar  
19 will be destroyed due to eminent domain and more than  
20 12,600 houses will be induced in an induced flood  
21 zone. This project will cost taxpayers 35 percent of  
22 a \$31 billion billed in the 155 million per year to  
23 maintain, which counties will be responsible for  
24 paying. How will Galveston County fund this project  
25 with the homes that were lost. And tourism and

1 fisheries will become nonexistent.

2 Complete financial impact that needs  
3 and done, I expect losses to tourism and fisheries,  
4 the Port of Galveston. If this wall is built on  
5 Galveston and Bolivar, how will emergency services get  
6 to and from residential areas before, during, or after  
7 a storm? Who will be there to open the highway gates  
8 and clear the debris? How much will that cost to our  
9 local municipalities? At what point is the cost of  
10 impacts too great to complete this project?

11 I am asking the Corps to expand the  
12 comment period since we are restricting oral comments  
13 to only one minute.

14 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
15 comment.

16 I would like to invite the next three  
17 individuals. Joanie Steinhaus, W. Brad Boney, and  
18 Scott Jones.

19 MS. STEINHAUS: Joanie Steinhaus, I am  
20 representing Turtle Island Restoration Network. I  
21 live and work in Galveston.

22 In the environmental supporting  
23 document, it states all loggerhead nests had been  
24 south of the study area on the upper Texas coast.  
25 This is incorrect information, as we have had four

1 loggerhead nests in the upper Texas coast since 2008.  
2 It also states that there had been no Kemp's Ridley  
3 nests in Galveston or Bolivar. There have been 77  
4 viable nests since 2008. Without correct information,  
5 this project would violate the Endangered Species Act.

6 We implore the Corps and the GLO to  
7 provide accurate data and facts not only considering  
8 mitigation efforts but when looking if the project  
9 should even occur within this specific habitat. Any  
10 barrier across Galveston Bay channel will increase  
11 beach erosion along Galveston and Bolivar and this  
12 project will actively reduce nesting habitat for a  
13 critically endangered species as well as contributing  
14 to depleting foraging opportunities and impacted  
15 wetlands. At what point will the environmental impact  
16 be too high for this project to be completed?

17 From the preliminary study, you are not  
18 contributing adequate weight to the consequences of  
19 these irreparable impacts and the long-term problems  
20 that will last longer than this barrier wall.

21 Thank you.

22 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
23 comment.

24 MR. BONEY: Good evening. Colonel,  
25 thank you have very much. I want to say thank you to



1 Congressman Randy Weber and Brian Babin. Ten years  
2 ago Hurricane Ike hit. It's amazing seeing where we  
3 are today. Thank you for doing this work.

4 There is a lot of discussion about what  
5 is and what isn't right. I encourage to go forward.  
6 I also ask for a 45-day extension to keep going  
7 forward on this.

8 When the Houston Ship Channel was dug,  
9 we're living with it today. We hear about a lot of  
10 water and flow, what it's going to change. What did  
11 the Houston Ship Channel do to Galveston, we don't  
12 know.

13 Here's some questions: What I am  
14 asking for, additional 45 days. And sincerely from  
15 the heart, thank y'all very much. I live on the  
16 Galveston Island west end. I think this is a smart  
17 move. We spent \$32 billion, the Federal Government,  
18 to recover after Ike. This is mitigation. This is  
19 taking care of, it's preventative. I think this is a  
20 good place to start. I think we can work out the  
21 details.

22 Thank you.

23 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you.

24 MR. JONES: Good evening. I'm Scott  
25 Jones, director of advocacy for the Galveston Bay

1 Foundation. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

2 We do recognize the tremendous amount  
3 of work that the Corps has completed thus far.  
4 However, we do not believe that the draft  
5 environmental impact statement meets NEPA  
6 requirements. First, there's uncertainty on the  
7 barrier alignment. We understand from the Corps that  
8 you're looking at an alignment either across Bolivar  
9 Peninsula in Galveston Island or a West Beach  
10 alignment. So, that's been thrown out there as a  
11 possibility. Those are polar opposites.

12 This is a change event that cost ratio  
13 and the environmental impacts. I also understand the  
14 Corps is looking at different types of environmental  
15 gates. That would also change the benefit, cost  
16 ratio, and the environmental impact as well.

17 While indirect impacts on wetlands have  
18 been modeled, the same cannot be said for the impacts  
19 to our critical commercial and recreational fish,  
20 shrimp, crab, and oysters.

21 We understand from talking to y'all in  
22 January of this year that a 30 percent constriction to  
23 the pass will be detrimental. We need to see the  
24 analysis that a 27-1/2 percent constriction is okay.  
25 And we also need to make sure that that con -- that

1 measurement is right.

2 Finally, it's not appropriate for the  
3 public to have to comment on a project that's only 10  
4 percent along in the project design. Therefore, we  
5 are requesting a supplemental draft environmental  
6 impact statement and would certainly also support at  
7 least a 45-day extension period on the current DEI.

8 Thank you.

9 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
10 comments.

11 That exhausts the list of individuals  
12 that have previously indicated that they wish to make  
13 an oral statement. Is there anyone in the audience  
14 that would like to come forward to make their comment  
15 at this time?

16 Sir, if you would like to come forward.

17 MR. PETERSON: I think you misread my  
18 name earlier.

19 COL. ZETTERSTROM: I apologize.

20 MR. PETERSON: Good evening, my name is  
21 Doug Peterson. And I'm a Clear Lake resident. And I  
22 just want to support what I heard from the two elected  
23 officials, Congressmen, and a number of others, that  
24 we need more time.

25 I think it's really disadvantageous to

1 the public to have this kind of sudden, as one of the  
2 people just said, 400-page report proposal without  
3 having adequate time to review it. And there are a  
4 lot of questions. I am wondering, with this type of  
5 barrier, would the Clear Lake area be protected? I  
6 live in Clear Lake. And it's been suggested all along  
7 that this is going to help in Clear Lake. But if  
8 there is a storm surge coming from the east, I don't  
9 think this is going to help. And there is a mid bay  
10 proposal out there and I haven't heard that mentioned.  
11 I guess that was one that was set aside.

12 But there's other questions. Like, if  
13 this is going to cost \$31 billion, I read in the paper  
14 that 10 billion are going to have to come from local  
15 funding sources. And I don't know whether that's the  
16 State of Texas is going to spend 10 billion or Harris  
17 County is going to spend another 10 billion or what?  
18 Those are a lot of important questions. We need more  
19 time. I would say 90 days more, please.

20 COL. ZETTERSTROM: Thank you for your  
21 comments, sir.

22 Would there be any other individuals  
23 that would like to come forward for their comments at  
24 this time?

25 Seeing no additional individuals, I

1 would like to begin with our conclusion, excuse me,  
2 end with our conclusion.

3 In conclusion, written comments of the  
4 draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Environment  
5 Impact Statement must be received on or before  
6 January 9, 2019, the conclusion of the 75-day comment  
7 period that began on the 26th of October 2018.

8 I would like to thank the Texas General  
9 Land Office for their efforts and assistance with  
10 preparing for and holding this meeting. And I would  
11 like to thank all of you for your attendance and the  
12 interest that you have shown in this study this  
13 evening.

14 The meeting is adjourned. Thank you  
15 and have a good evening.

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
■

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATION

I, Jo Ann Kelley, Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Texas, do hereby certify:

That the proceedings had in the foregoing caption was reported before me; that the hearing was then taken before me at the time and place herein set forth; that the testimony and proceedings were reported stenographically by me and were transcribed through computerized transcription by me; that the foregoing is a true record of the testimony and proceedings taken at that time; and that I am not interested in the event of the action.

Witness my hand dated the 14th day of January, 2019.

*Jo Ann Kelley*

-----  
Jo Ann Kelley, CSR, #5116  
Expiration Date: 12/31/19  
[Redacted Signature]